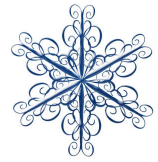


Morse Newsletter



January 8, 2024

Notes from the Principal, Ms. Dupuy ...

What an amazing week we just had. The staff and students at all of our schools came back with a lot of enthusiasm and seemed very excited to be back in school. We were all able to settle back into our routines quickly. Students were eager to continue work on learning that started before the break and even began the winter assessments. Clearly the winter weather has finally found us and I would just like to remind everyone to please send your child(ren) dressed appropriately for both inside and outside activities. We do not take the students outside for recess if the temperature is below 10 degrees, this includes windchill. However, it is always our plan to get students outside during the day when the temperatures allow, so sending students to school with appropriate outside gear including a warm jacket, boots, ski pants, mittens, etc. Please don't hesitate to let the office or me know if you need any of these items.

RSU 3 recently sent out a public notice and I wanted to make sure you all had the opportunity to see it.

On Tuesday, January 9, 2024, and Wednesday, January 10, 2024, RSU 3 Superintendent Paul Penna and Assistant Superintendent Lisa Roux will host brief conversation opportunities to brainstorm some of the potential pros and cons of school consolidation in RSU 3. Currently, we are focusing on Morse School in Brooks and Walker School in Liberty. This is an initial conversation to generate feedback to help the school board make an informed decision about school consolidation in RSU 3. The school board values this opportunity to collaborate with stakeholders in the best interest of all students in our school community.

Thank you

The meetings will be as follows:

January 9 at Morse School from 5:30 - 6:30

January 10 at Walker School from 5:30 - 6:30

A few important Reminders this week include:

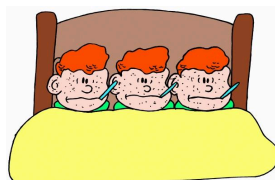
- At this time, we are still asking that students be dropped off at the main entrance where a staff member will greet them and escort them inside.
- Daily dismissal time will begin with parent pick ups at 3:00, followed by bus dismissals beginning at approximately 3:15. Parents are asked to pull up to 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: jdupuy@rsu3.org school phone: 722-3636 cell: 249-1061)

Notes from the Office:

Please remember to call the office if your child is going to be absent. Thank You!!



Important Upcoming Dates.....

1/8 - School Board Meeting at MVHS 6:30 pm

1/9 - Public Meeting at Morse 5:30 pm

1/10 - Public Meeting at Walker 5:30 pm

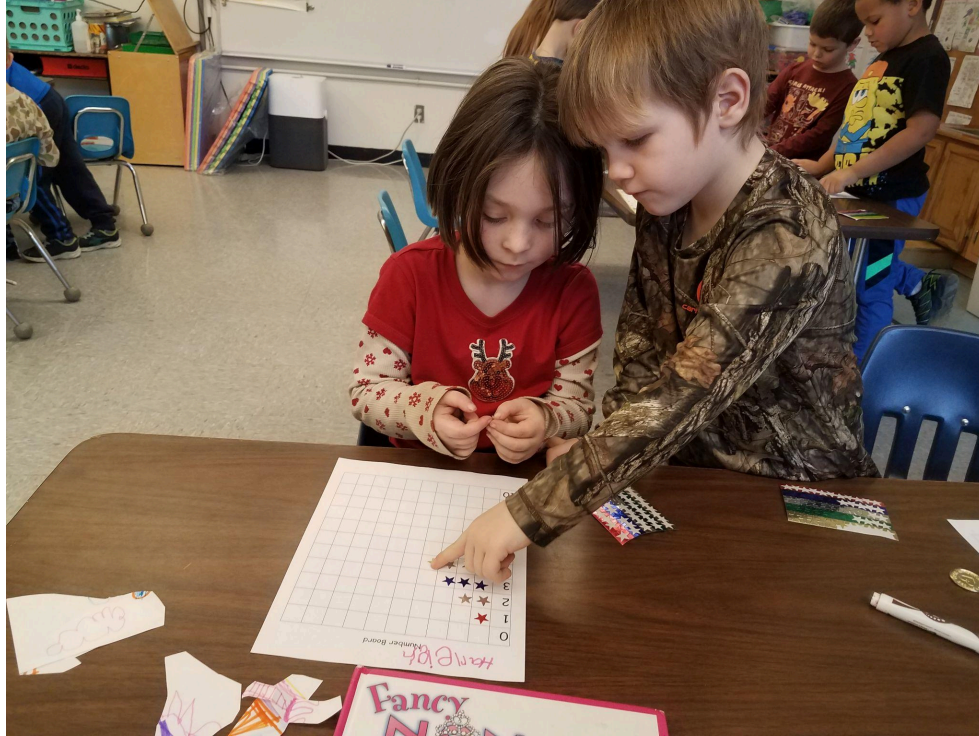
1/15 - No School in observance of
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

