

October 3, 2017

This week we are focusing on Health and Wellness.

Environment

When the Bresnahan School was built in 2014 it was deemed **GREEN**. What is a green school? It means that the Bresnahan earned a designation as a green school from the [Massachusetts Collaborative for High Performance Schools](#) because it was designed, built and operates in a manner that is environmentally sensitive and provides a healthy and comfortable learning environment for students. Not only are the lights and other equipment energy efficient, but materials for the building were purchased from regional sources to minimize trucking distances, lighting levels in classrooms are controllable and appropriate for learning, equipment is located so noise is not an issue in classrooms and water usage is minimized, among many other criteria.

Keeping with our green school guidelines we would like to remind parents of our [district cleaning policy](#). The policy was drafted due to concerns that several ingredients in commercial cleaners such as Clorox wipes and Wet Ones can be harmful and toxic. The chemicals in question are found to trigger asthma, allergies, endocrine disruption and other health concerns. Many of our parents had reached out last year to discuss the concern with the non-green cleaners or wipes being used in the classroom. It was with this great discussion and research that the current policy for classroom cleaning was drafted and instituted.

The green cleaner we use is called **PC120**. This is the only cleaner approved to be used in the classroom setting. PC120 cleaner (*Green Seal certified) is a peroxide based cleanser that may only be used by adults in the building. This product meets the Green Seal TM environmental standard for industrial and institutional cleaners based on its reduced human and aquatic toxicity and reduced volatile organic compound content, with skin and eye irritation and acute toxicity met at the as-used dilution.

Over the years, we have become accustomed to asking parents for help with wish-list items including tissues and wipes. The only wipes that can be used in the school setting are **Seventh Generation wipes**. These wipes are used to clean surfaces and may be used to cleanse students' hands when soap and water is not available before and after eating.

Please feel free to contact our school nurses, Nelson Barker and Michelle Thivierge, or your child's teacher with any questions.



Fitness

Hello Families! Tomorrow is **International Walk to School Day!** Please join us at Atkinson Common between 7:45 and 8:00 for a walking and wheeling school bus to school. Departure will be at 8:00. Students and siblings will also have photos taken with our mascot, **Clipper the Sea Dog!** Hope to see you there! The air may be crisp! What better way to start the day with a short, crisp walk or bicycle ride to school!

Safety

Bus Pass Reminder

Please check your child's backpack to ensure their bus pass is visible and attached securely to the outside of his/her backpack (a zip tie works really well). Bus passes are being checked on a daily basis to ensure students are boarding the correct bus at the end of the school day. Additionally, kindergarten parents must show their matching parent pass to the bus driver when getting their children off the bus. Thank you for your attention to this important reminder.

Healthfully Yours,

Kristina Davis, Karina Mascia and Amy Sullivan

P.S. Lost and Found

From the looks of our Lost and Found it seems like it is the beginning of January and not the second month of school. Already we have many water bottles, lunch boxes, jackets and sweatshirts. Please remind your child (#ClipperResponsibility) to check the lost and found for any missing items. Preschool and Kindergarten parents may want to take a peek during Open House on Thursday night. Additionally, feel free to stop by throughout the day (the building is open until 6:00 p.m. via Door #2) to check it out! All items will be donated this Friday.

#BresClippers #WalktoSchoolDay #ClipperResponsibility #ClipperPerseverance