



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

## January 26, 2024 Newsletter

### IMPORTANT DATES



2/5	PTO Meeting - Cafeteria
2/6	Board of Education Meeting - 6:00PM - Room #211
2/13	Hour with Administrators - 12:00 - 1:00 @Berkshire Country Store
2/13	Hour with Administrators - 5:30 - 6:30 @Botelle
2/16	Early Dismissal - 1:00PM - Teacher PD
2/19	No School - Presidents' Day
2/20	Board of Education Meeting - 6:00PM - Room #211
2/23	Roaring Brook Nature Center - here - presentations in classrooms

### FAMILY GAME NIGHT

The Norfolk HUB presents Community Board Game Day. Set aside your high-tech gadgets and come play games at the HUB on Saturday, January 27th from 2:00pm - 4:00pm. Bring your family and friends. Kids under 10 years old need to be accompanied by an adult.

### NORFOLK LIBRARY PROGRAM

#### Bagpipe Concert

Please join us for an evening of Scottish Music and Merriment with Andrew Thomson and Kenny Storrs on Saturday January 27th 4 - 5pm. This is part of the Robert Burns weekend in town.

#### Corner Club

On Wednesday, January 31, please take the bus to the Norfolk Library to visit with the Sharon Audubon and their ANIMAL MENAGERIE program. Children need a slip to take the bus and must be picked up by 4:45pm.

### AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS SURVEY

Please complete the survey about after school programs. Or you can email Mrs. Valentino [valentinol@botelleschool.org](mailto:valentinol@botelleschool.org) with a yes or no. Thank you!

### WINSTED YMCA FAMILY NIGHT

Friday, February 16th from 6PM - 8PM join the Winsted Y for a family winter movie followed by an indoor snowball fight! Parents must stay with their children - no drop offs are permitted. Register online - [nwcty.org](http://nwcty.org), \$5.00 per person.. Please see attached flyer.

## **WINTER WEATHER REMINDER**

Students go outside when it is above 20 (including the wind chill) and students who are prepared for outdoor recess, have a lot more fun. Boots are needed for snow, but they are also needed after it rains. Sometimes there are puddles on the playground and with boots or waterproof shoes, students won't get wet. Please be sure your child is prepared for the weather. Thank you!

## **PRINCIPAL'S CORNER**

Our students in grades 1-6 are writing up a storm! They have reached the end of their informational reading, research and writing unit and are now publishing books on bugs, weather and climate and ecosystems.

The Primary students are experts on insects. Today I learned from Lyko that spiders vomit on their food to make it mushy. This helps them eat it. (Yuck!) Isla taught me that moths have furry scales and their colors help them camouflage. Students researched an insect of their choice - bees, dragonflies, ants, spiders, and butterflies to name a few. Every time I visit their classroom, students say, "Mrs. Valentino, do you want to see what I've written?" The answer is always an enthusiastic, "YES!"

The Intermediate students are experts on weather and climate. Students have researched different weather phenomena like hurricanes, floods, thunderstorms and blizzards. Adilyn was researching hurricanes last week and she learned that hurricanes pose many threats. High winds can cause trees to fall. This can damage buildings and cars. Storm surges also can flood streets and homes. She (and her classmates) made inferences by using their background knowledge, personal experience and facts from the book to write notes. Then they used their notes to write paragraphs about that topic.

The Upper Intermediate students are experts on ecosystems. They learned about producers, consumers, decomposers, and the adaptations the living things have to survive in that environment. Some decided to research wetlands and others the desert or Arctic. Robbie researched the rainforest and hooked his readers with an interesting fact. "The rainforest takes up 6% of land but has 50% of the world's different species of animals." Wyatt, upon finishing his book on wetland ecosystems, said, "I am proud of myself."

Our students have worked diligently on this project and our staff is proud of every Eagle. They SOARed to new heights during this unit. Way to go!