



Bucketful of News...



Francis T. Bresnahan School
333 High Street Newburyport, MA 01950

Important Dates:

Jan. 30- Feb. 17

Preschool and Kindergarten Registration

February 13

School Council, 3:15 - 4:30

February 16:

World Read Aloud Day

February 20-24

No School,
February Winter Break

March 1

Preschool Lottery Drawn

March 2

Early Release Day

March 2

"SHE STARTED IT"
The Film
Sponsored by PTO STEM Expo

March 5th

TOT's perform at Harlem Globetrotters at 1:00 PM - tickets are still available

March 6-April 10th

PTO ASEP begins.

March 8

Save the Date! More Information to Come...
Bring Your Parent to School and Bring Your Parent to Lunch Day for Mrs. Herzig, Mrs. O'Malley and Mrs. Ouellette's Kindergarten Classes.

Principally Speaking...

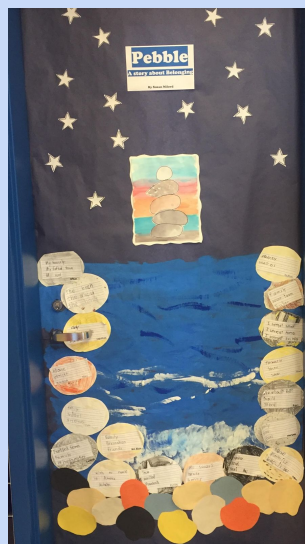
It is **HOPE** week! Only two days until **World Read Aloud Day!**

Hope is when we dream and believe of a future better than today. Minli in *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* believes that there is a way to change her family's fortune and seeks to find to the Old Man on the Moon and ask him her questions. No one believes anyone can do such a thing, but she never doubts and she dreams the impossible.

Looking into the future to set goals and to dream are essential to engaging students in reading. Here is a checklist for young readers. When these thoughts are not yet internalized, we can model by demonstrating hope in the characters we read, the actions we take, and our own belief in each other:

- I set goals for myself as a reader.
- I identify characters with dreams.
- I know what type of reader I want to be.
- I create plans for myself as a reader, as a thinker, and as a dreamer.
- I believe I am someone who can change the world.
- I believe I can use what I learn and read to positively influence others.

Check out some of the decorated classroom doors in honor of World Read Aloud Day:



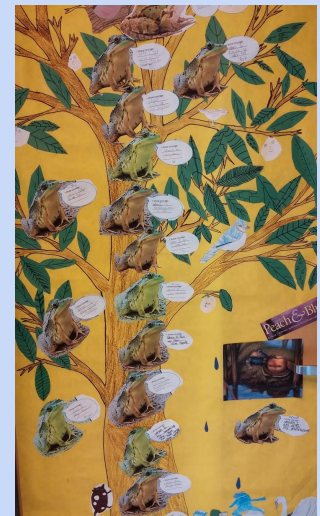
Mrs. Ahern's 1st Grade Class

Theme- Belonging, Book: Pebble



Miss Giovanna's PK Class

Theme- Friendship, Book: Going on a Picnic



Mrs. Whitney's 3rd Grade Class

Theme- Courage, Book: Peach and Blue

March 10

PTO Sponsored Country Dance, Grades 1-3

March 10-April 1st

Young and Budding Artists Exhibition at Newburyport Art Association ~ Look for more details in **Take A Look Tuesday**

March 13

School Council 3:15

March 15

Save the Date! More Information to Come... Bring Your Parent to School and Bring Your Parent to Lunch Day for Mrs. Carroll, Mrs. Duguie, Mrs. Gershuny and Mrs. Leahy/Natario's Kindergarten Classes

March 16

Professional Development Day, No school for students

March 20

- Progress Reports, Grades 1-3
- Scholastic Book Fair is Coming! Stay tuned for the details!

March 22

Save the Date! More Information to Come... Bring Your Parent to School Day, Miss Sue, Miss Sam and Miss Karen and Miss Jessica's Preschool Classes. Bring Your Parent to School and Bring Your Parent to Lunch Day for Miss Giovanna and Miss Tanasi's PK Classes.

