

## CONWAY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

### January-February Newsletter

*Each day of our lives we make deposits in the memory banks of our children.*

Happy New Year! I would like to wish each of our Conway Families a very Happy New Year!! Thank you for supporting our wonderful school and for sending your precious children to Conway Grammar School.

#### **Water Update**

We have drinking and cooking water!! The plan was to have the liner in the water tank replaced during the December break. That did not go according to plan. When the folks from MassTank got into the tank to replace the liner, they found that the current liner (that was installed in August 2018), did not 'hold' and there was water getting through the liner which meant the tank, outside of the liner was wet. They would need to have a great deal of 'dry time' before installing a new liner so therefore decided to sandblast the tank and fill it as is last week. The plan will be for MassTank to replace the liner right after school gets out in June. They will need 4 weeks to do this. That means that the school will be completely closed for 4 weeks beginning soon after the last day of school (to be determined depending on snow days). In the meantime, the tank is filled and the water was sent out to be tested. It came back fine. There is no odor. There is no foul taste. We have opened the bubblers!

#### **Staff Update**

We are happy to tell you that Emily Tynan is back in grade 2 after her maternity leave. It's great to have her back. Lynn Bosman did a great job during Emily's leave for the first 4 months. I'm also pleased to inform you that Lynn Bosman accepted a full time long term teaching substitute position at Deerfield Elementary School.

#### **School Start Time**

This is just a friendly reminder that school starts promptly at 8:40. Children should arrive between 8:30-8:35 to transition into their classrooms. It's very important that children are in class and ready to start at 8:40. Much goes on at 8:40 at CGS. Thank you for your cooperation in making sure that students are at school in time.

#### **Morning Goodbyes**

Sometimes morning goodbyes are difficult. Once children are in school, they tend to do very well and are very happy. Beginning Monday, January 7, all parents are asked to say their goodbye's at the front door and allow students to go on to class on their own. If you have particular concerns about your child please feel free to contact your child's teacher who can consult with our School Psychologist, Ms. Finger or Mrs. Gordon.

#### **Recess**

Students need to wear boots in order to play in the snow during recess. No exceptions. If there is a child in need of boots, please contact Principal Gordon, confidentially.

#### **MCAS Dates**

We do not have the EXACT dates of when CGS will be taking the MCAS test in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 but the timeframes are as follows.

- ELA – April 1-May3
- Math- April 2-May 24
- Science- Grade 5 only- April 3-24

Each grade will have 2 sessions of ELA and 2 sessions of math. That will be 4 days of testing. Math and ELA will be spread out. Grade 5 will have an additional 2 sessions of Science.

It is important that all of our students take the MCAS test so that we know how we are doing as a school and as a staff. We can look for trends of success and areas of needed improvement. We do NOT put any stress on the students and MOST of the time students comment that the test was just fine.

It is important that all students are in school on the dates of their grade level's MCAS testing, unless they are sick. We will be sending home more specific dates within the next 2 weeks.

Thanks so much for your cooperation!

Wishing you a wonderful 2019!

### **Important Dates**

- There are no early release days in January or February
- Jan. 13- 2:00- 6:00- Pasta dinner for our Head Custodian Bruce Jouannet at the South Deerfield Polish Club in South Deerfield. Wonderful Raffle Baskets!
- Jan. 17- 6:00- School Committee meeting
- Jan. 21- No School- Martin Luther King Day
- Jan. 22- 6:00 Honor Society Presentation- Library-Families and Students Grades 4, 5, 6
- Jan. 30-6:00-PAC meeting-Sunderland School
- Jan. 31- 6:00-WINTER WONDERS ESCAPE ROOM!!! Please join us for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual ESCAPE Room! Snow date- Feb. 7 at 6:00
- Feb. 4- Kindergarten Literacy Tea- All Kindergarten Families
- Feb. 18- VACATION WEEK
- Feb. 21- 6:00-School Committee
- March 1-6:00- Hitchcock Center Family Night

