



SOAR to new heights at Botelle School ~ Show self-control, Offer kindness & respect, Achieve your goals & be Ready to learn!

October 21, 2022 Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES



10/26	Evacuation Drill
10/27	Cultural Event - Mariachi Band - Hall of Flags - 2:00PM
10/28	Boo-telle Spooktacular - Covered Playground & Garden - 5:30PM
11/1	Board of Education Meeting - Room #211 - 6:00PM
11/2	PTO Meeting - Cafeteria - 6:00PM
11/6	Daylight Savings Time Ends - Fall Back
11/8	No School - Teacher PD
11/11	Veterans' Day Assembly - 10:30AM - Gym
11/11	Marking Period End
11/18	Progress Reports sent home
11/21	Early Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Conferences
11/22	Early Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Conferences
11/23 - 11/25	No School - Thanksgiving Break

HALLOWEEN CANDY DONATIONS

Candy donations are now being accepted for Trick or Treat on Maple Avenue for the residents of Maple Avenue and the feeder streets.

Candy drop-off locations:

- Botelle School office
- The Norfolk Post office

Please donate one bag of candy per child, if you plan to have your child trick or treat on Maple Avenue.

THE NORFOLK RECREATION COMMITTEE LOOKING FOR MEMBERS

The Norfolk recreation committee exists to promote community activities such as youth sports, senior exercise programs and more. We do this through a volunteer committee. This committee provides needed oversight and coordination and to effectively do this we need your support and participation to keep these programs going. *We are in need of members.* The committee meets monthly for 30

minutes. *Please consider joining.* If you'd like more information, please call Marc Crone at 860-508-1598

NEWS FROM THE NORFOLK LIBRARY

Corner Club at the Norfolk Library

Come to a MAGIC SHOW!

On Wednesday, Oct. 26th right after school there will be a free MAGIC SHOW by the mysterious Mr E magician extraordinaire! When the children get off the bus close to 4pm, we will give them a simple snack to tie them over so they can sit in the Great Hall to enjoy the show. Parents are welcome to join us. Please remember the library closes at 5pm so don't forget to pick up your children!!! Children who take the bus to the Norfolk Library will need a note. No need to register for this program.

A big thanks to the parents who have gotten in touch with Miss Eileen about after school programs that their child is interested in. It's not too late to send in your thoughts.

Pop Up Halloween Story Time

Join Miss Eileen at the Norfolk Library on Monday Oct. 24th at 3:50-4:50 with her costume collection and have some fun dressing up and hearing some Halloween stories . Snacks will be included. Please call the library to let us know you are coming. 860-542-5075. Open to all ages.

STUDENT & FAMILY HANDBOOK

Our student & family handbook is on our website. Please be sure to read through the handbook with your child. Once you have read our handbook please complete the 'acknowledgement & receipt form (found on our website)(a paper receipt will be sent home on Tuesday) and return it to Botelle. If you would like a hard copy of the handbook please contact the school office.

TOYS FROM HOME

Please discuss with your child the need to keep personal toys from home, at home. Beloved items like stuffed animals, legos, cars, action figures, etc. can get lost at school, broken or sometimes stolen.

Toys from home also can be a distraction from learning. Teachers will inform parents of show and tell, sharing days, or rewards. On these occasions, toys from home might be allowed. We have plenty of things for our students to do during recess so please keep toys from home, at home!

SNOWPANTS & BOOTS

Winter will be upon us before we know it. If your family is in need of snow boots and/or winter jackets please contact the school office. The town of Norfolk has gently used, and new winter jackets and boots for anyone in need.

FREE COVID CLINIC AT THE NORFOLK TOWN HALL

On November 10th & December 1st from 11:00AM - 3:00PM the Norfolk Town Hall will be holding a free covid vaccination clinic at 19 Maple Avenue. No appointments necessary. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Each year we set goals to improve teaching and learning. Last year, we started One Book, One School as one way to increase our students' and families' understanding of our commitment to include and appreciate all diverse groups, regardless of ability, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, or religious beliefs. We highlighted the contributions of marginalized groups and identified picture books that could be read aloud to all K-6 students. For example, we read The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read in honor of Black History Month and Women's History Month. Students (and families) had an opportunity to learn about Mary Walker's experiences as a black woman born in the late 19th century and her determination to reach her goals. We also highlighted people with learning differences, those struggling with poverty and the LGBTQ+ community.

This goal was identified in response to the parent feedback survey. In 2020-21, a large percentage of respondents answered "I don't know" to questions like, "This school is sensitive to issues regarding race, gender, sexual orientation and disabilities." We wanted more families to know that we are sensitive to those issues and the One Book, One School initiative was born out of that. As a result, our 2021-22 parent feedback survey responses improved from 35% to 19% of respondents answering "I don't know". 81% of parents strongly agreed or agreed that our school is accepting, inclusive and sensitive to those of diverse backgrounds.

This year we will continue our One Book, One School initiative. September 15-October 15 was Hispanic Heritage month. We chose Dreamers by Yuyi Morales as our picture book read aloud. We invite you to reread that book with your child and use the discussion questions to prompt conversation about the book, the people it represents and the universal themes within. A flyer will be sent home next week but until then, you can click on this [link](#) to enjoy the book, read aloud by the author herself!