

Monroe - Message From the Principal

March 4, 2024

Notes from the Principal, Ms. Dupuy ...

As we get ready to kick off our annual Bikes for Books incentive, provided by our local Masons, I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight the crucial role that reading plays in your child's development, and the importance of incorporating reading into your daily routine at home.

Reading is not just a fundamental skill; it's a gateway to a world of imagination, knowledge, and endless possibilities. Research consistently shows that children who are read to at home develop stronger language skills, improved concentration, and a deeper love for learning.

Here are a few reasons why reading to your child at home is so beneficial:

Language Development: Reading aloud exposes children to a rich vocabulary and helps them understand language patterns and structures. This lays a strong foundation for effective communication skills in the future.

Cognitive Skills: Engaging with books stimulates critical thinking skills, imagination, and problem-solving abilities. It encourages children to ask questions, make predictions, and draw connections between the text and their own experiences.

Bonding Time: Sharing a story with your child creates precious moments of connection and intimacy. It fosters a sense of security and emotional well-being, strengthening the parent-child relationship.

Academic Success: Numerous studies have shown a direct correlation between early exposure to reading and academic achievement later in life. By instilling a love for reading from an early age, you're setting your child up for success in school and beyond.

As we navigate through the busy schedules and demands of daily life, I encourage you to carve out time each day to read with your child. Whether it's a bedtime story, a trip to the library, or simply curling up with a book on the couch, these shared moments have a lasting impact on your child's development.

Reminders this week include:

IT'S HERE!!! Our Book Fair is here!! Families can set up an eWallet for their student to shop at the book fair by clicking our [Scholastic Bookfair homepage](#) and scrolling down. Click on the 'set up an eWallet' button on the right side. eWallet is the cashless way for students to shop at the bookfair on Thursday March 7th at school or online. You can even share the link to your child's eWallet with other family members and friends! <https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/monroefamilies4literacy>

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have questions, concerns, or need support for your child or your family. Have a great week!

(email: jdupuy@rsu3.org school phone: 525-3504 cell: 249-1061)

Important Upcoming Dates.....

3/4 - 3/8 - Book Fair

3/8 - End of Second Trimester

3/11 - School Board Meeting at MVHS 6:30

3/15 - Teacher Inservice Day - No School for Students

SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIRS

CONVENIENT, CASH-FREE SHOPPING WITH eWALLET!

It's Book Fair Time! This year, say hello to **eWALLET!** Empower students to choose their own books and check out with their very own digital payment account. Book Fair eWallet can be used at the Fair or online. And any leftover funds can be saved for future Fairs! Win-Win!



Visit our school's Book Fair homepage to get started.





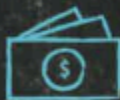
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RECYCLE ON JUNE 1, 2024

Check out what's happening at Monroe School ... Week Of: 2/26

K	<p>In Kindergarten we tried to get back into the groove of school. We worked on classroom expectations, started working on teen numbers in Math, We started talking about the academic Fair! Will will start picking animals and learning about them next week. We will be posting the date for the academic fair soon!</p>
1/2	<p>First and second graders have been very excited to start working on their projects for the Academic Fair! Students have selected a wild animal and have begun writing about their animal. So far, we have written about what our animals look like and their habitat. Next, we will write about how our animal adapts to survive in their habitat. This has been a great chance to work on writing sentences and making detailed illustrations with labels. Stay tuned for dates for the Academic Fair.</p>
<p>2/3</p> 	<p>Our class focused on animal classification in science this week. Students are working on a 5-paragraph informational writing project to teach others about the five groups of vertebrate animals: mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. We also learned about arthropods, which are invertebrates like arthropods, arachnids and insects. I am really impressed with some of the fun facts that students have been able to share with the class. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did you know that axolotls are amphibians, but they breathe through gills even as an adult?
<p>4/5</p> 	<p>We continued to practice the engineering process with designing building and testing structures made with toothpicks and gummies. Students worked through identifying the problem, researching, solutions, planning, creating, testing, and improving. The class worked in groups then presented to the class that gave feedback and suggestions. It's Read Across America Week. We have opportunities for you to come in and celebrate with us!</p>
Music	<p>This week students continued learning their songs for the spring concert. In addition we continue to work on singing in solfege (do,re,mi...) and practice our rhythm reading. K-2 students also learned about the pipe organ. We discussed what the instrument is, how it makes sound, how it's different keyboards work together, and watched a video of someone playing Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor.</p> <p> J.S. Bach : Toccata and Fugue in D minor BWV 565 / Liene Andreta Kalnciem...</p> <p>3-5 students have started learning about aesthetics. Specifically, the difference between objective and subjective, and feeling and expression.</p>

