Hawk Talk The Monthly Newsletter for the Patricia A. Duran School

A Message From Mrs. Davis

Dear Duran School Families,

We are quickly approaching the 100th day of school! Our 100th day of school will be recognized this year on February 14th--this will certainly be an eventful day! We hope you are excited about the progress your child has made so far this year. The staff at the Patricia A. Duran School are focused and committed to providing all students with a rigorous and engaging instructional program. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us at the school any time!

Sincerely,

Melissa Davis, Ed.D. Principal Patricia A. Duran School

Pre-K

Registration

PreK and Kindergarten Registration Opens February 12

We will begin accepting applications and registrations for our kindergarten and our PreK program beginning on February 12. Please understand that we are not able to accept applications prior to this date. Children must be 5 years of age by October 15, 2024 to enroll in Kindergarten and must be 4 years of age by October 15, 2024 to enroll in PreK. Registration packets can be picked up at the main office or downloaded from our website. Please make sure to include a legal copy of your child's birth certificate, immunization records, and proof of residency. Please call the main office with any questions.

Upcoming Spirit Week



Valentines Day: Flower Delivery and Snacks

Valentine's Day is an exciting time at the Duran School. We often make Valentine's Day creations and exchange valentines in individual classrooms. While we are all for showing each other love and appreciation, we want to remind families that we **do not accept student flower deliveries.** These deliveries typically cause a distraction and students do not have the space to keep them in the classroom. Thank you for respecting this rule.

We also want to remind parents that our district's Wellness Policy encourages us to provide healthy snacks and food options to all students. We encourage families to consider healthy

Valentine's Day options to send in with students in lieu of candy Valentines. Please click <u>here</u> if you would like to view the district's Wellness Policy.

A Message from Nurse Scripture:

'Tis the season for cold and flu! Just a reminder that if your child has been sick, we ask that you keep them out of school until they have been fever, vomiting and diarrhea-free for 24 hours. Fever-free requires that the student is without a fever, and not using a fever-reducing medication, for 24 hours. Thank you for helping us reduce the spread of seasonal illnesses.

Please remind your student to use good hand washing skills, cough into an elbow, and use a tissue when sneezing. Having a water bottle at school to stay hydrated is important also. Thank you for your help encouraging your child to keep up healthy practices!

World Read Aloud Day: February 7

We are often asked how families can extend student learning at home. The easiest way that parents can increase learning at home is by reading with or to their child. Reading aloud to children is one of the most cost effective and highly beneficial methods of building a child's literacy skills. If you read aloud to your child daily for **15 minutes**, over the course of five years your child will have **27,375 minutes** of language exposure, which can put children on the path to high literacy achievement. February 7th is World Read Aloud Day--a perfect day for you and your child to snuggle up with a good book!

Concerts and Academic Showcase: Grades 2 and 3

Our 2nd and 3rd grade students have been working hard to prepare for both their concert and academic show case. This evening will also include coding with Mrs. Caddell--where families can see what their children are learning in our computer class. **Please join us on April 4th at 6:00 for this event.**

Literacy Night and Art Showcase

We are so excited to announce our upcoming literacy night and art showcase on Thursday, April 11 from 5:00 - 6:30 pm. We will be collaborating with the University of Maine's literacy education program this semester. Upcoming teachers enrolled in UMaine's literacy education program will be visiting our classrooms to observe our expert teachers and learn from our programming. Their culminating project for their program is to create a literacy night. This night will include fun, literacy-based games for students and families to try. In addition to the literacy component, Mrs. Lever is planning her art showcase and ice cream social for this evening as well. Come in, play some literacy games, view some art and eat some ice cream! We can't wait for this fun event!

February Menus



Menu is subject to change. – All grains are whole grain -Choice of Milk White 1% and Chocolate 1 % USDA is an equal opportunity provider

Upcoming Events:

February 2: NAEP testing for selected 4th grade students
February 7: World Read Aloud Day
February 12: School Committee Meeting at HHS @ 6:30
February 12: PreK and Kindergarten Registration Opens
February 12-14: Spirit Week
February 19-23: School Vacation
March 5: Remote Day due to Town Election
April 4: 2nd and 3rd Grade Concert and Academic Showcase @ 6:00
April 11: Literacy Night and Art Showcase 5:00-6:30

Melissa Davis

Melissa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters