Please keep in mind that our teachers are working with students right up until 2:15 p.m. each day. We understand that life happens, but we would love to have our students in class as long as we are able to each day. Your help with this is greatly appreciated!

As our families and communities enter our school building, it is important to note that they need to check into our office. We need to ensure student and staff safety at all times.

Thank you to our fourth graders and our fourth grade team of teachers for all of their efforts surrounding the NAEP assessment. We appreciate their hard work!

Congratulations to Sophia Caswell, who made it through two rounds of the Grade 6-8 Spelling Bee. We are so proud of you!

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!

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**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.

**Schedule daily special time.** Let your child choose an activity where you hang out together for 10 or 15 minutes with no interruptions. There’s no better way for you to show your love.

**Make warm memories.** Your children will probably not remember anything that you say to them, but they will recall the family rituals -- like bedtimes and game night -- that you do together.

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 . . .

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 14, 2019</td>
<td>Wear Red Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Valentine’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 18-22, 2019</td>
<td>School Vacation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cold Weather

Cold weather is here! 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.

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…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses…</th>
<th>That equals…</th>
<th>Which is…</th>
<th>And over 13 years of school that’s…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 minutes per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 ½ years of school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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