March 22

PTO Sponsored Oregon's Night, grades 1-3 - Stay tuned for more information

March 24

PTO Sponsored Cultural Night

March 30

Coffee with the Principals, 7:00 PM

Reminder-- Snow Gear Needed for Recess

Now that the snow has arrived, we would like to remind parents to send students to school with appropriate snow gear. We aim to get the children outside as much as possible in the winter months. Unless there is excessive ice, intolerable wind chills, or too many puddles or rain we will send the children to outdoor recess.

If there is snow on the ground- all students PK-3 should bring or wear boots to school that they can change into for recess. At the preschool and kindergarten level snowpants are required if there is snow on the ground. Our preschool and kindergarten students go outside twice daily. Although not required, it is also a good idea to consider snowpants for grades 1-3 as well if there is snow on the ground.

Please also remember that hats, gloves/mittens and scarves are also a necessity.

The children went out today for recess and enjoyed the opportunity to play in the newly fallen snow.

Warmly,

Amy B. Sullivan

Principal of PK/K

Kristina Davis

Principal of 1-3

Karina Mascia

Assistant Principal

Spotlight on...

Next Generation Science Standards



WHAT ARE THE NEW SCIENCE STANDARDS?

The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) are a new set of K–12 science standards that were developed by states, for states. The NGSS identify scientific and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts, and core ideas in science that all K–12 students should master in order to prepare for success in college and 21st-century careers.

WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

It has been more than 17 years since the National Research Council and the American Association for the Advancement of Science produced their reports from which most state science standards are based. Since then, there have been major advances in science and our understanding of how students learn science. Students need the kind of preparation that gives them the tools and skills necessary to succeed in a rapidly and continuously changing world. When current students graduate from high school, more jobs will require skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) than in the past. The NGSS provide a strong science education that equips students with the ability to think critically, analyze information, and solve complex problems — the skills needed to pursue opportunities within and beyond STEM fields.

THE NGSS OFFER FIVE INNOVATIONS FOR TEACHING

1. Three Dimensional Learning: There are three equally important, distinct dimensions to learning science included in the NGSS: Scientific and Engineering Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Disciplinary Core Ideas.
2. All three dimensions build coherent learning progressions.
3. Students engage with phenomena and design solution.
4. Engineering and the Nature of Science is integrated into science.
5. Science is connected to math and literacy.

In the table below are the standards and topics taught at each grade level. Please note that each topic is a live link to the NGSS website that offers more in depth detail about each standard by grade level.

Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Forces and Interactions: Pushes and Pulls	Waves: Light and Sound	Structure and Properties of Matter	Forces and Interactions
Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems: Animals, Plants, and Their Environment	Structure, Function, and Information Processing	Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems	Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems: Environmental Impacts on Organisms
Weather and Climate	Space Systems: Patterns and Cycles	Earth's Systems: Processes that Shape the Earth	Inheritance and Variation of Traits: Life Cycles and Traits
Engineering Design	Engineering Design	Engineering Design	Engineering Design

PTO Highlights

1. There are still slots open for some ASEP classes! Check them out! newburyportpto.com/ASEP
2. Please join us at the home of PTO board member Nicole De Peña on Thursday, February 16th @ 7pm. Learn about PUREhaven ESSENTIALS...25% of all sales from the party will be donated to the Newburyport Elementary PTO. www.purehavenessentials.com/nicoledepena and enter party number 178909 at checkout. Please RSVP to naclair@yahoo.com.
3. Spring Fever 5K is coming soon! Email amanda.bugli@gmail.com to help out with the fun event!
4. Can **YOU** represent your country of origin at the PTO Multicultural Night? Volunteers needed for Country Booths!
5. Leary's Fine Wine and Spirits is donating 50% of proceeds for the MONTH of February to the PTO! Make sure to tell the cashier that you are there for the PTO fundraiser.
6. Save the date for the Grades 1-3 Dance! Friday, March 10th - Details to follow.
7. The February PTO General meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb 15 at 7 p.m. in the Molin Library. All are encouraged to attend and contribute.