



Lincoln School Newsletter

Volume 8, Number 6

30 Lincoln St. Augusta, Maine 04330 • 207-626-2483

February 2019

Dates to Remember!

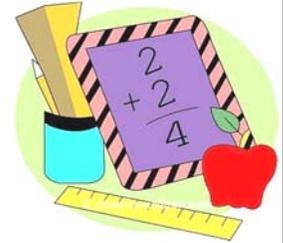
- 2/4: 5th and 6th Grade Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey
- 2/4-3/2: Read to ME Challenge
- 2/8-2/25: Pennies for Patients
- 2/15: Early Release—11:45am dismissal
- 2/18-2/22: School Vacation
- 2/25-3/15: Chocolate Fundraiser
- 2/26: PTC Meeting, 6pm
- 2/27: NAEP Testing, 4th Grade

Read to ME Challenge

The Maine Department of Education is kicking off its annual Read to ME Challenge. This will launch on February 4th and go through March 2nd. During this window, adults are encouraged to read with children and take a picture or video clip of this, posting it to a form of social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or Snapchat) with #ReadtoMEChallenge. We will be snapping pictures at Lincoln of various staff members reading to students. Parents and community members are encouraged to join in the challenge! They may contact their child's teacher if they would like to volunteer as a reader in our school.



Principal's Message



The Department of Education is monitoring schools' chronic absenteeism. A student is considered to be chronically absent when they have missed a total of 18 school days, or 10% of the school year, regardless if the absences are verified or not. The school may require parents to provide doctor's notes once that threshold is met. When a student is chronically absent, they miss crucial instructional opportunities, along with developing necessary social/ emotional skills with their peers. It is difficult to replicate the enriched discussions from the class in a make-up session. We encourage families to call if they have questions on their child's absences and how the school can support them.

We are hoping that students are healthy and strong for the rest of the year! For the month of January, **89 students** received the Perfect Attendance recognition. Make sure to check out their names as you enter our school. Our overall school attendance average for January was 91.24%, which is below our target of 94%.

Attending school regularly is important for students with establishing consistent routines and not getting behind with their schoolwork.

Educationally Yours,

Mrs. Gauthier

Classroom Feature: Spotlight on Kindergarten!

We have been busy bees in kindergarten!! We are approaching the 100th day of kindergarten! We are excited to celebrate 100 days of learning with the 100th Day Olympics and 100 Day trail mix! We have just finished a weather unit, which is very timely considering this freezing cold weather!! We are also working on writing stories with a clear beginning, middle, and end. We are writing true stories, things that have REALLY happened to us. In math, we are just starting the exciting world of adding!! Most of our students are doing a fantastic job with this concept and are quickly gaining this new skill. We are all really getting on a roll with our reading!! Our kiddos are starting to become EXCELLENT readers and are learning their kindergarten words. We are looking forward to finishing off the school year with all these amazing kindergarteners!!!!



World's Finest Chocolate Fundraiser

Our Snack Fundraiser through the World's Finest Chocolate, sponsored by our PTC, **will begin 2/25/19**. Students will be sent home with order forms and an informational letter for parents. We will be selling solid chocolate bunnies, assorted chocolates, and snacks over the next few weeks. **Students can turn in order forms and money by 3/12/19 to be considered for an incentive.** We will continue to collect orders and money through 3/15/19 (our final turn in date). All orders will arrive by the end of March. The money raised from this event helps to pay for indoor and outdoor supplies for students, bringing in guests (ex. Theater groups), showing appreciation for our teachers, and field trips for students. The PTC thanks you in advance for your support.



Nurse Notes



Flu season has officially arrived. We strive to keep both our students and staff healthy at school. Tables, desks, and door knobs are constantly being washed down. There is also lots of hand washing and hand sanitizing going on. If your child has a fever or is exhibiting flu like symptoms, he or she should stay home. Students need to be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school with no Tylenol or ibuprofen on board. Students with a temperature of 100° or above are considered to have a fever. If a student has a cough or stuffy nose, these are things that can be supported at school. Always communicate with the nurse on medical things going on with your child. When possible, please provide the school with a doctor's note on any absences.

~Nurse Bobbi Jo



Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey

Our 5th and 6th grade students will be participating in the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS) on February 4th. This is completed anonymously by students. Data is compiled into the school, district, and state to review how our students are doing with making healthy choices. The questions vary by grade level and are appropriate for the age of the students. The information is used to learn more about Maine students, get funding, and to help decide what programs to offer, or to judge how current efforts are working.

Pennies for Patients

Next week student council will be kicking off their next project of raising money through "Pennies for Patients" for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The mission of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Donations from Pennies for Patients help pay for medications, doctors, or other expenses, and also help fund research focused on finding a cure.



On Friday, February 8th, students will be bringing home collection boxes and information about donating to this cause. Students are able to collect money until February 28, 2019, bringing it in to their class to be emptied as needed. Each class will be given a larger collection box which we will collect weekly to keep track of all the money we raised. The highest fundraising class will earn an Olive Garden lunch! Additionally, each Friday in February will be hat day: donate \$1 and wear a hat for the day! Last year student council was able to raise over \$1,800.00. Our school goal is \$2019.00. Please help us reach our goal! Thank you!



Fun Things Happening in the Library

Maine Student Book Award Challenge Students in 5th & 6th grades are still busy challenging to read more than Mrs. Gauthier from books on the on the MSBA list for 2018-2019. The students checked out extra books for the Holiday break to help get ahead in their reading. The challenge will end April 30 with a Pizza Party for the students and staff members with more books read than Mrs. Gauthier. The students who participate and read at least 5 books will also win a prize.

Reminder to K & 1st grade parents: Your student's books are signed out for 1 week. Many times when books are not returned weekly the tears flow as they cannot check out another until the book out is returned. Please help by placing the books to be returned in their backpack on or before their Library day.

Many books are being returned with damages from leaks in backpacks. It is helpful to keep books in a plastic bag and separate from food or drinks to avoid this from happening.