

Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School



January 2022

Dear PRCS Families,

Hello and Happy New Year! Welcome back to school! I hope you all enjoyed the holidays and winter break with your families. January is always a nice opportunity to come back to school, remember and get back into our usual routines, and have a solid stretch of learning. I have enjoyed seeing our students' smiling faces as they return from break.

This week we will begin our winter assessments, starting with our iReady math assessment for grades K-5. We will then move into our NWEA literacy assessments. Our K-1 students will also take the Early Bird screener, which is a game-based assessment that measures six early literacy milestones. These assessments provide important information that helps staff make instructional decisions about each child.

Our fourth graders have been selected to take the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), a common measure of student achievement across the country. This data will inform the Nation's Report Card findings published by the U.S. Department of

Education. Fourth graders will take this assessment on January 27, and parents will receive more detailed information soon.

Now that it is January and the colder, snowy weather is here, please be sure to send your children with snow pants, coats, boots, hats and mittens. We want to be sure children are appropriately dressed to be outdoors. An extra set of pants and socks can be helpful when the snow is wetter. If you need clothing assistance, please let us know so we can help.

Thank you for continuing to work with us as we follow the updated Maine CDC guidelines outlined in Superintendent Hopkins' recent letter. With your support, we have been able to continue learning in-person, which is wonderful! If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to let us know. Stay well and healthy and enjoy the new year!

Yours in education,

Christina O'Neal, Ph.D.
Principal

Upcoming Events:

January:

10th PTG meeting @ 5:30 pm
14th Early Release, elementary students dismissed at 12:00 pm
17th No school/Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observed
18th Yearbook covers are due

February:

14th PTG meeting @ 5:30 pm
18th: Early Release, elementary students dismissed at 12:00 pm
21st-27th Winter Break
Early Release Days for the Year:

Early Release Days for the Year:

Friday, January 14
Friday, February 18
Thursday, March 17
Thursday, March 31
Wednesday, May 11



Thank you to Mrs. Carter's K friends for leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance during morning announcements! When students lead us in saying the Pledge each morning they receive a small American flag.

Just a reminder that we are looking for creative designs for the cover of the 2021-2022 PRCS yearbook. Please submit to the office no later than January 18, 2022. Remember to have it on 8.5 x 11 white paper (vertically) and please put your name on the back and our school name on the front.

Important Phone Numbers:

Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School - 582-6268
Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School Fax - 582-6334
Transportation - 582-6663
Superintendent's Office - 582-5346



Guidance

Welcome to a new year, filled with possibilities!

Even though every day is an opportunity for a new start, there is just something so, I don't know, "official" about a new year. It seems like, more than ever, anything IS possible.

A paper you parents of fourth and fifth graders may have seen come home focuses on growth in a neat and unique way. I'd like to share it with all of you. I invite you to fill in the sections, either personally or as a family. I have, and am working on making my answers come true.

- 2- Two things I/we want to get better at this year
- 0- Something I/we want to do/have less of in my life this year
- 2- Two new things I/we want to try this year
- 2- Two things I/we want to learn this year

I wish you all the best as we move forward together in educating your wonderful children. Every day I continue to be amazed and I feel so fortunate that I have the job I do. I love watching your children grow and make connections, overcome challenges and build skills, and just plain have fun. They make me laugh and touch me with their wisdom, wonder and kindness. The students that I get to work with daily are truly incredible human beings and they make me a better human being, too. Thank you.

Here for you,

Joan Tourtelotte
("Miss T.")
(she, her)
School Counselor

Yearbook 2021-2022 News

Please look for the yearbook forms to be coming home soon!! You will have the option of sending in money/check or ordering on line. The cost is \$12.00 and delivery will be in June.

Tiger Food Pantry

Gardiner Area High School
40 West Hill Road
Room 314

Winter Hours: Mondays, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
The Tiger Food Pantry is open to all MSAD 11 students and families, offering a variety of grocery and personal care items every week. For more information, please call 582-3150, ext. 3313.

Virtual PRCS PTG -PTG Meeting

Next PTG meeting via Google meet is Monday, January 10th @ 5:30 pm

PRCS PTG - Monthly Meeting

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/zci-mqai-wij>

Or dial: +1 209-831-3532 PIN: 539 732 369#

<https://sites.google.com/a/msad11.org/pittston-ptg>

On Facebook: Pittston- Randolph Consolidated School PTG



Spotlight on Staff:
An interview with "Miss Dedeo"



Role: 3rd Grade Teacher

My Favorite Color: Sage Green

My Favorite Food: Shepherd's pie, but it has to be very simple. Sweet cream style corn, mashed potatoes, and ground beef!

