

Robin Hood School Newsletter

November 2020

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As with everything else this year our approach to grading and report cards needs some adjustments to align with our current situation. As a result, this year elementary students will receive two report cards, instead of the traditional three. Below are the dates for the two semesters.

Semester 1: September 16, 2020 to January 29, 2021
Report Cards go home on February 8, 2021.

Semester 2: February 1, 2021 to the last day of school
Report Cards go home on the last day of school.

This change is based on many factors. In the spring of 2020, students experienced an abrupt switch to a remote learning model and side-by-side with their teachers they learned about this new learning model. When students returned to school in September of 2020, they had been out of the school buildings for 6 months. Coupled with the unique challenges of providing school safely during a pandemic, the elementary leadership team considered the following points:

- More time was spent at the start of the school year reestablishing school routines and learning habits.
- Students have required a greater focus on social-emotional learning as they navigate the “new normal” of school and their lives in general.
- Teachers have had the dual focus of remediating skills while introducing new material, leading to less of an emphasis on formal assessments.
- Students continue to learn new technology skills that allow them to access learning.

Based on the factors above, we wished to give students more time in school before we formally assessed their progress towards learning standards. Students are rebounding at different rates, and we want to be respectful of their needs, especially in areas that will impact their confidence and attitudes about school.

As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions!

Sincerely,
The Elementary Leadership Team

Maura Donoghue, Robin Hood School Principal

Rosa Flynn, Colonial Park School Principal

Eric Jones, South School Principal

David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

Sarah Hardy, Ed.D. Central Office Administration

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 10 - Virtual PTO Meeting, 7:00pm

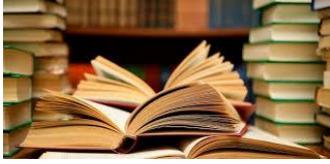
November 11 - No School, Veteran's Day

November 25 - 1/2 Day, Thanksgiving Break

November 26 - Thanksgiving, no school

November 27 - No School

December 9 - Picture Day Make Ups / Retakes 9:00am-12:00pm



ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Kindergarten

In kindergarten students have learned the first four sight words which means they have begun reading! Students have also been working on reading, writing and counting numbers 1-10. Lastly, students are learning about the fall season and the life cycle of a pumpkin.

Grade 1

In math students are wrapping up topic fourteen shapes. Students are continuing to work on number sense and will begin topic one in math next week. In Foundations, students finished unit one which was a review of letter formation and sounds. They will begin unit two which is working in decoding CVC words. In Reading, students have been working on building our stamina in independent reading and thinking about reading using our daily Interactive Read Alouds from Fountas and Pinnell. In writing, students are working on launching the writers workshop. The kids are enjoying practicing getting their ideas on paper using pictures and labels. Teachers have also been working on technology trying to get students to be independent remote learners.

Grade 2

Students have been diligently working on inside and outside character traits and have begun writing personal narratives. In math, students are beginning to work with odd and even numbers, equal groups. In Foundations, students are working on glued sounds and bonus letters and in terms of social-emotion learning students are learning about friendship, cooperating and giving compliments.

Grade 3

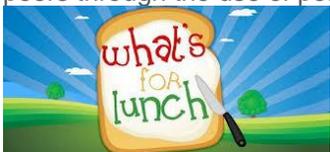
In math, the third grade is learning strategies to solve multiplication equations and word problems. In Reader's Workshop, we are reading books that have a theme of kindness and focusing on ways to think, talk, and write about books. In Writer's Workshop, we are working on our Personal Narrative Unit. The students are writing stories about their lives and learning how to stretch a moment, use vivid details, and how to organize their thinking.

Grade 4

In math, fourth grade just wrapped up place value and rounding and will be moving on to adding and subtracting multi-digit numbers. Students are all reading "How to Steal a Dog" by Barbara O'Connor for read aloud and focusing on genre, author's purpose, and the story arc of realistic fiction. In writing, students are working on small moment personal narratives and then will be moving on to writing realistic fiction. They are also beginning to learn about immigration to Ellis Island.

Remote Learning

Teachers and students continue to explore and utilize technologies such FlipGrid and Google Meets Breakout Rooms to enhance their learning. Students at all grade levels have been working diligently on understanding new math concepts by working in small groups, completing practice buddies, and enjoying games on ST Math. Students have also continued to build strong reading habits through LEXIA and Padlet and are consistently supporting their thinking with evidence from the books. A sense of belonging is being forged by fostering relationships between teachers and students and between students and their peers through the use of personal narratives and creative projects.



