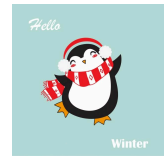




# Morse Newsletter

January 15, 2024



## Notes from the Principal, Ms. Dupuy ...

Despite the unpredictable weather we have experienced, I trust everyone enjoyed the extended weekend! The prospect of a full school week seems unattainable, given the recent weather fluctuations. Nevertheless, the dedication of Morse Memorial's students is evident in their consistent hard work. During my visits to various classrooms last week, I was delighted to learn about the students' accomplishments, the exciting projects they were engaged in, goals successfully achieved, and new goals they were in the process of setting.

I'd like to extend my gratitude to all those who actively engaged in the discussion with Superintendent Paul Penna and Assistant Superintendent Lisa Roux. Your participation in these conversations is crucial as they gather valuable information and feedback. Keep an eye out for future opportunities, as there will be more chances for meaningful engagement moving forward. Stay tuned!

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

### Public Notice

Due to the storm day on the originally scheduled meeting for Wednesday, January 10, we are rescheduling this meeting for Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at Walker Elementary School in Liberty from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

At this meeting, 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.

A few important Reminders this week include:

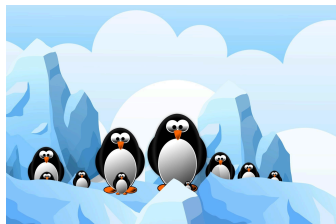
- At this time, we are still asking that students be dropped off at the main entrance where a staff member will greet them and escort them inside.
- Daily dismissal time will begin with parent pick ups at 3:00, followed by bus dismissals beginning at approximately 3:15. Parents are asked to pull up to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

## Notes from the Office:

Please remember to send your student to school with an extra set of clothes. They are having a great time at recess and sometimes come back inside a little damp. Thank You!!



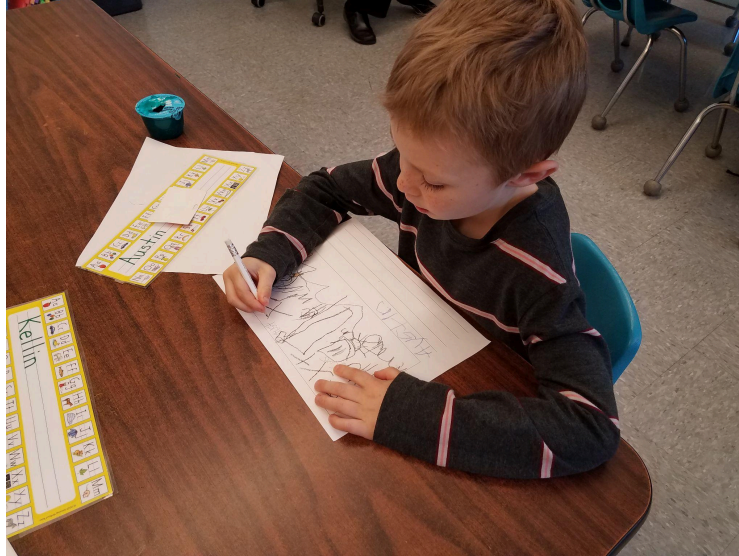
## Important Upcoming Dates.....

- 1/17 - Public Meeting at Walker 5:30 pm
- 1/31 - Early Release Day
- 2/12 - School Board Meeting at MVHS 6:30
- 2/19 - 2/23 February Vacation

Check out what's happening at Morse School ... Week Of: 1/8


K

This week, we have been excited to work on writing narratives. Right now, we are focused on drawing a detailed picture of what happened, labeling the picture by stretching out the sounds in words, and writing sentences that match the picture. We had a lot of fun this week, and students were very proud to put what they know into practice and see their own growth!



1/2 B

Math is everywhere! We are continuing to work on understanding numbers. Place value understanding is important and students continue to build, manipulate, and use their new understandings to help each other grow. Morning centers this week will focus on skip counting within 1,000, reading written numbers, number bonds, and adding to 20. Phonics continues to be an important part of our daily routines. Understanding the sounds letters make when put together helps us to read unknown words. Seesaw continues to show our learning. Last week, students unscrambled sentences and read them to improve reading fluency.

1/2 P	<p>Our class shows off their math skills every week on IXL during math centers and several students are even practicing at home as well. Most recently we earned certificates for answering 2,000 language arts questions and mastering 10 first grade skills. Earlier in the year I sent home login information for your child to practice at home. If you would like this information again please let me know. In writing, students are working on editing their teaching books to publish and share with the class. I can't wait to hear all the interesting topics that students know a lot about. We chose to spend our PAT time this week having a dance party with popcorn in the gym. What fun!</p>  <p>The photograph shows a group of approximately ten young children in a gymnasium. They are dressed in casual winter clothing like jackets, sweaters, and boots. Some children have their arms raised in the air, suggesting they are dancing or celebrating. The gymnasium has a wooden floor, a basketball hoop in the background, and an American flag on the right wall. There are some posters and notices on the wall behind the children.</p>
3/4 M	<p>Another successful week has been completed! This week in lieu of literacy we had to complete writing and spelling assessments. However, in writing students are continuing to work hard on their fiction stories. This week we will begin our research on historical figures and students will choose the historical figure they want to learn more about. Once our fiction is done we will have a timeline project and a personal narrative to begin. Within the month the theme will be all about me! I look forward to another week of learning!</p>
3/4 R	<p>Most students completed their writing assessments this week. I am so proud of their growth and confidence as writers! I'm looking forward to seeing growth in reading as we complete those assessments over the next few weeks. We will also take math assessments. I appreciate all your help to have your child at school by 8:15 in the morning in order to eat breakfast and prepare for the day.</p>
Agriculture	<p>Our red wiggler worms have been hard at work turning trash (old newspapers, leftover apple cores, banana peels, melon rinds, etc.) into beautiful soil for our garden! Mrs. Braley's class and Mrs. Rawley's class continued their investigation of these amazing creatures! Due to the snow day, the other classes missed</p>

agriculture class last week.



**"Every day you attend school is a step closer to a brighter future. Embrace the opportunity to learn and grow, for education is the key to unlocking endless possibilities."**



# 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

FREE equipment  
use with Park  
Admission

### 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.

ski graphic  
designed by freepik

TAKE IT  
OUTSIDE!

[www.ParksAndLands.com](http://www.ParksAndLands.com)

2024



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**



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

**207-322-5934**

*\*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](https://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.