



Sprague Elementary School

January ~ 2016

Mrs. Bakewell, Principal

Mrs. Tsacoyeanes, Vice Principal

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Dear Families –

Happy New Year! As we start the New Year, please remember to check your child's folder daily as important notices and fliers are sent home at various times. We want to be sure that you are up to date on all of the activities that take place at Sprague School. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the school to make an appointment with your child's teacher.

Mrs. Diane Bakewell

January Calendar of Events

January 1	NO SCHOOL - New Year's Day
January 6	NO SCHOOL - Three King's Day
January 12	School Governance Council Meeting 2:35pm
January 13	Early Dismissal - Teacher Collaboration Day
January 18	NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Day
January 20	End of 2nd marking period Grade 1-5



Winter Weather Schedules

2 Hour Delay

Pre-Kindergarten hours 9:50am - 1:20pm

Kindergarten - Grade 5 hours 10:05am - 2:20pm

The earliest Kindergarten - Grade 5 students can be dropped off is 9:40.

Breakfast is NOT served on 2 hour delay days.

EMERGENCY DISMISSAL DAYS

Sprague School dismisses at 11:30. When inclement weather is forecasted during the day, parents must check TV stations or website.

All After School Programs will be cancelled.

Attention Parents

A note must be sent in with your child if there is a change in their normal dismissal procedure. Emergency dismissal changes must be made **before 1:30pm**.

Please be aware the car drop off and pick up lane is ONE lane. Please do not pass cars as this is a safety concern as students are exiting vehicles.

Please kindly fill out the Emergency Contact Form even if your information has not changed. It is important that we have the most up to date numbers on file.

News from the Nurse

All Pre-Kindergarten flu vaccines are due by 12/31/15. All Pre-Kindergarten students who do not have the flu vaccine will be excluded when we return from winter break until proof of vaccination is given to the school nurse. Vision tests will be taking place in January for students in Grades 3-5. Please be reminded that when children are sick it is important that if they have a fever greater than 100, they will need to remain home until temp is less than 99.0 for 24 hours, without the use of medication. Also, if they have been vomiting or have diarrhea, the same applies.



Attendance Corner

Did You Know?

Students may not advance to the next grade if they miss more than twenty (20) days during the school year. Please note that, even though a doctor's note excuses the absence, it is still counted toward the 20 day maximum. Doctor's notes are required for documentation purposes.

When possible, please make your child's doctor's appointments before or after school hours. If the appointment is in the morning time, please bring your child to school after the doctor's appointment.

It is vital to your child's academic success that they do not miss classroom instruction. Thank You! Contact Mr. Davis, Attendance Counselor (sdavis@waterbury.k12.ct.us) with any questions.

PBIS Corner

One of our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports) traits is ACHIEVE. Students are encouraged daily to always try their best even when the work may seem challenging. Talking about our PBIS traits at home sends an important message to your child that we are working together as a team to help him/her to be successful. As part of an effort to raise funds for rewards and resources for our student, the Sprague PBIS team will be selling popcorn periodically throughout the year for \$1.50. Students will be reminded the day before so they can bring in money to participate. If you have any questions or concerns regarding allergies or if you do not want your child to participate, please contact Sprague Elementary School at 203-574-8189. Thank you for your support!

News from the Social Worker and Guidance Counselor

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Another month has flown by! The support staff at Sprague continues to work with students on their ability to use their words to resolve conflict. In conflict situations, we encourage children to use the following prompt: "I feel _____ when you _____ and I want _____." Please encourage your child to do the same. We also try to teach them appropriate coping strategies to utilize when they are feeling angry or frustrated. For example, the support staff will often encourage the students to take deep breaths, count to ten, or take space as needed. Please feel free to practice these skills with your child at home.

Thank you in advance for all of your help! Here's hoping for continued success in the New Year!

Thank you,
Support Staff



News from the Parent Liaison

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Thanks to all the families that attended Sprague's 1st Literacy Night on Thursday, December 10th. Everyone enjoyed the Book Bingo & free books, as well as dinner. It was a great night!

Save the Date for a Parent Workshop - "Homework Tips" on Tuesday, January 26th. A flyer with more information will follow. Please be sure to reply if you plan on attending.

