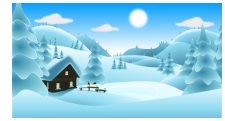




Morse Newsletter



December 11, 2023

Notes from the Principal, Mrs. Roux ...

This week I am sharing an important update. As many of you know, I have taken on multiple roles within RSU 3 over the past year. Most recently, this past summer, I stepped into the role of Assistant Superintendent with the intention of transitioning into that role fully, throughout this year. At Monday's school board meeting, it was decided that I will step into the role on a full time basis as soon as possible. With this in mind, the board voted to move Jodie Dupuy, current Dean of Students, into the role of Interim Principal for the outlying schools for the remainder of this year.

Initially, not much will change. Ms. Dupuy and I will continue to work together to support the four schools while we advertise and hopefully fill the role of Dean of Students. Nothing will change until we are able to fill that role. Even after that; however, I will still work closely with Ms. Dupuy and the new Dean, as I continue to support the district as a whole. Over the next several weeks, we will work to sort out any logistics associated with this change.

It has been an absolute privilege serving in the role of Principal for each of the 4 outlying schools. While I am sad to be stepping out of that role, I am very grateful that I get to continue to support all students, staff, and families in RSU 3. The schools will be in very good hands with Ms. Dupuy as she steps up into this leadership role, and I will continue to be available to all families as needed..

A few important Reminders this week include:

- At this time, we are still asking that students be dropped off at the main entrance where a staff member will greet them and escort them inside.
- Daily dismissal time will begin with parent pick ups at 3:00, followed by bus dismissals beginning at approximately 3:15. Parents are asked to pull up to the entrance and your child will be brought out to meet your car. **During drop off and pick up, if you plan to walk your child to the door, please park in the parking lot across the street so as not to interrupt the flow of traffic. Thank you!**

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: lroux@rsu3.org school phone: 722-3636 home phone: 568-3980 cell: 323-0990)

Notes from the Office:

We are very excited to be bringing back our annual themed basket raffle. Each classroom has chosen a special theme and are collecting items to fill a basket. Tickets will be on sale soon and definitely during the Holiday Variety Show on December 12. The winning names will be drawn at the end of the show on December 12. Thanks so much for your support of this important fundraiser. This is always so much fun for our school!

Important Upcoming Dates.....

