

September 29, 2017

FALCON FLASH

Monday 10/02	Tuesday 10/03	Wednesday 10/04	Thursday 10/05	Friday 10/06
Chicken Nuggets Fish Sticks Potatoes	Pancakes & Sausage Egg Salad Hash Browns	Chicken Patty Tuna Salad Sandwich 4 Bean Salad	Quesadilla w/ Salsa Ham Salad Sandwich Fresh Grapes	NO SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL DAY

Upcoming Events:

- 10-3-Fall Pictures
- 10-5-Harvest Supper & open house
- 10-6-No School – Professional Development
- 10-9-No School-Columbus Holiday
- 10-20-4/5Corcoran to Maine Maritime Museum
- 10-23-4/5 McNally to Maine Maritime Museum
- 10-25-School Author-Illustrator Anne Sibley O'Brien-Students
- 10-26-Teacher/Parent Workshop w/Anne Sibley 4pm-5pm
- 10-27-17-Halloween Parade-after school – 4:00pm
- 10-30-4/5 Marc-Aurele to Maine Maritime Museum



THE PRINCIPAL CONNECTION @mrlajoiebhham

It was a pleasure to host our MSAD 75 School Board meeting last evening. We got a lot of compliments on how bright and colorful the school was, with student work and art evident throughout the school. We are excited to share this with all of you next Thursday for our Harvest Supper (5:00) and Open House (6:00). The Supper is free of charge (donations for the Garden Program accepted), and open to the community. Please consider volunteering for just an hour to help pull off this amazing event, and see you all soon!

HOT TOPIC: GOAL – READING ACHIEVEMENT

Schools don't have goals. People have goals, or they don't.

- adapted from education guru, Richard Dufour

This second installment in my series on our school goals focuses on Reading achievement. Our staff knows that helping kids become proficient in literacy skills is one of our primary responsibilities. Becoming literate means reading strongly, but also writing, listening, communicating, and thinking effectively. We tell the kids: *reading is thinking.*

On average over the last three years of state testing, Bowdoinham students have scored at a proficient level or better at 7% higher than the school district average, and 12% higher than the state average. Last year was a particularly notable year, where our third through fifth graders were 16% above the district and 20% above the state averages. And our fifth graders who have now transitioned to the Middle School are the first group I have worked with where 80% of the class passed the rigorous proficiency standard of the state assessment. So we're doing well, and I think getting even better. But we won't be satisfied until all of our students are literate at a proficient level. That is why increasing Reading achievement remains an important school goal.

How can you help? No parents are expected to teach their child to learn to read – that's why we have schools. But no one can help your child *love to read* better than you. Rather than worry about teaching them the right skills, encourage the right attitude and mindset about reading. Share books. Read stories together as a family. Show enthusiasm for your own reading and writing life. Take every opportunity to make lifelong reading a joyful and positive experience for your kids, and never a chore. We can take it from there.

Yours in meaningful learning that lasts,

Mr. Lajoie ☺



Harvest Supper

Harvest Supper and Open House – will be held on Thursday, October 5 beginning at 5pm through 7pm.



Picture Day is this coming Tuesday, October 3. We begin at 9:15 and are usually finished photographing by 1:00pm. If you did not receive a picture envelope, please let Mrs. Russell know and she will send one home on Monday. All students and staff will be photographed for school security reasons. You are not required to purchase any pictures.



MSAD# 75 Flu Clinics at Mt Ararat Middle School - Saturday October 21, 9am-12pm, and Tuesday November 28, 4pm- 6pm in the cafeteria. Nasal mist will not be offered this year. This clinic is sponsored by CHANS, open to the public, ages 6 months and up, and free. Donations are accepted.



We will be holding a **spare change drive** to support people struggling from the recent hurricanes in the United States and the Virgin Islands. All money will be sent to the American Red Cross Mid Coast Chapter in Topsham. Our spare change drive will begin on Monday, September 25th and run through Friday, October 6th. Students are encouraged to bring change into their homerooms. All change will be collected and placed in a bucket, which will be housed in our main office. Thank you for your support of this effort to help our fellow communities.



As you are cleaning out your closets this fall, please keep us in mind! We are always in need of the following **gently used** items: Winter boots, boys and girls, all sizes; Sneakers, boys and girls, all sizes Boys clothing, size 5-8; sweatpants are the most wanted for both boys and girls (or leggings) (No underwear or socks please)

October



Bowdoinham Food Pantry has new hours of operation. Beginning Wednesday, September 6, the pantry will be open from 3pm – 5pm every Wednesday. For more information please call 751-7779



The Clothes Closet is open the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 3pm-6pm at the Church of the Nazarene at 7 School St. Come to the house behind the church. A donation of \$1 a bag is welcome but not required. brown_531@myfairpoint.net or the Merrymeeting Art Studio



FHC's 10th and Final Halloween Extravaganza – Will be held on Saturday, October 14th from 6pm-8pm. All age groups are welcome. All proceeds go to the Bowdoin and Bowdoinham Fire Department. \$5 per person - \$15 families 4 or more. There will be a food sale, face painting, bonfire, haunted trail walks, piñata, Halloween games and pumpkin decorating. 1201 Min St., Bowdoin. For more info call 666-5651 x 2240



We are so pleased to have the **Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans** back this year for a show of their recent work. The Opening Reception will be on Friday, Oct. 20 from 5:30-8:00 at the Gallery, 9 Main Street, Bowdoinham. There will be live music and food along with all the artists who will be happy to answer any questions you may have. The show continues on Sat. and Sun. from 1-4 p.m. until Nov. 5. Come join us to see what our talented neighbors have been creating in recent months.



Come Join Us - **Open Studio Saturday**, September 30th, at the Merrymeeting Arts Studio from 10-1. Open Studio is suitable for all ages; children under 10 must be accompanied by a participating adult. The fee is \$5. This Saturday's theme will be zentangles and paper crafting. Hope to see you!

