



December, 2005

Sandown North

News



*From the desk of
Jo-Ann H. Georgian, Principal*

Dear Families,

Wonderful children, dedicated staff, involved families. . .these are a few of the reasons why I am thankful to be the principal of Sandown North! Recently as you know, we had our first Pot Luck dinner. The cafeteria was transformed into a fine dining experience and a good time was had by all who attended. I sincerely want to thank Darice Collie, Darlene Collins, and Margaret Winn for doing so much to make the evening such a success!

Mark your calendars because we have another fun evening planned along with Sandown Central. Our PTA folk are working hard to bring you

a fun-filled auction on December 3rd. Come and enjoy the evening of laughter, excitement, and good shopping. The doors open at 6:00pm for silent bidding and the auction is fully underway at 7:00pm.

Volunteers have begun their work to be ready for the Children's Holiday Gift Shop. As they come into the building to create items for sale and to plan for the event, they brighten our days with their good cheer. What a fun time of year for all of us! ❄️❄️❄️

Maureen Platt, Reading Consultant, is excited about working with Reading Mentors again this year. If you would like to connect in a special way with a child, or have a parent, sister, brother, or neighbor who would like to share books with a child, please call Ms. Platt at 887.8503 ext. 309.

I want to thank those of you who updated your emergency dismissal information and phone numbers recently. We have revamped our procedures a bit as well. In most situations, if we need to dismiss early, your child's classroom teacher will be making the phone calls to you and/or your emergency designee. They are the ones who are most familiar with your child's after-school plans. First, they will try to reach a parent, unless you have designated someone else to be called first. They will not be leaving any messages on answering machines. They will call your emergency designees until they are able to speak directly to a person. If they do not have a chance to talk to someone, they will submit your child's name to the office. Office staff will try to reach you again and if unable to do so, will leave a message telling you that your child will be staying at school with us to ensure his/her safety. Please talk to your designees and ask them to notify you if they are called and are assuming responsibility for your child. We feel our system will be time efficient and will

keep all children safe. With December right around the corner, we know we need to be ready. Thanks for your cooperation.

The recent roll-out for Star Quest has been focused on the cafeteria, on using manners and following expectations so that all could enjoy a pleasant lunchtime. We have been collecting data so we can make informed decisions. Mrs. Stafford and Mr. Melle are meeting with children as well to get their input. As we make decisions, we will keep you informed. If you would like to talk to us further, feel free to call. Your call will be directed to a Universal Team member.

Enjoy the holiday with your children!



Curriculum Corner

Parent teacher conferences have taken place. This is an important event in your child's school life. Seeing samples of schoolwork will help to know what to expect for homework and how you can help your child succeed with assignments. This conference was different in that teachers spent time presenting what your child knows and sharing district expectations for continued learning. Report cards will go home with children during the week of November 28th. Please review the report card and talk with your child about his/her accomplishments. You give children a strong message when you communicate your interest in their schoolwork.

The rubric used for reporting represents the quality of a child's work in comparison to the standards set for a child. Evidence to support proficiency is collected often and it is from this evidence children's work is evaluated in comparison to the rubric. This report card is in its pilot year. We

will be soliciting suggestions for improvements in the spring.



Spotlight on the Classroom



The children in Mrs. Brown's class are studying science curricula around weather. They are incorporating their studies by tracking temperatures and making comparisons in math. They are learning about cloud formation. They collected word lists in language arts and have learned the art of acrostic poetry writing. Colorful collage work compliments the poetry. Take a moment to read the poems outside their classroom. They have done a great job!

Mrs. Janvrin and Ms. Emerson are thankful for their students! They are using the upcoming holiday to teach the social studies

curriculum. Children are wearing white t-shirts over their school clothes daily. Affixed to the no longer white t-shirts (!), nametags tell the name of the pilgrim he/she is representing. They are reading and researching the arduous journey the Pilgrims experienced. Fortunately, the conditions aren't as rough, but they certainly are developing a better understanding of life as it used to be.

Title One

Games can help a child learn and practice reading skills. They are a great way to get involved with your child's learning. Here are some games to play: Boggle Jr, Scrabble Jr, I Spy, and Memory.



Reading Strategies for Your Child to Use

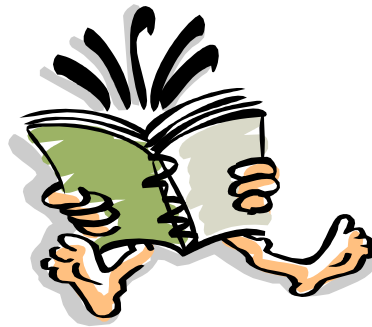
If your child comes to an unknown word, give them some "think time" and help them to use these strategies:

- Use the picture clues
- Skip the word and read to the end of the sentence
- Backtrack and read again (get a running start)

- Use other word in the sentence to help figure out a word that would make sense
- Use the sounds of the letters, letter combinations, or familiar word parts to "stretch it out"

Tips for Comprehension

- Preview the book and ask children what they already know about a topic
- Ask your children to make predictions as they read
- Encourage children to form visual images, or a picture in their heads of what they are reading
- Ask your child to retell the story in their own words



Sandown North Art News



We are concluding our shape unit this month by making clay trivets. Students are cutting shapes from slabs of clay and adding decoration by carving designs.

For our next unit we will be studying color. Students will be working with tempera and watercolor paints as well as glazes. Since painting materials can stain, December and January will be especially important months to wear older clothing to school on art day. This is also an excellent time of year to donate any old shirts that could be used for kid smocks.



Thank you,
Mr. Melle

HINTS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE



Providing healthful snacks for children is important to providing good nutrition for growth and development, supporting life long healthy eating habits and improving educational success. It has been shown that children who eat meals higher in sugar content fatigue easier and lose stamina quicker.

Snacks are a bigger part of children's diets than in the past. Snacks can be a positive way to promote overall good health and well-being. Does your child constantly ask for foods that they see on TV? Giving them a choice of 2 healthy snacks for school and reserving "special" foods as seen on TV for "special" occasions is one way to offset the media blitz that they are exposed to.

Here are some quick & healthful suggestions for school snacks

Fruits & Vegetables:

Sliced apple or
orange

Banana

Celery with peanut butter

Mini carrots

Fruit cups with light syrup

Applesauce

100% fruit juice (recommended servings are no more than 1 ½ cups per day)

Healthy grains

Pretzels

Popcorn

Cereal bars

Crackers

Breadsticks

Low-fat Dairy Products

Yogurt

Low fat pudding

Low fat cheese (regular cheese is the #2 source of heart damaging saturated fats in children's diets)

Low fat milk (milk is a terrific source of calcium & vitamin D but regular milk is the #1 source of heart damaging saturated fat in children's diets)

Nuts & Trail Mix

Since nuts are high in calories, it is best to serve them in smaller portions


I hope that you find this helpful in helping your child be a smart consumer and make healthier choices in the snacks that they eat.

Ellen Zimmerman
Sandown North School Nurse



**DATES TO
REMEMBER:**

November 23 – NO SCHOOL
November 24 - NO SCHOOL
November 25 – NO SCHOOL

Thanksgiving Holiday 

December 1 – Report Cards sent home

December 3 –Auction at 7:00pm
Silent Bidding at 6:00pm

December 5 –Monday Morning Meeting at 9:00am

December 12 – Monday
Morning Meeting at 9:00am

December 12 & 13 – Holiday Gift Shop

December 15 – Performing Arts Center at 9:30am for Winter Concert

December 19 –Monday
Morning Meeting at 9:00am

December 24 – January 2nd
Holiday Vacation
Return to school January 3rd

