Monroe - Message From the Principal



February 14, 2023

Lots of fun things have been happening lately with celebrations for the 100th day of school - students engaged in a variety of activities associated with this important milestone. Valentine's Day is another exciting day for our students as they focus on sending their friends positive messages.

There are a lot of examples of kindness and fun things happening. On a different note, we could use support from home to help us address some impactful behavior that seems to have increased a little lately. Many students are still learning how to navigate conflicts and situations that cause them to feel frustrated or upset. The staff works hard to help students develop healthy and positive conflict resolutions skills. Lately we have seen an increase in concerning behaviors such as hands on responses to problems, and at times, comments related to hurting/killing someone. While we recognize these behaviors as a big expression connected to big feelings, we take this very seriously and try to reinforce with students the impact of these choices. Oftentimes students attempt to clarify by saying things like, "I was just kidding/fooling around, or I was just mad ..." We will continue to work with students to build their skills for appropriately dealing with their feelings. We would appreciate support from home by reiterating that these kinds of behaviors are unsafe/scary and serious and it is never okay to deal with problems in these ways. Please reach out to your child's teacher or myself if you have questions or would like to discuss further.

Reminders this week include:

Please send your child to school dressed appropriately for the weather with jackets, hats, mittens, snow pants, boots, etc.

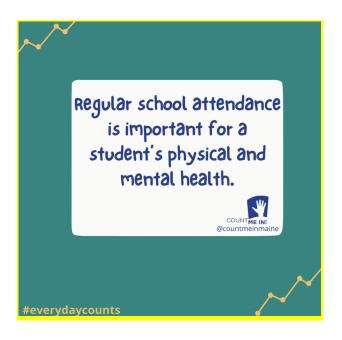
Please see the important information below about upcoming substitute teacher training sessions.

RSU 3 HAS RECEIVED FREE AT HOME COVID-19 TEST KITS FROM A FEDERAL PROGRAM. EVERY STUDENT AND STAFF MEMBER WHO WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A KIT SHOULD CALL THEIR SCHOOL'S MAIN OFFICE.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have questions, concerns, or need support for your child or your family. Have a great week!

(email: <u>lroux@rsu3.org</u> school phone: 525-3504 home phone: 568-3980 cell: 323-0990)

K	Kindergarten students have been working very hard on informational writing. They have been writing sentences and remembering to start with a capital, put spaces between the words, and end with a period. They have been sounding our words all by themselves and using "Heart Words" such as have. We have also been working on drawing detailed illustrations with labels and "zoom in" close ups to provide more information for the reader.
2/3	Engineers completed three rounds of tower design and building. I noticed students helping each other, and working through frustrations in order to try again. We all learned about the engineering design process, and about conserving valuable resources, like tape!
4/5	Grade % thought the visit from Maine author Lynn Plourde was awesome! Each student received a signed copy of their selected book, (Maxi's Secret or Lost Trail). We worked on thank you cards and will be starting our own graphic novels!
Music	We are continuing work with hip-hop continuing practice with improvised rhythmic scatting over a backing track, this will gradually transition towards freestyle rapping and an eventual hip-hop composition. In language acquisition terms most students are at the approximation stage with progress towards intermediate fluency. Students are also working on ukuleles practicing C and am chords. The upper grades have started singing Wake Me Up by Avecii. Fifth graders have received rock band sign up forms which are due in class next week.
Art	Students are exploring portraiture and how to create realistic drawings of people.
SEL	This week at Monroe, 4-5 started working on their comics that show Empathy. 2-3 finished their comics, and then got to act out some empathy scenarios. K, 1 and 2 finished creating their kindness flowers.
Garden	Our adopt-a-cow, Glow, headlined in class this week! She's grown from 80lbs. at birth to 370 lbs. at four months. Kindergarten and first graders made a collage of cow by-products and our older students focused on cow-related vocabulary terms.





2 NIGHT SESSIONS

JAN 25TH & FEB 1ST <u>OR</u> MARCH 8TH & 20TH

\$15.00 SUPPLIES FEE

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Learn the ins and outs of subbing in just two short sessions!

Taught by trained educators and experienced substitute teachers.

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