<p>Agriculture</p>	<p>A lot of growth occurred over February vacation! We planted lettuce in our Flex Farm, a hydroponic grow tower, before vacation and the growth is phenomenal! We should be eating fresh greens in another two weeks. The older students helped with weekly maintenance, including adding water, checking the pH level, and testing the nutrient level. How exciting!</p> 
<p>SEL</p>	<p>This week, we did a mini lesson on what it means to be responsible. Classes talked about and brainstormed ways they are and can be more responsible in school, at home and in public. We also talked about how being responsible sometimes means taking ownership of mistakes that are made. Kindergarten learned how they can be more responsible by listening carefully and following directions. We practiced this with a game of Simon Says.</p>

Monroe School **is recruiting volunteers!**

Have an hour a week?

An hour a day?

*Monroe School seeks help
teaching math:
Whaddya say?*

Volunteers make a difference!

*Please contact the RSU#3
volunteer coordinator,*

*Jenny Tibbetts,
for more information:
jtibbetts@rsu3.org
(207)568-4640 ext 1413*

Thank you!



Willing Hearts Army
RSU#3 Volunteers

FREE COVID TEST KITS

Expiration date has been extended to
9/30/24

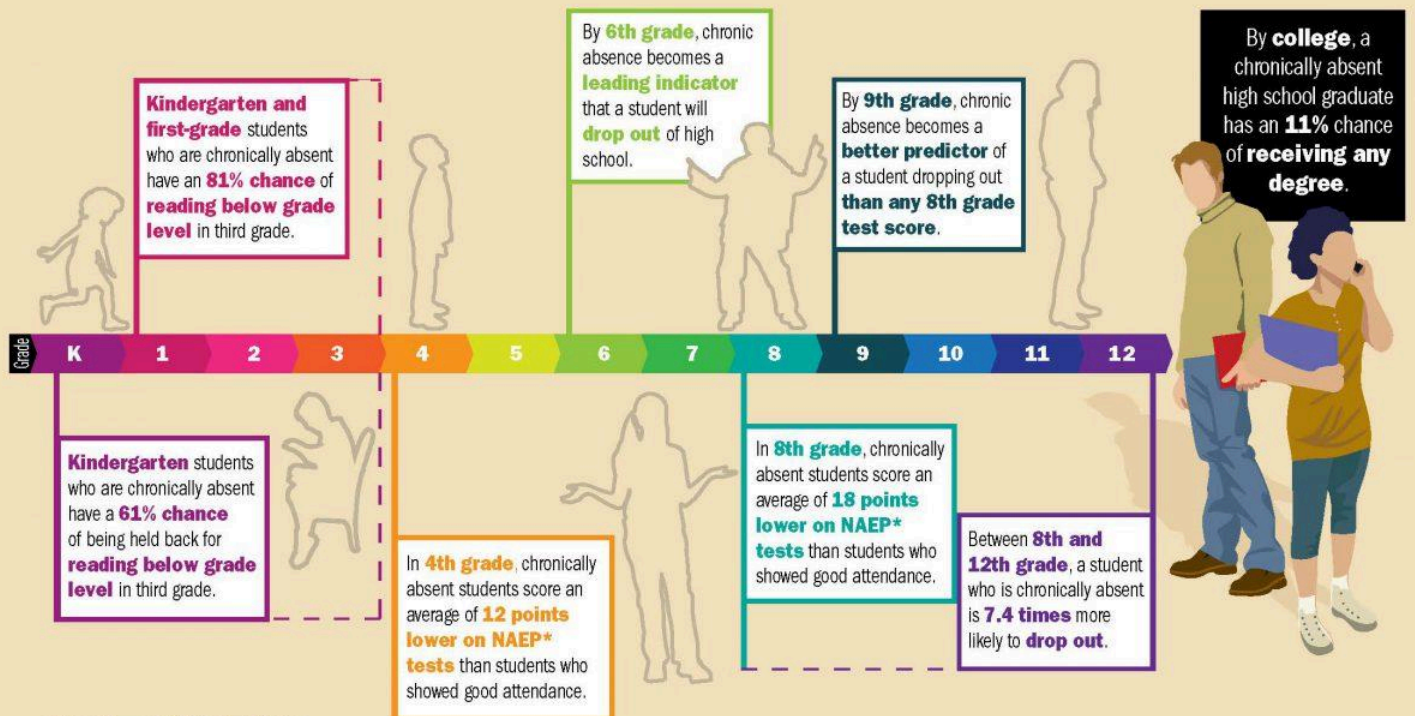
Parents may pick them up
in the school office

STUDENT ATTENDANCE MATTERS

There are an estimated 5–7.5 million students in the United States who are chronically absent from school.

