



SHARON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal's Newsletter - January 2019

Dear Parents,

I want to start this newsletter to wish you and your family a Happy New Year. We hope your vacation was relaxing, and you enjoyed spending time together. It was nice to spend some quality time with family and friends. Looking forward to spending time with all of you in 2019.

Winter, Winter, Winter

My past few newsletters all start to look the same. They all include "Winter Clothes", "Winter Parking", "Snow day Policy", etc. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for your children to come to school with their winter gear. We spend lots of time outside and we believe that it's good for the children to go out during recess even when it is cold. In order for us to do this, we need the kids to be safe and comfortable. As said in previous newsletters, parking has been an issue for the last few years. We are actively discussing the future of parking at the school, but for now, we are asking you to not park on the inside of the circle when there is snow on the ground. I know this is inconvenient as parking space is very limited, but is necessary for the safety and well being of our students and families.

Ice Rink

The ice rink behind the school is officially open. We encourage kids to use it after school. The signs posted around the rink will tell you if the ice is good to skate on. Please stay off the rink if it is posted as closed. We have skates and helmets that we keep under the pavilion for people to borrow. Kids must wear a helmet and we ask that an adult is supervising at all times.

On Thursday nights at 5:30pm, community members gather for Pick-up Hockey. This is a great way to get to know other parents in your community, get some exercise and have a lot of fun.

School Lunch Survey

In the next few weeks, your children with your help will be asked to take a survey about school lunch. We have noticed that many children are not eating lunch regardless of where it comes from and we feel it is affecting their school performance in the afternoons. In an attempt to constantly improve our food service program, we are asking that your child, with your help, fill out a short survey about the foods/meals offered at school. This will give us a better idea of what you, as a parent, are looking for in a lunch our program.

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LEARNING COMMUNITY RESPECT

Parked Buses

At the end of the day, our buses are parked on the circle. From 2:55-3:05 you will notice that one of the buses has a stop sign that is out with flashing red lights. Up to this point, we have just warned people about driving through this stop sign but legally the driver is supposed to report your information to the authorities, which is a \$500 dollar fine. Obviously, we don't want to put anyone in that position, but we do need folks to be more aware. Again, this is a safety issue, we want the children and parents to be safe.

PTO News



The PTO is a group of parents meeting monthly to promote communication between the school and parents. They also do fundraising events, and community events. If you would like to join their efforts, contact Nicole Antal at eloquine@gmail.com. If you can't attend the meetings, but would still like to help in other ways, let Nicole know.

Playground



We are in the process of assessing the needs of our playground. This time of year is hard on kids at recess with all the ice and limited access to equipment. Mrs. Hop, in conjunction with a group of students, is developing a survey that we will use to plan future improvements to our space. We welcome any input you might have as a parents regarding our outdoor play space.

Mark Your Calendars

- Jan. 8, 5:30 pm: at Newton School in Strafford, School Board Meeting
- Jan. 14, 5:30 pm: Special School Board Meeting to finalize budget
- Jan. 17, 6pm: PTO Meeting
- Jan. 18, Half-Day (In Service)
- Jan 21, MLK, Jr. Day (No School)
- Jan 22, 8:15 am: School Assembly

Community Events

- Jan 26, 10 - 11:30: Tumble Time for Tots, in the school gym, ages 0-5
- Every Thursday, 5:30 PM, Pick-up Hockey at school.
- Baxter Memorial Library in Sharon offers free books, e-books, programs (such a Lego Club), DVDs, computer access to all. Visit their website for more information. www.sharonVTlibrary.com
- Seven Stars Arts Center offers a range of classes for adults and children. Please visit their website for more information.



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