

Home School Connection

Volume 22
Issue 6



January 3, 2018

*Nabnasset School – 99 Plain Road – Westford, MA 01886
Susan DuBois, Principal Carolyn Jerzylo, Assistant Principal*



Principal News

Happy New Year! I hope that the transition back to school has been smooth for your child(ren) this week. The first part of the 2017-2018 school year has gone by quickly. I think of January as a time for fresh beginnings and positive change. I love the promise of the New Year and all the possibilities that exist for our children.

Beginning the week of January 16th we will administer the second round of DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) screens in all grades. During this mid-year round, the kindergarten and pre-first students have 4 subtests, the first grade students have 2 subtest, and the second graders have 1 subtest. The short, individual subtests take a few minutes to administer and may focus on phonemic awareness, letter recognition, phonics, or fluency. The subtests vary based on grade level and the time of the year. Each subtest is an indicator of how well a child is performing with regard to a particular reading skill. This will be utilized as one measure of your child's progress. The third screen will be completed in late May.

Mrs. Hayes, English Language Learner teacher, will administer the ACCESS (Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Language Learners) assessment to her students between January 12th – 24th. The state mandated test assesses levels of proficiency in the following domains: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The goal of ACCESS for ELLs test is to allow ELL students to demonstrate their level of proficiency through the performance indicators.

A huge thank you to John Manning, a Harvard Pilgrim Health Care employee and friend of the school, for nominating the Nabnasset School for the Harvard Pilgrim Community Spirit 9/11 Mini-Grant. We recently received a check for \$500.00 to use towards enhancing the playground with a swing set and picnic tables. Thank you to the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation for this gift. In addition, we received a \$500.00 check from an anonymous family. Their generous check was deposited in the Nabnasset donation account and will also be used for playground improvements. Nabnasset students will benefit from years to come from the kindness of others.



Stay Connected

We offer numerous ways to stay connected throughout the school year. Please check out our Facebook (Nabnasset Elementary School) and Twitter (@NabSchool) accounts. In addition, please subscribe to the

group email by going to www.westfordk12.us/subscriber. The weekly emails and and periodic messages provide up to date information on news around the school and the district. Cancellations and urgent messages are often communicated through email. The Nabnasset website (ns.westfordk12.us) also provides information.



Have You Heard That...

- Superintendent Bill Olsen included a third full day kindergarten class for each K-2 school in the budget?
- the First Grade After School Math Club starts Thursday, Jan 4th? Information was sent home on Tuesday for the Second Grade Math Club. In April we will have a Fun with Literacy Club for second graders, and a Fitness Club for students in kindergarten, pre-first, and first grades. A Yearbook Club and a Book Club will also be offered.
- we continue to collect materials for our Makerspace? Thank you for sending in materials from the holidays. Students will put the wrapping paper rolls, bubble wrap, ribbon and duct tape to great use!
- the December Box Top collection totaled 1,349? Mrs. Srebnick's PM class collected the most coupons. Please be aware 28% of the December coupons came in without a student or class name. Our year to date collection is 8,564.



Compassion Projects

Thank you for supporting the December compassion projects and making a difference in the lives of many. We had the following success:

- Two boxes of toys were donated to the For the Love of Erika initiative.
- We filled one and a half boxes for Toys for Tots.
- We donated 272 hats to the Hats Off for Cancer project.
- The Holiday Helper project allowed us to purchase \$300.00 in Market Basket gift cards. They were given to two grateful families.

This information will be shared with students on Friday morning during our community meeting gathering as we celebrate what is right in the world.



Upcoming Events

January 4	PTO Meeting – 3:30PM First Grade Math Club Begins – 3:30PM Second Grade Parent Math Information Night – 6:30PM
January 5	Community Meeting
January 8	Pre-first & First Grade Enrichment Presentation – Wingmasters Pre-first & First Grade Math & Science Night – 6:15PM

January 11	Second Grade Math Club Begins – 3:30PM
January 15	NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 16	NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day
January 18	First Grade DIBELS Screens
January 22	Kindergarten DIBELS Screens
January 25	Second Grade Enrichment Presentation – Science Museum
	Second Grade Math & Science Night – 6:15PM
January 26	Second Grade Enrichment Presentation – Science Museum
	Second Grade DIBELS Screens
January 30	Advisory Council Meeting – 4:30PM

Please be aware that an events calendar is posted on the Nabnasset School website (opening page on the right hand side).

Superintendent Open House Gathering

Mr. Olsen invites you to join his monthly gatherings. This is a time to get together and share information with no set agenda. The schedule for the next two meetings is the following:

Tuesday, January 16th at 7:00PM in the Millennium's All Purpose Room

Friday, February 9th at 8:30AM in the Millennium's Conference Room B

Kindergarten Registration



Kindergarten and First Grade registration (for those currently enrolled in a private kindergarten) for the 2017-2018 school year will be on Monday, March 5th from 6:00-8:00PM and Tuesday, March 6th from 9:00-noon. Registration will take place in all three schools. Parents must register at the district school with the following information:

- Birth certificate
- Proof of residency (**3** pieces of current documentation as outlined on the district website)
- Proof of medical examination, immunization records, and a lead test

The WPS policy states, “A child who is 5, on or before September 1st, is eligible to enter kindergarten.” “A child who is 6, on or before September 1st, is eligible to enter first grade. Please plan to spend 30 minutes completing paperwork, and meeting with different staff members to review paperwork.



Absentee Line

It is important for us to know when your child is going to be absent from school. Please call the absentee line at 978-392-9618 to report absences and late arrivals. Mrs. Webster checks the absentee line at 9:30AM and 1:00PM. ***Please don't rely on sharing the information with your child's teacher via email, as the teacher may be absent or unable to check their email in time.***