1/31 - Early Release Day

Check out what's happening at Morse School ... Week Of: 1/2

K

Everyone was excited to be back at school with their friends. We started right in on our learning - reviewing routines and working on retelling stories, number sense, and reading using some new heart words. The next few weeks, we will be doing mid-year assessments and look forward to setting some new learning goals!



1/2 B

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a lovely time at home with their loved ones. I am excited to be back and look forward to a month full of learning. We will create next-step learning goals over this next week and determine where we are as learners. Ask your child what their learning goals are. In math, we will continue to work on understanding two-digit and three-digit numbers. In reading, we are working on phonics skills to help decode unknown words. Students are reminded to try to stretch the sounds in the word (sound out) and use the skills they have learned to determine unknown words. Be on the lookout for Seesaw activities this week. :)

1/2 P

I hope you all had a great winter break! I am overwhelmed by the generosity of families that thought of me during the holiday. A huge thank you to all of you! Students came back eager and ready to learn. We are working on winter assessments and I can't wait to see how much growth has been made since the year started. Show and tell remains a class favorite. Below is a picture of the treasures we shared this month. Our next session will be January 26th.

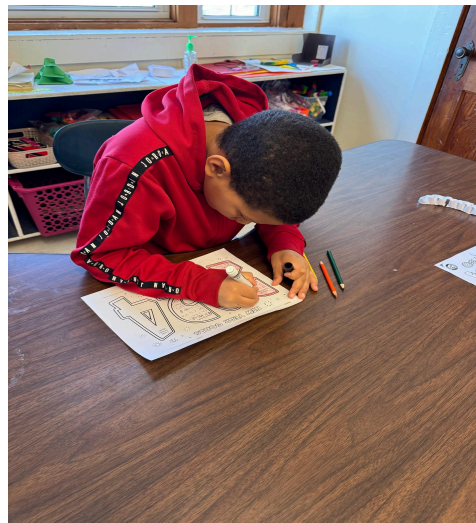
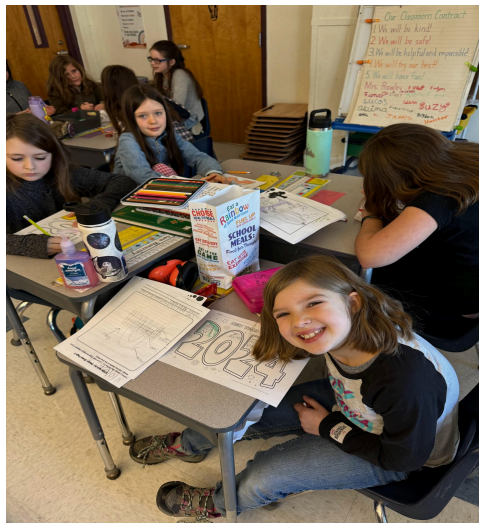
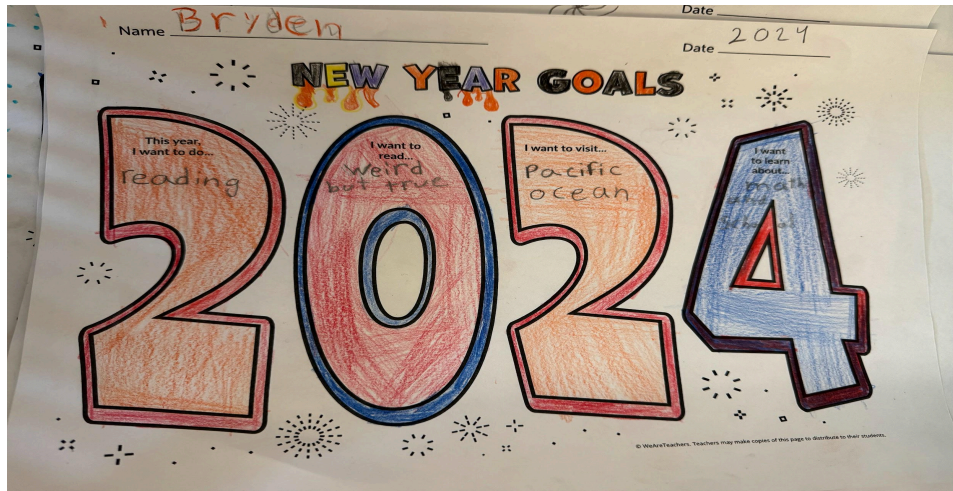


