## Principal's Message

## Giving Thanks \& Parent/Teacher Conferences

The 8th Grade class sponsored a bulletin board in the hallway where students and staff were provided the opportunity to write an expression of thanks to the people and about the things they are thankful for...given this season of Thanksgiving. Each interested individual was given a colored tailfeather on which they could complete their message. It is truly heartening to see how large the tail is on this "Give Thanks" turkey. If you have the opportunity, perhaps during conferences, do stop by the bulletin board (outside the Teachers' Room) and read some of the expressions for yourself. While the holiday season often creates a focal point for these types of positive expressions, it is always a good time to reflect on the many people and things we can be thankful for. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Parent / Teacher Conferences are next Monday and Tuesday (November 25th \& 26th) from the close of school until 7:00 p.m. If you haven't already scheduled a time to meet with our child's teacher(s), please contact the appropriate staff member and do so right away. In speaking with several WHES staff members it appears that their schedules are filling up so be as quick as you can. Communication between home and school is a vital component in assuring a successful school experience for a child so I encourage all parents to take advantage of the fall Parent / /Teacher Conference opportunity. While these conferences are typically coordinated with a student's grade level or homeroom teacher, please know that all staff are available during these two afternoons / evenings so you are able to schedule time with any of those staff members as well.


## The school store will be open on Tuesday, instead of wednesday next week! Stop by for some AWESOME Thanksgiving items!!

Office: Please remember to send your child to school with a note if they are going to a different destination on the bus after school. It helps to avoid last minute phone calls to the school, which can make dismissal very chaotic. We appreciate the advance notice and thank you for not calling with these changes after 2:00 p.m.

Food Pantry: Food pantry bags will go out next Tuesday before the break!

Health: Enjoy your break!
Kitchen: November is drawing to a close quickly! On Tuesday, November 26th, we will be having our monthly hot breakfast. We will be having oatmeal, with some different toppings. I will have available: brown sugar, granola, blueberries, applesauce , and maple syrup. If your student would like to come in for breakfast that morning, please encourage them to come. I hope to be offering this once a month until spring, maybe longer. It is nice to see the kids sit and eat breakfast.
As a reminder, you may visit myschoolbucks.com to sign up for alerts when your child's cafeteria account is low on funds, or to see if they are buying a breakfast or lunch. If, at any time, you have any questions for me about their account, please do not hesitate to reach me here at school. You can call or email me with your comments, questions, or concerns.
And as always, thank you for your support to the food service program here at Whitefield Elementary School. Happy Thanksgiving to you all.

Pre K: In Pre K we have been learning about numbers 1-5 and how to make a pizza! Thank you to all the parents that donated containers for our grocery store, we will be setting it up next week. Just a reminder to send your children in with the appropriate outside apparel as it is getting very cold out. Only two days next week and then Thanksgiving break, Enjoy!!

Beck: The K Krew made hideouts for their turkeys so the hunter wouldn't find them. We had a great time designing the hideouts and then used unifix blocks, wooden blocks, pattern blocks etc to construct our hideouts. We received a postcard from Franklyn's Aunt Jennie and from Liam's grandmother to add to our bulletin board map. Thank you to all those families who are sending mittens, hats, boots and ski-pants to school with your child. We try to go out every day. Conferences are next week. Please send back your forms as the time slots are filling up quickly!

Lamothe: The children are steadily making gains in reading. Thanks to the parents who are reading with their child at home. It makes a difference! As the children learn phonics patterns and become more familiar with the sounds letters make, I'm encouraging them to use different strategies when faced with a word they have difficulty reading. I will share these strategies with parents at conferences. We have been writing daily in our, "Thankful Journal." These will also be shared at conferences. Our focus this week in Math was understanding tens and ones in a two digit number. Our penmanship is improving. We continue to practice the correct formation of letters and numbers. Many thanks to the families who sent in extra snacks, spoons and wipes. Star Student is Nieko. Happy Birthday to Nieko 11-11. I'm looking forward to talking with my first grade families next week.
S. Brewer: Grade 2 practiced fact families in math. We edited our favorite piece of writing in preparation of conferences next week. We practiced strategies to decode unfamiliar words in our reading.
We have learned how Pilgrim children had many, many more chores than we do. We definitely found some similarities between them and us. Please remember to send in the feast food for Tuesday. Please look in your child's Friday Folder for food reminders and conference day time reminders. I'm looking forward to meeting with you all either Monday or Tuesday.

