

Mill Stream Messenger

January 25, 2019

Mill Stream Elementary School
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Julie Kimball, Principal

Congratulations to Sophia Caswell, Mill Stream's Grade Six Spelling Bee Champion! Congratulations are also in order to our spelling bee alternate, Mattea Ludden. Sophia will participate in the District Spelling Bee at SAMS on Wednesday, January 30th at 6:00 p.m. Best of luck, Sophia!

Our fourth graders will represent thousands of others across the country on Thursday, January 31st. Known as The Nation's Report Card, NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students in the United States know and can do in a variety of subjects. Learn more at <http://1.usa.gov/1jVs1Wt>.

Throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact teachers, Mrs. Lovell or myself with questions or concerns that may arise. When we work together, students will have a great year!

Parenting Tips

Over the next few newsletters, I will be sharing parenting tips that I recently found and wish I had early on when my own kiddos were small. I am hopeful you will find these to be helpful.

Remember that discipline is not punishment. Enforcing limits is really about teaching kids how to behave in the world and helping them to become competent, caring, and in control.

Play with your children. Let them choose the activity, and don't worry about rules. Just go with the flow and have fun. It's the name of the game.

Source: www.parents.com

PTG (Parent/Teacher Group) News

Please consider joining us on the first Wednesday evening of each month from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the school library as we plan activities and events to be held throughout the school year. We always welcome new members and new ideas!

Dates to Remember . . .

January 24, 2019 School Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
January 31, 2019 Grade 4 NAEP Assessment
February 6, 2019 Early Release Day

Cold Weather Reminder

Please be sure your child is prepared to play outside on cold days as students go outside if the temperature is 10 degrees or warmer with the wind chill. Thank you!

Attendance Fact

Please note something new this year. The Maine Department of Education is asking districts to now look at chronic absenteeism outside of just truancy. A child is considered to be chronically absent when both of their excused and unexcused absences have reached 10% of the days we have been in school. Attendance reports are run throughout the school year, so please do not be alarmed if you receive a letter. The intent of the letter is informational and is a way for the school to connect with you to see if there is anything we can do to support you with getting your child to school. If you would like further information about chronic absenteeism, please feel free to reach out.

Did You Know...

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of school that's...
20 minutes per day	1 hr. 40 minutes per year	Nearly 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year of school