

COFFIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL February Newsletter

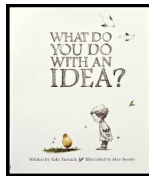
Issue Six - 2014-15

February 2015

Hello Coffin School Families,

I hope this finds all of you well. It's been quite a unique stretch of weather with all this snowfall and I trust you were able to enjoy (as well as shovel) some of the snow during our recent vacation! After shoveling, my family and I did get in a morning of ice fishing and even one night of winter camping. Quite an adventure!

A colleague recently gave me the children's book, "What Do You Do With An Idea," and I'm finding it framing my thinking these last few weeks. In the story the main character has an idea (personified as an egg-shaped creature with a golden crown), that keeps following him. Sometimes it's a burden, often times it makes him feel happier, and eventually he grows to love it, understanding how it helps him see things differently and how it changes the world around him.



This is the time of year when the many ideas we've been working on in classrooms, as a school, and as a District begin to come together. It can seem overwhelming at times when we consider how much is happening, but it's also exciting and rewarding to experience ideas coming to life.

Upcoming conferences are an important opportunity to celebrate your child's ideas and learning this school year. I had a chance to check in with a few classroom teachers this morning to ask them what they hope you might experience during conferences. Here are their thoughts:

- Celebrating all the progress your child has made – socially, emotionally, academically, and physically
- Celebrating the Coffin Way – safe, kind, gentle, responsible - and your child's experiences in the classroom
- Celebrating your child's increasing independence and working together to continue this growth
- Celebrating all the student work in the hallways, on the classroom walls (a great opportunity to 'read' the classroom and get a deeper sense of your child's work), and at your child's desk

Thank you in advance for scheduling conferences with your child's teacher and for your continued active involvement in our Coffin School learning community. It truly makes a difference and helps us all shape the world together in positive ways

Steve Ciembroniewicz, Principal
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Coffin Calendar

March

Monday, the 2nd, Community Read ALOUD

Tuesday the 10th, Coffin Community Circle 5:45-7:30 PM Café & Gym

Friday, the 13th, NO SCHOOL, Parent / Teacher Conferences

March 16th – April 7th, A.A.E Robin Brooks – Classroom, Community and Citizenship, Grade 1

Tuesday, the 17th, CFC meeting, 7:00 PM

Thursday, the 19th, snow date, Coffin Community Circle 5:45-7:30 PM Café & Gym

Friday, the 20th, Walk/Bike to School

Wednesday, the 25th, Early Release, Dismiss at 1:10

April

Wednesday, the 1st to Tuesday, the 14th A.A.E. presents Music in Motion with Matt Lossigian, Grade K

Tuesday, the 7th to Friday, the 10th, CFC Book Fair

Thursday, the 2nd, KinderKonzert, Grade 1

Friday, the 10th, Walk/Bike to School

Monday, the 13th, Spring Reading Challenge Ends

Thursday, the 16th Early Release, Dismiss at 1:10

Friday, the 17th, NO SCHOOL, Professional Development

Monday, the 20th, Patriot's Day

Monday, the 20th to Friday, the 24, Spring Break

Tuesday, the 28th, CFC meeting, 7:00 PM

Thursday, the 30th, POEM IN YOUR POCKET

Wednesday, the 13th, Early Release, Dismiss at 1:0

Friday, the 15th Walk/Bike to School

Tuesday, the 19th, CFC meeting, 7:00 PM

Thursday, the 21st, Multiage Feast and Festival of Learning, 5:30-7 PM

Wednesday, the 27th, Food Play



Kindergartners enjoying outdoor recess in the snow!



A community of learners founded on safety, gentleness, kindness and the pursuit of quality work.



Red - 'E' - Fox joins two Kindergarten classrooms as part of our fire safety work with the Brunswick Fire Dept.



Members of our Response to Intervention - Behavior Committee (RTI-B) meet to work on a comprehensive school wide positive behavior support system that will be fully implemented in the 2015-16 school year.

Attendance Update - Year-to-Date*



District - 95.5% Average Daily Attendance
Coffin School - 94.1% Average Daily Attendance

Assistant Superintendent Greg Bartlett and Assistant Principal Lisa Cushman present information about the new teacher / principal evaluation systems at a recent School Board meeting .



Kindergarten teachers meet with Curriculum Consultant Cherie White to score student common writing prompts.



Kristi Hatrick from Arts Are Elementary and artist Robin Brooks meet with the first grade team to firm up final details regarding the integration of an upcoming residency.



Dr. Alyssa Goodwin presents on the importance of routines and sleep at our recent Coffin Community Circle evening.

*a recent NPR story on the importance of school attendance:
<http://www.npr.org/blogs/ed/2015/02/24/384347319/in-la-missing-kindergarten-is-a-big-deal>



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