Northrup: Please check your child's folder nightly. Important papers, including homework, are coming home each night. We have started chapter 3 in math and are working on completing our Narrative writing unit. I am excited to meet with all of you next week at conferences. Congrats to Blake, Teddy, and Charlie for receiving recognition at the November assembly/community meeting. Great Job!!! Please be sure your child brings a pair of sneakers/shoes daily. Winter boots are not to be worn in the classroom. Boots tend to make the floor slippery and dirty and also make extra work for our janitorial staff. Wish List- paper-towels and baby wipes Student of the Week- Teddy

Trask: In math, the class has been working on Factors, Multiples and Word Problems. Please practice the basic Multiplication facts nightly. Without practicing the basic facts your child will have a hard time grasping the more challenging concepts.
M. Brewer: Fifth graders have been working very hard as always! We completed our Narrative Writing unit, and are now doing a mini unit focused on figurative language. We have also been practicing comparing. I look forward to meeting with parents and discussing the wonderful things we are accomplishing each day!

PBIS News- This month for PBIS we have discussed how we show gratitude. We also worked on the concept of being a "compatible" classroom. Students expressed their own personal traits and qualities within the designs of their artistic hands. Congratulations to all of the award recipients for this months assembly, we are all very proud of you. Thank you all who attended this months assembly!!!

## Middle School News

GRADES 6-8 Fundraiser: Students will be taking Popcorn orders for a Fall Fundraiser $-50 \%$ of the profits will go to each classroom. Students need to return their order forms (and money) to Mrs. Howard after the Holiday break on Dec. 2nd. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Howard at choward@svrsu.org or call the school. Thank you for supporting the students.

McCormick: It is such a busy time of year. I look forward to meeting with parents next week for conferences. If you have any questions or concerns about your child and their progress, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Crowell: In math, middle school students have been working hard on concepts like ratios and proportions, while some are learning slope.
I'm looking forward to meeting with you to share the great work they have been doing.

## Resource News

Brann: I look forward to meeting with parents next week during $\mathrm{P} / \mathrm{T}$ Conferences. I plan to join you and the classroom

## Capen:

In 6-8 reading, we have finished our first units and completed projects demonstrating our learning. I'm very proud of the hard work put into the final products! After vacation we are starting our social issue book club.
In writing, the 8th graders are writing articles based on interviews they did at the Maine Veteran's Home. 7th grade is continuing in their fiction writing unit.
I look forward to meeting all of you next week during parent teacher conferences!
teacher during your scheduled time.

Grady/Richards: Make reading fun for the whole family and have a wonderful weekend!

## Art - Learning Commons - Music - PE

Howard: Pittsco Education Co. provides STEM hands-on learning kits for education and this month they are asking elementary schools to participate in a Holiday Card Contest. Students who participated had to create a $5 \times 7$ card cover in color - the winner's design will be Pittsco's holiday card this year as well as receive a $\$ 50$ gift card of their choice. Good luck students.

In Learning Commons MakerSpace, classes participated in a catapult challenge, building small robots and creating 3D projects using TinkerCad.

The Library Learning Commons was spent identifying fiction and non-fiction titles, and logging into our various accounts like the on-line library catalog to see what titles a student has checked out or is overdue. Students also practiced searching for titles. Students received flyers on the Scholastic Book Fair that will be here during Parent/Teacher Conferences (Monday \& Tuesday of next week). You can also purchase books online at: Whitefield Book Fair or type https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/whitefieldelementaryschool. Have a safe weekend.

## Please click the following link to go to the Whitefield Town Library's homepage! https://whitefieldlibrary.org/

Simpson: Lots of students are coming to class in boots or crocs! Please help your child by reminding them they should always keep their sneakers in their backpack or an extra pair in their locker- just in case!!

Morgan: I would like to invite you to our Winter Concert for grades K-5, 3-8 Chorus and 5-8 band. The concert will be Tuesday, December 3rd at 5:30pm and will take place in the Whitefield school gym. Students should arrive no earlier than $5: 15 \mathrm{pm}$. Students will be seated in a designated area with their classmates during the concert. If you have any questions feel free to contact me or the school.

## Have a great weekend!