If you need a registration key or have any questions at all on how to enter the Progress Book, please don't hesitate to contact me at: vdemirali@waterbury.k12.ct.us or call me at: (203) 346-3916

Students of the Month - December



Kindergarten

Ms. DeVito - Aiden McKenzie
Mrs. Feola - Christian Ramos
Mrs. Maghini - Lily Kather
Mr. Giammatteo - Ashley Garcia
Ms. Stasaitis - Giovanni Cruz

Grade 1

Ms. Cianfagna - Blasé Valiante
Mrs. Martinez - Makaveli Pugh
Mrs. Newman - Sahnai Sheehan
Mrs. Albino - Jaevonn Anthony

Grade 2

Mrs. Hirbour - Tattiana Rainone
Mrs. Horan - Alexander Figueroa
Ms. Kaminsky - Yousif Karim

Grade 3

Mrs. Boucher - Sean Mendez
Mrs. Grazdhani- Miguiry DeJesus
Mr. Smith - Angelina Montalvo

Grade 4

Mrs. Goderre - Nashalee Corcino
Ms. Williams - Dayana Torres
Mrs. Lombardi - Stefiny Corcino

Grade 5

Mrs. Olson - Alexis Aviles
Mrs. Pascale - Hanadi Qussais



Around the School

Pre-K - Mrs. Hanas, Mrs. O'Leary, Mrs. Baker

Good bye 2015; Hello 2016! We had a great time last year with all the themes that we worked on: Welcome to School, My Family, My Community, My Five Senses and Seasons All Around. We are starting off the year working on Animals Everywhere. It will be exciting to learn about the animals, where they live, what they do and eat. With the New Year here, we will continue to practice our letters, numbers, writing and building our vocabulary. 2016 here we come!

Kindergarten - Mrs. Feola, Ms. Stasaitis, Ms. DeVito, Mrs. Maghini, Mr. Giammatteo

Kindergarten had a busy December. We are studying homes and the places and neighborhoods where people live. To celebrate our learning in this unit, we made beautiful gingerbread houses in December. In math, we are working hard on addition and subtraction using story problems. In January, we are going to start writing equations.

Grade 2 - Mrs. Horan, Mrs. Hirbour, Ms. Kaminsky

We would like to wish all our students and families a very happy, healthy, and safe Holiday season and winter vacation. Please take this time to replenish your child's supplies, so they will be ready to work when we get back to school in January. Supplies needed: crayons, glue sticks, pencils, pencil case, two pocket folders, please have your child bring in two boxes of tissues and two cans of wet wipes for class use.

Thank-you and Happy Holidays and Happy 2016!

Grade 3 - Mr. Smith, Mrs. Boucher, Mrs. Grazhdani

Happy New Year!!! In the month of January, third grade students will continue to explore theme and main idea, with an emphasis on writing to express ourselves. Writing about what we have learned and how we can relate to the books we have read together. We have read over 34 books since August!! Students will select their favorite books and work together in cooperative groups analyzing texts for character traits and the central message. In addition, they will share a personal connection to their favorite story. In mathematics, we just finished a unit exploring area and perimeter and the kids are really excited about the next unit, Elapsed time. To practice at home, ask your son/daughter questions like, "What time will it be in 15 minutes, one hour, two hours, etc..." In science, we will be exploring land formations, especially volcanoes and the three different types of rocks: igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary.

Grade 4 - Mrs. Goderre, Mrs. Lombardi, Ms. Williams

December has been a quick month! Where is the snow??

Fourth graders have spent the past few weeks identifying equivalent fractions and comparing fractions in numeracy. In literacy, students have been working on character identity and character traits. Students have done a nice job in identifying internal and external events that shape the students character. Happy Holidays to all!!

Grade 5 - Mrs. Olson, Mrs. Pascale

The 5th graders have been working on a research project in order to write biographies. The students are excited to take their research and create Power Point presentations, which they will complete in January. The students have been continuing their lessons with Mrs. Ogilvy. The topic has been bullying. The students are learning strategies to deal with this problem. Parents: Please check your child's planner nightly and remind your child to read for 20 minutes a night.

