



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



With the holiday season upon us I want to thank many people for the wonderful things that are happening at Sunquam. I want to thank our students for the effort and time they spend on their school work and on being positive citizens of our community. I want to thank our parents for the outstanding children they send us to work with each day. I want to thank our talented staff for the dedication and professionalism they bring to the work they do. Thank you to all of the individuals who volunteer their time and energy to many facets of our school community. This is both a busy and exciting time of year. Hopefully, you will be able to slow down the pace a little, take a deep breath, and enjoy spending time with family and friends. I feel blessed to be the principal of a learning community that takes care of one another each and every day. On behalf of our entire staff, I want to wish you and yours the most joyous of holiday seasons.

~Ms. Littell ☺

IMPORTANT

During the next two weeks there will be many celebrations at Sunquam. Please keep in mind that all cars parked on the bus platform **MUST** be moved by 2:45 PM.



SPECIAL AREA UPDATES



MUSIC

The third grade curriculum has a heavy focus on learning to play the recorder. The reason for this is that, students have an opportunity to join the band or orchestra in fourth grade. The recorder is a perfect instrument to use as a "stepping stone" to the actual instruments they can learn to play in fourth grade. The third graders have all received their recorders. We have learned in a short amount of time: proper posture, how to hold the recorder properly with correct fingerings, to read notation on treble clef, quarter notes, half notes, tonguing and phrasing. I feel that is very important for students to be exposed to a wide variety of music. The fifth graders have finished a unit on the great Baroque composer George Frideric Handel. We have also studied Johann Sebastian Bach. We will soon embark on a journey to learn about opera. The composer we will study is Gioacchino Rossini. My e-board has links to excellent web sites about these composers and others. Please try to expose your children to the wide variety of music that exists. ~Mr. Jannotta



SCHOOL WEEKLY EVENTS & FIELD TRIPS



- Dec. 13th**- 2-I Shuttle 9:30 AM
1-Di visits HHH Community Library 1:30 PM
- Dec. 14th**- 2-G Shuttle 9:30 AM
- Dec. 15th**- 5-Fr Caleb Smith Park 9:30 AM
All 3rd Gr. Nutcracker Ballet-9:30 AM Islip Town Hall
1-St visits HHH Community Library 1:30 PM
4-Y Holiday Celebration 1:45 PM
- Dec. 16th**- 2-K Shuttle 9:30 AM
5-P Planetarium 9:30 AM
2nd Gr. Winter Celebration 12:05 PM
- Dec. 17th**- 2-M Shuttle 9:30 AM
5-Fr Planetarium 9:30 AM
- Dec. 20th**- **PTA Executive Meeting-9:30 AP office**
Arts in Education Assembly- K-2 9:30 AM
4-G, 4-L, & 4-P Holiday Celebration 12:00 PM
1-Sz visits HHH Community Library 1:30 PM
Arts in Education Assembly- 3-5 2:00 PM
- Dec. 21st**- 2-S & 2-Z Shuttle 9:30 AM
- Dec. 22nd**- 3-Gi & 3-Gu Winter Celebration 12:30 PM
All Kindergarten Holiday Party 1:40 PM
- Dec. 23rd**- **Spirit Wear Day**
3-E, 3-K, & 3-L Winter Celebration 12:30 PM



IMPORTANT REMINDERS & UPCOMING EVENTS



- Dec. 24th-Jan. 2nd**- School Closed Winter Recess
Sunquam Art Display @ the Fran Greenspan Administration Center
for the Month of January
- Jan. 4th**- 2-S The Long Island Museum 9:30 AM
- Jan. 5th**- 2-I The Long Island Museum 9:30 AM
PTA Meeting -Café 9:30 AM
- Jan. 6th**- 2-M The Long Island Museum 9:30 AM
- Jan. 7th**- 2-Z The Long Island Museum 9:30 AM

PTA WEEKLY NEWS



The PTA would like to thank everyone who attended our last meeting on Dec. 1st. Thank you to Jenn Krasin and her committee for all their hard work organizing and running the Kids Holiday Boutique. The kids had fun handpicking gifts for their family and friends. The next meeting for the Spring Fling Co. is Dec 15th @ 9:30am in the cafetorium. If you haven't already done so, please send in your Sunshine \$ to Cristina Hsiao and the Unity Fair \$ to Loren Natale. Please join us for the next PTA meeting on Jan. 5th @ 9:30am.



THOUGHTS FOR PARENTS



It is very easy during the holiday season to think about things that we want. We should not forget that the bigger reward comes from giving. Take some time during the hustle and bustle to engage your children in conversations about the needs of those that are less fortunate than us or those that cannot be with their families during the holidays. Sending gifts to a homeless shelter, helping to feed the hungry at a local church/temple or community center, or sending items to the troops that are overseas are some ways that we can help to make someone else's holiday special.



WEB SITE OF THE WEEK



<http://www.craftsforkids.com/helping.htm>



QUOTE OF THE WEEK



"Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love."

~Hamilton Wright Mabie

