

Winchester School

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Dear Families,

The weeks before holiday break are always very busy. It was lovely to see so many families attending conferences for their students in the last week. We always appreciate the time to communicate directly with families about challenges and successes. If you have not been able to make it in for a conference, please be in touch with your student's teacher. It is never too late to get an update on your child's progress.

Next week offers some sports and musical events to choose from. K-3rd grade will hold a performance during the day on the 20th, immediately followed by a sing-a-long of some holiday favorites. Chorus and Band will hold an evening concert on the 18th.

This year we are very thankful for the generosity of so many individuals in our community and beyond, who have reached out to the school to provide for families in need. From paying utility bills, to providing meals, to providing snow pants or jackets, to assisting with Christmas gifts, so many people have thought of our families and have spread kindness. Thank you!

Main Entrance Security

If you've been to school lately, you've undoubtedly noticed the construction happening at our front entrance. We are building a room with a second set of doors to enter through. This will increase security by limiting the number of folks who have access to the building. If you are simply dropping off, picking up, or if you have business with Diane, that will happen from the new entrance room. We were fortunate to secure grant funding to support 80% of this project, which allowed us to meet Homeland Security and local police recommendations with significantly less cost to the taxpayers.



Upcoming Events

December 18

6:30 Band and Chorus Concert

December 20

2:00 K-3 Winter Holiday music performance and sing-a-long

Important Announcement

It has been nearly a year since our school community lost a special student, Keyton Marotte, to a tragic accident. In an effort to remember his kindness and sweet nature, his 6th grade classmates will be coordinating a donation drive called "Change for Change." They will decorate and distribute collection bins around the school. The collection will run from December 17-21. We will make a donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters at the end of the week. Thank you in advance for your support.

District Updates

At a recent board meeting, the Winchester School Board voted to remove the term "interim" from the title of Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Dassau. They will not hold a search to find a different superintendent. Dr. Dassau is enjoying his time in Winchester, and wishes to continue to support the district and to provide some stability. We are fortunate to have a school board that recognizes the cohesiveness of the current team, and values consistency.

The school board also appointed two new board members to fill vacancies left previously by Ben Kilanski, and more recently by Steve Thompson. We thank Steve for his service to the board. He was a valuable member and a supporter of our school. New members, Tina Perkins and Deba Robarge, have joined the board. We look forward to their contributions to the work of the board.

What is happening in the classrooms??

Kindergarten Engineers

Mrs. Nordberg's class created shade for a dog using simple materials to create prototypes. They tested their models using a heat lamp to see where the "sun's" rays would reach.



Sixth Grade Ivan Fans

Sixth graders used the information from their reading of The One and Only Ivan, to build "domains" for Ivan using simple materials. They used a 3-D printed gorilla to make sure their domains were built at an appropriate scale.



Sports Events

December 14

Home Basketball vs.
Monadnock Girls @4; Boys
@5:15

December 15

Boys MS Jamboree @ KHS

December 18

Home Basketball vs.
Marlborough Girls 4; Boys
5:15

Ivan Feedback

We'd love to hear how your family is responding to the One School, One Book initiative.

Who is reading the book?

Are you enjoying it?

What would make the initiative better?

Send your responses and any other feedback to
v.carey@wnhsd.org