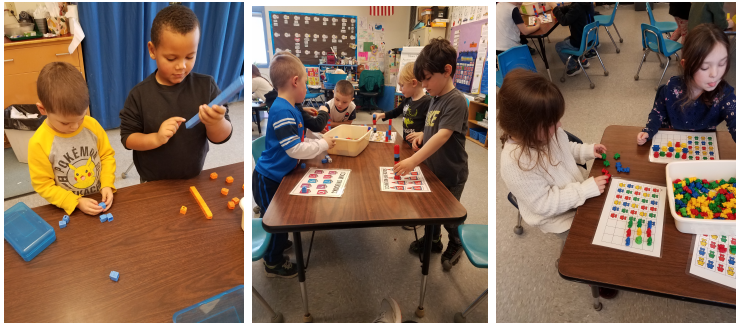

12/12 - Holiday Variety Show 1:00 pm

12/22 - Early Release Day

12/25 - 1/1 - Winter Break

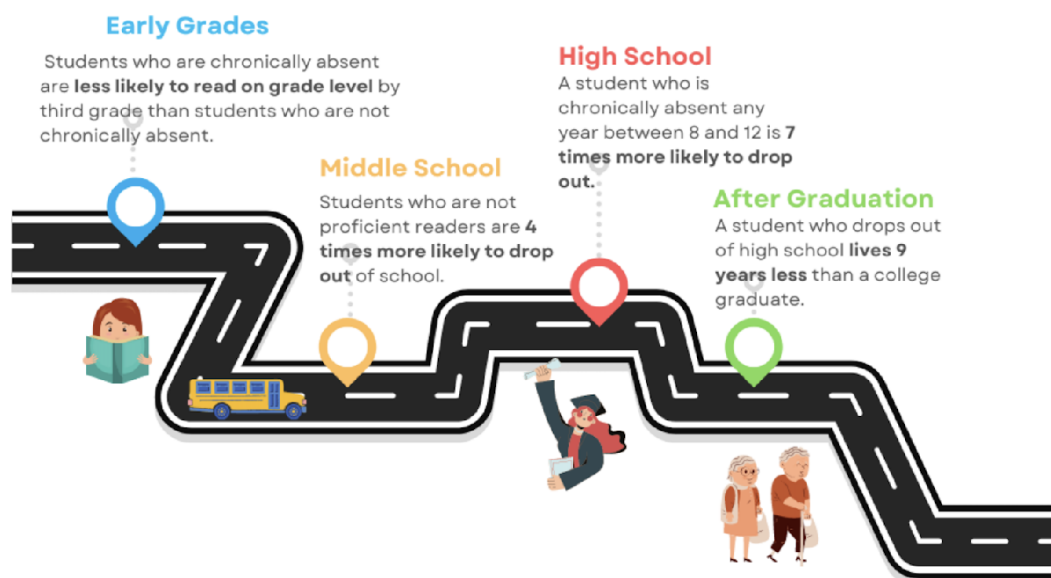


Check out what's happening at Morse School ... Week Of: 12/4

K	<p>It was great to see families who could make it to our Holiday Brunch on Tuesday! I hope to see lots of families at our Holiday concert on Tuesday where our Kindergarten class will be singing Jingle Bells.</p> <p>We have done lots of work with independent learning centers this week. Our learners have been practicing counting, patterns, letter sounds, and more at fun centers.</p> 
1/2 B	<p>What a fantastic week in our classroom! Students have been very involved in some of the learning activities this week. There is new learning on Seesaw to explore.</p> <p>Thank you to families that donated to our Holiday Basket Raffle. We look forward to seeing families at this weeks Holiday concert.</p> <p>We are running low on tissues. We have been trying to not share germs.</p>
1/2 P	<p>It was fun to get out and play in the snow this week! We spent our PAT time this Friday sledding and really enjoyed the wonderful weather. Please be sure to check your child's home to school folder, as there is a lot for you to see about what is going on from now until holiday break. Our holiday concert is this Tuesday at 1pm, we have themed Fa la la Fridays each week upcoming, our next show and tell date for this month and last, but not least, report cards. Please sign the envelope so I can be sure you received the report card and send it back in your child's folder. As always, reach out if you have any questions. I know report cards can be hard to decipher for many.</p> 
3/4 M	<p>Another successful week of learning is complete! In math we began using new strategies for dividing. In writing we completed a WINTER acrostic poem and Using our 5 Senses in Winter. We will do more winter writing this week and fully begin our Holidays Around the World Unit. I am excited for our "FaLaLa Fridays" to continue up until our holiday break. My third and fourth grade thinkers made these amazing flyers to promote our upcoming Holiday Variety Show and they are everywhere in the school! Report cards were sent home so if your child has</p>

	not produced it to you, PLEASE check their bags! I look forward to a great week of new learning and adventures! Have a fantabulous week.
3/4 R	We enjoyed a wonderful Holiday Brunch last Tuesday! It was nice to have so many families able to join us! We're looking forward to seeing you all at our Holiday Concert this Tuesday! You should have received your child's report card last week. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions! Also, if you could please return the envelope to school, I'll be able to use it next time report cards go home. Thank you so much!
5	5th graders started researching their body systems last week. We will finish up this unit in science before break and will be moving into chemistry next. You should have gotten your students report card last week. Please sign and return the envelope so I know someone at home has seen it. Please reach out if you have any questions or concern. We have also filled our classroom ROARS coin jar and will be taking a walk to the Brooks community park to celebrate! If we can squeeze it into our busy schedule, I would like to do this early next week. Please be on the lookout for a permission slip this week.
Agriculture	Ms. Greenlaw's and Mrs. Parker's classes continued their investigation of plant parts. These botanists created new species of plants, complete with six major plant parts! Other classes continued their investigation of trees. We read <u>The Giving Tree</u> , then sorted a bag full of different products according to whether or not they came from a tree. Trees certainly give us so many things!
SEL	This week at Morse, we wrapped up our Impulsivity unit and played a Kahoot to practice our knowledge.

Why Attendance Matters





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.