

**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:**

With the start of a new year, here is a quote to remember:

"There are only two days in the year that nothing can be done. One is called Yesterday and the other is called Tomorrow. Today is the right day to Love, Believe, Do and Live."

**THE LEADER IN ME**

We are starting a wonderful process in January! The 7 Habits of Happy Kids. Ask your children to share with you over the next couple of months how they are learning to be leaders!

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy new year,

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Mrs. Donna Cullen

**JANUARY CALENDAR**

- January 1            **New Year's Day Observed - No School**
- January 4            School Reopens, Welcome Back!
- January 6            **Three Kings Day Observed - No School**
- January 18          **Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Day - No School**
- January 20          Second Marking Period Ends, Grades 1-5
- January 20          **PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m**
- January 22          Japanese New Year Party, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 6 - 8 p.m.
- January 29          Student of the Month Reception, 9:30 a.m.

**WINTER WEATHER NOTICE**

Please keep the enclosed winter weather notice for future inclement weather.

Please note that for the Before School Program on 90 minute delays, the program starts at 8:00 a.m. and for 2 hour delays the program starts at 8:30 a.m.

## STUDENT COUNCIL FOOD AND TOY DRIVE

Thank you to all families who contributed to the Salvation Army Food Drive and Toy Drive for PAL. You were so very generous, and we were able to make several children very happy for the holidays!

## PTO NEWS

We would like to thank the many volunteers for their hours of hard work. The children had a wonderful time shopping. We would not have been able to do this without your help. We wish you a very happy and healthy New Year!

## DECEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

### Writer of the Month

Mrs. Egan            Jayziah Roman

### Mathematician of the Month

Mr. Murray            Emilio Hernandez

### Artist of the Month

Ms. Peterson            Victoria Silviera

### Kindergarten

Mrs. Kalnins            Brandon Margison

Mrs. Sanchez            Peighton Giambra

Ms. Verrastro            Nataniella Singleton

Mrs. Yurchyk            Brooke Mailloux

### Grade 3

Mrs. Lanza            Jisela Newman

Mrs. Maloney            Alicia Palomba

Mrs. Sasso            Hannah Rihan

Mrs. Strachan            Me'Kayla Caraballo

### Grade 1

Mrs. Crespo            Lilliana Santoro

Mrs. DiGiovanna            Jaelyn Belval

Mrs. Mancini            Noah Jaworski

Mrs. Sidella            Ava Barrault

### Grade 4

Mrs. Arzano            Evelyn Meade

Ms. Doran            Benjamin Figueroa

Mrs. Lucian            Nicole Rogers

Mrs. Silva            Stephen Kovaleski

### Grade 2

Mrs. Couture            Jamir Jackson

Ms. Fogarty            Dylan Kozlowski

Mrs. Hibbs            Paul Daniele

Mrs. Smith            Brezdyn Greenwood

### Grade 5

Mrs. D'Esposito            Sophie Gaynor

Mrs. Drewry            Johanna Harilla

Mr. Dunn            Liam Harkins

Ms. Pino            Mylah Antunes

## Japanese New Year Party for Families of 5<sup>th</sup> Graders

Friday, January 22, 2016 - 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.

"Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu!" A Happy New Year! We will invite our fifth graders and their family to Annual SHINNENKAI, the New Year's Party on Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The participants will be able to experience pounding rice,

calligraphy, Origami, Skyping with Japanese students in Japan, and more. An invitation will be sent out soon. The seats are limited, so please RSVP as soon as you get an invitation. It will be first-come, first-served.

## AROUND THE SCHOOL

**Ms. Verrastro & Mrs. Daunis, Kindergarten** HAPPY NEW YEAR! We wish all our families a very healthy and happy 2016! The children will be very busy from now until June learning many new things in reading and math. Please practice reading with your child each night for 15-20 minutes. Help your child to develop a love for reading.

**Mrs. Yurchyk, Kindergarten** On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, the students in Mrs. Yurchyk's Kindergarten prepared a mini Thanksgiving dinner. The students prepared cornbread, applesauce, cranberry sauce and butter. Tuesday they had a feast eating all the items they prepared. The food was served on the pictograph placemats the children created. Yum! Yum! On December 18<sup>th</sup>, all the Kindergarten classes celebrated the holiday season with their parents. The children created ornaments and colorful artwork to display during the holidays.

**All Grade Two Classes** Grade 2 is doing a great job reading informational texts! The students are working hard on all the Foundations skills. Continue to read and practice math facts during the winter break. Happy Holidays to all!

**All Grade Four Classes** 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are wrapping up their study of Connecticut. Last month they visited the state capital. They also learned in class about the 3 branches of government and famous Connecticutans like Prudence Crandall and Nathan Hale. The students enjoyed sharing their holiday traditions last month. In Math, we are continuing to work on fractions and decimals. Our Reading unit will culminate with a character study of a Japanese-American girl's experience in an interment camp. Keep up the nice work, 4<sup>th</sup> graders. It was also great meeting parents during parent teacher conferences last month. Happy New Year!

## HAIKU OF THE MONTH

Students in Kindergarten to 5<sup>th</sup> grade have learned how to sing this song about New Year's Day in Japan, one of the most important holidays of the year.

もう いくつ ねる と お正月	How many more nights to sleep, til its New Year's day?
Mo- ee-ku-tsu ne ru toh oshohgatsu	
お正月には たこ あげて	When the New Year's Day comes, we'll fly kites,
Oshoh gatsu nee wa ta ko a geh teh	
こまを まわして、 あそびましょう!	play around with tops, and have some fun!
ko ma oh ma wa shtay ah so bee ma sho-	
はやく こい こい お正月	Oh, how I wish you came soon, my dear New Year's Day!
ha ya ku koi koi oshohgatsu	

## FROM MRS. CANCRO, SCHOOL COUNSELOR

During the month of January, Developmental Guidance lessons will be delivered to each class on bullying. During the lessons, an emphasis will be put on the importance of kindness and every child will be encouraged to perform random

acts of kindness throughout the month, with the hope that it will continue throughout the year. An example would be saying thank you to someone, holding the door for the next person or simply returning a smile to an unknown friend.

"A simple act of kindness has the power to change a life".