Hobbies: Cooking and doing crafts.

My Favorite Book: Superfudge by Judy Blume

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up: I wanted to own my own daycare facility and veterinarian's office all in one. This way I could be a daycare provider and a veterinarian!

Something Unique About You: I have lived in three states, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and now Maine



IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Greetings families,

The Maine CDC has just updated covid guidelines to align with recent federal recommended changes. These changes include shortening of quarantine and isolation times. For more information, please refer to the Maine CDC website at <https://www.maine.gov/doe/covid-19/sop>

Kristin Martin, RN, BSN
MSAD 11 Lead Nurse
Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School
(207) 582-6268 ext. 2223
Fax: (207) 582-6334



Hello families!

It has been such a pleasure to have P.E. indoors again. Students have had opportunities to practice skills using indoor equipment with minimal distractions and maximum participation. This month we are highlighting our students for their empathy in P.E. There has been a tremendous amount of peer support and sportsmanship in the majority of classes this year. Students have been helping each other with skill cues, activity rules and encouraging one another. Well done!

This month we will be focusing on two units that we have been unable to access since the beginning of the pandemic: foundational basketball skills and gymnastics. If we get a significant amount of snow we will be taking advantage of our snowshoes. Notices will be sent home with students and posted to our FaceBook page when we plan to use this piece of equipment!

In the meantime, please remember to send students to school with sneakers on Physical Education day. Happy 2022!

Stephanie Nadeau
Pronouns: (she/they)
MSAD #11
Physical Education Teacher
snadeau@msad11.org

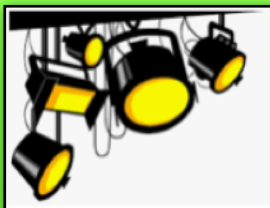


Dressing for the Weather- With cold weather here, please help your child remember to wear a warm coat, hat and mittens or gloves to school each day. When there is snow on the ground children will also need snow pants

and boots. If you need assistance with any of these items please reach out to the Main Office.

Please be sure to label all of your child's belongings so that lost and found items can be returned!

Extra clothing at School- Each student should have a complete change of clothing to be kept at school or in his/her backpack in case of spills, wet playground, etc.



Spotlight on Staff: An interview with "Mrs. Moody"



Role: Ed Tech

My Favorite Color: Pink

My Favorite Food: Pizza

Hobbies: Love doing fun things with my grandchildren. I love going to the beach and camping trips with my family.

My favorite book: I love to read anything about the Civil War era.

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up: I wanted to work with kids and to be a photographer.

Something Unique About You: I have been the Gardiner High School cheering coach for thirty five years. And I have been a birthing coach for many family and friends.



Happy New year!

Throughout January, students in grades 2-5 will be working on a collage unit. Second and third grade students are learning foundational collage techniques, and studying the artist and illustrator Eric Carle. Grades four and five will be focused on more advanced collage and assemblage techniques, and learning how collage can be used to help express feelings and ideas.

Kindergarten and first grade students will be learning how artists use observation, and looking closely at objects to help make art work. Students will be learning about photographic illustrator Walter Wick, and creating their own I Spy pages.

A new round of Artsonia permission forms will be going home with your student- if you receive one, please be sure to activate your child's account, giving you the opportunity to see their digital portfolio, and invite friends and family to see their work as well! Here is a link our our school page: <https://www.artsonia.com/schools/school.asp?id=77642>

Thank you for your continued support of the Arts!

Karol Carlsen
Art Teacher
kcarlsen@msad11.org

Hello families and caregivers!

I hope everyone had a nice vacation. As your students are coming back into school, please take a look around the house for any library books. Before vacation grades 3-5 did a unit on Dewey Decimal System. This is something that we will continue to revisit occasionally. The kindergarten groups that I see did a brief study on hibernation, and a week about Hanukkah. In January, we are going into a unit on book awards as the Caldecott Award (for illustrators) gets announced at the end of January. We will also start talking about the Maine school library book awards, which are the Chickadee award (picture books, usually grades K-3) and the Maine Student book award (Grades 3-5).



Your learners may have also come home with some extra books right before vacation. These books are from our "book barn" which is where we put books that the library no longer needs. Please do not send these books back. You can tell the difference between a regular library book and a book barn book by looking for the words *withdrawn* or *discarded* on the inside or a slash across the library barcode on the back cover of the book. If you have a book that you're not sure about, please let me know. Also, overdue notices will be coming home at some point in the month of January. Please let me know if a book has been lost or damaged. My email is eoosterman@msad11.org.

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Elyse Oosterman (she/her/hers)

Librarian for Grades 3-5

River View Community School: W/F

Pittston-Randolph Consolidated School: M/T/Th