Chronic absenteeism hurts students in a variety of ways as they progress through their school career, starting with kindergarten.

DEFINITIONS:
Chronic Absence – Missing 2 days each month, totaling 18 days, equals 10% of the school year
Good Attendance – Missing 9 days or less in a school year (5%)



*National Assessment of Educational Progress

**Department of Agriculture, Conservation
and Forestry have a suggestion or two!**
**@Maine Department of Agriculture,
Conservation and Forestry**

Find the Ski & Snowshoe Trailers at Maine State Parks!

10 AM—3PM on all dates listed

January

- 5-14* Camden Hills State Park,
Camden, (207) 236-0849
Winter Family Fun Day on Jan. 13
- 13 & 14 Mount Blue State Park,
Weld, (207) 585-2261
- 19, 20, 21* Aroostook State Park,
Presque Isle, (207) 768-8341
- 20 & 21 Wolfe's Neck Woods
State Park, Freeport,
(207) 865-4465
- 27 & 28 Sebago Lake State Park,
Casco, (207) 693-6231

February

- 1-13* Holbrook Island Sanctuary,
Brooksville, (207) 326-4012
Winter Family Fun Day on February 10 too!
- 3 & 4 Mount Blue State Park,
Weld, (207) 585-2261
Winter Family Fun Day on February 3 too!
- 10 & 11 Bradbury Mt. State Park,
Pownal, (207) 688-4712
Winter Family Fun Day on February 10 too!
- 17 Reid State Park,
Georgetown, (207) 371-2303
Winter Family Fun Day on February 17 too!
- 17-24* Lake St. George State Park,
Liberty, (207) 589-4255
Winter Fun & Ice Fishing Derby on Feb. 17 too!
- 18 Bradbury Mountain State Park,
Pownal, (207) 688-4712
- 24 & 25 Range Pond State Park,
Poland, (207) 998-4104
Winter Family Fun Day on
Feb. 24 too!

March

- 2 & 3 Mount Blue State Park,
Weld, (207) 585-2261
- 2-10* Cobscook Bay State Park,
Edmunds Twp., (207) 726-4412
- 9 & 10 Sebago Lake State Park
Casco, (207) 693-6231
- 16-31* Lily Bay State Park,
Greenville, (207) 695-2700

* Please call ahead to confirm.

**TAKE IT
OUTSIDE!**

www.ParksAndLands.com

2024





Is my child too sick for school?

Each day many parents are faced with a decision: should they keep their sick children at home or send them to school? Often the way a child looks and acts can make the decision an obvious one. In accordance with Maine Department of Health and Human Services guidelines, a child should not attend school if he/she exhibits one or more of the following symptoms or infections:

Keep your child home if he/she has any of the following symptoms:

- **Fever** (Greater than 100° F)- the student may return when fever-free for **24 hours WITHOUT the use of fever reducing medication.**
- **Cough:** A child with an uncontrolled cough should stay home until they are coughing with less frequency.
- **Diarrhea/Vomiting:** A child with diarrhea and/or vomiting should stay at home and return to school only after being symptom free for 24 hours.
- **Rash-** Any new onset of rash if accompanied by fever; may return after rash resolves or diagnosis is made and clearance given
- **Skin Lesions (sores)** – A student should not be at school with any sores with drainage that cannot be contained within a bandage
- **Strep Throat/Impetigo and other bacterial infections requiring antibiotics-** A student with strep throat must remain home until they have been on their antibiotics for a full 24 hours.
- **Colds-** A child with thick yellow-greenish mucous accompanied by fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or constant nasal discharge should remain home. Very few younger children can effectively blow their noses and wash their hands afterward. A child with the above symptoms will quickly spread the illness to other children.
- **Other-** Any symptoms or complaints that prevent the student from active participation in usual school activities

If your student tests positive for COVID-19, they must isolate at home for 5 days. After 5 days they may return with symptom improvement, masking days 6 through 10. More information can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation>.

Home is the best place for a child who is ill. Students with these symptoms cannot comfortably participate in school activities and unnecessarily expose others to their illnesses.