



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

December 9, 2024 Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES



12/10	Hour with the Administration - 12:00 - Berkshire Store
12/10	Hour with the Administration - 5:30PM - Botelle School
12/11	Dinner with the Grinch - Botelle Cafeteria - 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
12/13	Early Dismissal - 1:00PM - Teacher PD
12/13	PJ Day - CCMC Kids - Wear your PJs to school
12/16 - 12/20	Staff & Student Spirit Week - More details to follow
12/17, 18 & 19	Holiday Fair - Hall of Flags - 9-12
12/23/24 - 1/1/25	No School - Winter Break
1 / 7	Board of Education Meeting - 6:00PM - #211
1 / 6	PTO Meeting - 6:00PM - Botelle Cafeteria
1/14	Hour with the Administration - 12:00 - Berkshire Store
1/14	Hour with the Administration - 5:30PM - Botelle School
1/17	Early Dismissal - 1:00PM - Teacher PD
1/20	No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
1/21	Board of Education Meeting - 6:00PM - #211 (Budget)

HOLIDAY FAIR DONATIONS

The PTO Annual Holiday Fair will be held December 17, 18, & 19 in the Hall of Flags. This is an opportunity for students to buy gifts for family and friends. Prices range from \$1 - \$5. We are asking that each family donate 10 items to help make this fair a success. See attached flyer for more details.

PJ DAY FUNDRAISER

Botelle Elementary School invites students and staff to wear their PJs to school on December 13th. PJ Day is a day for students and staff across Connecticut to come together in support of patients at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Make a donation of \$1.00 or more and wear your PJs to school. Flyers were sent home this week with more details including a [link for donations](#). Or send in \$1.00 in an envelope with your child's name Together, \$1.00 (or more) at a time, we are making a difference in battling childhood cancer.

BOTELLE LIBRARY NEWS

Our second reading challenge of the year is drawing to a close! If your child has filled out their beaver reading "log," please have them return it to school by Thursday December 12 so they can attend the celebration party that day. Download a [new log here](#).

Looking for donations for the makerspace! If you have any shoeboxes or unused craft supplies at home that you can spare, please send them to school with your child or drop them at the main office. Thank you!

BOTELLE STUDENT COUNCIL FOOD DRIVE

Please help the Botelle Student Council and the students of Botelle with their annual food drive. Donation boxes can be found in every classroom until December 19th. Please send in any non-perishable food items with your child for their classroom box. All donations will be given to our local Norfolk Food Pantry. Every donation makes a difference!

SCHOOL IS BETTER WITH YOU!

We have an Attendance Review Team and our goal is to promote regular student attendance. Since COVID, chronic absenteeism is higher than ever and schools are creating programs to inform and promote regular attendance. Each month we identify students with excellent attendance. They receive a certificate, their picture is taken with other students from their class and hung in the cafeteria and their name is read during morning announcements. If you want to discuss your child's attendance, please call Mrs. Valentino. We have supports in place to help. For information and tips, please read this [publication](#) from the State Department of Education.

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Last week, students and staff were treated to a performance by Yale School of Music students. A woodwind trio, featuring the oboe, clarinet and bassoon, performed various classical pieces for us. One song was about a spider, and another was French. The musicians, in addition to playing, engaged the audience in stories and questions about the songs. They asked if our students knew any French words. "Many of our students knew "bonjour " and "oui ". Eli also knew the word for banana, which is "banane"!

At the end of the performance, there was time for our students to ask questions. They asked the musicians excellent questions like-

- How did you choose to play your instrument?
- How is the instrument made?
- How old is the instrument?

The musicians commented on how well our students listened, how they demonstrated excellent audience behaviors and participated. We are very proud of our SOARing Eagles! What a wonderful experience for our students and staff.