3/4 M

Another successful week has been completed in our classroom community! All my young learners were thrilled to be back, as was I! We got busy and fully delved into our fiction stories, partner reading and word work study. My young learners also picked their fiction book they are "fully committed" to for our future weekly book shares. This week is going to be filled with writing and phonics assessments but we've got this! Can you believe that we are just about halfway through the school year?! I hope everyone has a fantabulous week!

3/4 R

We were glad to see each other after the break! We spent some time reviewing our expectations, and students seemed to pick up where we left off quite easily. We will be focusing on winter assessments including math, phonics, reading, and writing until the end of the month. Students also completed goals for the new year. Some goals are related to our learning, and others are just for fun!



5

It was great to see everyone after our extended holiday break. Those unexpected days off meant that we weren't able to finish up some of the projects that we had been working on before break. We came back and were able to do our book share presentations and celebrate our roars reward. Although we weren't able to take our walk to the park as we had planned, we were able to spend an afternoon doing activities that everyone enjoyed. I was truly impressed by how flexible and understanding everyone was. Your student should've brought home a paper explaining January's books share project. This month we are going to analyze music lyrics for symbolism and perspective. We are also moving into our winter benchmark assessment. Please remind your students that they should be taking their time and doing their very best on these assessments so that I have accurate data moving forward. And as always, I truly appreciate your support at home.

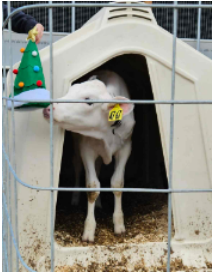
Music

This week students started working on keyboards. Students learned how to find C on the piano and then using our musical alphabet played hot crossed buns. 4-5 students started beat making after finishing their songs.

Barkell Collin Kailyn

A old man likes to eat meat
 With his very long feet
 On a big golden plate
 With his date very late

Agriculture



This week we received a long awaited update on our Adopt-a-Cow, Recking Ball. She's growing quickly! We learned how Farmer Betsy of Brigeen Farms in Turner, ME cares for her by feeding her, keeping her calf hutch clean, applying dehorning paste, giving her an ear tag, and much more. We even got to meet Recking Ball's mother, Rolande.

SEL

This week, we all talked about self-respect and confidence and what that means. We wrote letters to our future selves about what makes each and every one of us great.

"Every snowflake is different, just like YOU!
Attend every day and let your uniqueness
shine!"



TRI-TOWN PTG SPONSORED

ICE FISHING DERBY

Saturday February 17
Fish anytime between
7-3:30pm

\$5/person

\$15/family

**Door
Prizes!**



**Cross Pond
Morrill**


1st, 2nd, 3rd place prizes

**longest fish &
heaviest fish**

***Prizes for kids only, but all
are welcome to fish!***


Contact Kevin Winslow for more information

207-322-5934

 ***Lunch available for
purchase!***
Hot dogs, chips, hot
chocolate/water, sweets &
treats

***Bring your own
skates, sleds,
snowshoes, etc.**

Please no open fire pits

 ***Traps & Bait
provided for
those who need it**

This is not an RSU#3 sponsored event



DO YOU HAVE TIME TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS **AND** EARN UP TO **\$135** PER DAY?

JANUARY 24TH & FEBRUARY 7TH

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Our schools and students need you - and not just as a teacher! Substitutes are hired in almost every job category - custodial, food service, educational technicians and bus drivers to name a few. Before you know it, in just two short sessions, taught by experienced RSU 3 substitute teachers and staff, you can be trained and earning \$100 plus a day! Background check and fingerprinting fees are 100% reimbursable for those who substitute!

This is a hybrid class that can be joined either live online or in person.

RSU #3



Adult & Community
Education

BROOKS FREEDOM JACKSON KNOX LIBERTY MONROE MONTVILLE THORNDIKE TROY UNITY WALDO

register online at rsu3.maineadulted.org or call us today 568-3426



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.