

Mill Stream Elementary School
Sticking our necks out for kids!

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Robert Rodrigue, Principal
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Good Afternoon Mill Stream Families,

We hope this message finds you well and filled with excitement as we kick off another promising school year. It's with great joy and anticipation that we welcome your children back to Mill Stream Elementary School.. The hallways are abuzz with laughter, and our classrooms are ready to come alive with curiosity and learning.

As we embark on this new academic journey together, we want to express our gratitude for your continued trust and partnership. We are committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and enriching environment where your child can thrive.

Throughout the school year, we will keep you informed about important dates, school activities, and your child's progress. We encourage open communication and invite you to reach out to us with any questions, concerns, or ideas you may have.

As we embrace the changing seasons and the opportunities they bring, let's remember that every day is a chance for our students to learn, grow, and shine. We look forward to celebrating their achievements and milestones together.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. Here's to a year filled with discovery, laughter, and boundless possibilities.

Quick Hitters

- Great job turning in our start of school year packets. We have received most of them. If you have yet to return this to the school, please do so. If you need additional forms or have questions regarding start of year paperwork, please reach out to our office.
- NWEA testing is occurring at MSES for all students in grades K-2. This is an important assessment as it will provide us with information that will help us best serve our students' academic needs.
- Grade 3-5 students will be participating in the Maine Through Year Assessment during the month of October. This will be our state assessment this year. Please talk with your children about the importance of giving their best effort on this assessment.
- As the weather begins to change, we've noticed how unpredictable it can be, especially in the past few weeks. We kindly request that you prioritize ensuring your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. This will help them stay comfortable and ready to engage in learning activities. Thank you for your cooperation!
- Thank you for your efforts during parent pickup, including signing your children out and collaborating with our staff. Most days, we successfully have students out and in your possession by 2:30 pm. This process involves dismissing approximately 100 students in about 15 minutes. We genuinely appreciate your cooperation, as it makes this efficient and smooth dismissal possible.

- Thank you for your hard work in making our morning drop-off a success. As a reminder, please avoid parking on the loop during drop-off. If you need to enter the building, kindly use the designated parking lot. Your cooperation ensures a safe and efficient drop-off process for everyone.
- A friendly reminder that our school playground should not be used by community members during school hours. However, once school is dismissed for the day and on days when school is closed, please feel free to use the playground at your discretion. We love seeing the community and children enjoying our space when school is not in session.
- When you need to enter the building, please remember to report to the front desk. This simple step helps us maintain the safety and confidentiality of our students.

Upcoming Events

- 10/5 Flu Clinic-Forms have gone home, please reach out with questions
- 10/9 Indigenous People's Day-No School
- 10/10 Picture Day-Forms have gone home, please reach out with questions
- 10/25 Early Release-No School

PTG News

- PTG would like to thank all of the families that supported our Scholastic Book Fair last week. As a result, we raised nearly \$5,000; we were able to purchase dozens of new books for students, classroom's, Title 1, and the school library. We will continue to infuse these funds into literacy initiatives as the year progresses!
- Apple Fest was a wonderful morning of service, community and fun last Saturday. Nearly a third of Mill Stream's families joined us, and we are incredibly proud of our 5th Grade Student Leadership team for creating a warm, inviting and engaging atmosphere for our youngest learners to play and explore.
- **Up next!**
 - The **Read-A-Thon** will kick-off on October 16th and be on the lookout for additional information in the coming weeks. This is a wonderful fundraiser, and is our primary funding source for all upcoming events. We love it because it is digitally based and allows friends and family near and far to participate, while encouraging students to READ!
 - October 19th Maine author **Jennifer Jacobson** will be visiting Mill Stream to host several workshops tailored to three of her most popular children's stories. Every student will receive a signed copy of the book from their class's workshop. PTG has partnered with Title 1 and Aspire teams to host this daylong event!
 - October 28th **2nd Annual Trunk or Treat** from 5:00-7:00p at Mill Stream. We hope to see you at this spooky fun and free community event!!
 - If you would like to host a trunk email us at millstreamptg@gmail.com

Thank you,



Robert P. Rodrigue

Principal Mill Stream Elementary School