NOVEMBER LUNCH MENU

Please click on the link below for the November Lunch Menu

pdf
November Menu.pdf



FLU SHOTS

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is requiring a students to have a flu vaccine by 12/31/2020. Parents can give the doctor's confirmation to their child's classroom teacher or email it directly to Nurse Thistle at athistle@stonehamschools.org

PICTURE DAY RETAKES / MAKE UP DAY

WHEN

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9TH, 9AM-12PM

WHERE

ROBIN HOOD MUSIC ROOM

MORE INFORMATION

Lifetouch Photography will return to Robin Hood on Wednesday, December 9th for Picture Retakes and Make Ups. Drop in anytime between 9:00am and 12:00pm. No appointment necessary. Photos taken on October 27 & 29th will be back and available for viewing prior to December 9th.



STONEHAM SCHOOLS COVID19 POLICIES

Parents/guardians should screen their child daily before coming to school for the following symptoms:

- Fever (100° F or higher)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing

- Sore throat
- Muscle Aches
- Chills
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Headache

If your child has ANY of the above symptoms, your child MUST stay home (even if symptoms resolve with medication). Parents/guardians must also call the secretary or nurse and give the reason for the child's absence. We recommend calling your child's doctor and having your child get a COVID-19 test.

- Students who test negative may return to school if symptoms have improved and the student has been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications. Documentation of the negative test result must be provided to the nurse prior to the student returning.
- Students who test positive must quarantine at home for 10 days from symptom onset. Parents/guardians must notify the school nurse, notify personal close contacts, and answer the call from the local Board of Health or MA Community Tracing Collaborative to assist with contact tracing efforts. The student may return after 10 days if they have had symptom improvement, **and** they must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications.
- If a student with the above symptoms does not get tested, they must stay home for 10 days from the start of symptom onset.

- If you were informed that your child was a close contact to someone with COVID-19, your child must quarantine at home for 14 days from exposure (**even if your child tests negative for COVID-19 as symptoms can appear up to 14 days after exposure**).

*****If your child comes to school and presents to the nurse with any of the above symptoms, they will be dismissed and they must be picked up within 30 minutes.** The above rules will apply. We ask that parents/guardians provide the school with at least 4 contacts of individuals who would be able/willing to pick up a sick child.

For information on where your child can get COVID-19 testing, please contact your child's doctor or visit the following websites.

<https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-testing>

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread>

We understand that this year will present many families with challenges, but we want you to know that we truly appreciate your cooperation as we try to get our students back to school in a safe environment. Please feel free to contact the school nurses if you have any questions or concerns.

INTRODUCING "SCRATCH"

Thank you Robin Hood students for voting! We are so excited that the Robin Hood Panther now has a name.



NEWS FROM THE ROBIN HOOD PTO

Treats for the Troops

The PTO typically organizes a Treats for Troops collection at this time of year. Unfortunately, Massachusetts does not have any collection sites this year, however, there are local homeless shelters looking for donations. If you have any leftover Halloween candy, look for Jessi Killilea holding an orange bucket at the front door at drop off or pickup. She's been collecting all week, and will be doing one final collection on Monday, November 9th!

Giving Tree

Robin Hood's annual "Giving Tree" will look different this year! Be on the lookout for updates soon!

Picture Re-Take Day

Lifetouch will be returning on December 9th from 9-12 for students who need picture re-takes or students who were absent on the original picture day. More information will follow.

PTO

As the Stoneham School Building Committee (SSBC) prepares to refine its options for the high school project and submit the Preferred Schematic Report (PSR) to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) in late December, it is important that the Committee hears from all community members/stakeholders. The SSBC will present options and seek input at our next PTO meeting- Tuesday, November 10th at 7:00 PM. A link will be sent out on Monday of next week.

Halloween Trunk or Treat

A huge thank you to all our faculty, staff and families who participated in our Trunk or Treat! Special thanks to Melissa Lecesse for once again chairing a great Halloween event. This year has been different (Covid, an unexpected snowstorm, etc.) and we really wanted to be able to do something for the kids. We are so thankful that despite the weather, so many people joined us! 22 cars were decorated for the event and 250 families attended! All the children in attendance received a bag of treats and were able to pick a pumpkin from our Pumpkin Patch! In addition, RH was able to donate one box and three full bags of food donations to the SACS Food Pantry! Thank you to Cassidy Landscaping for a donation towards the purchase of the pumpkins.

Veteran's Day Field of Honor

From November 5th- November 14th, the Stoneham Memorial & Veteran's Day Committee is hosting a Field of Honor at the Stoneham Central Middle School to commemorate Veteran's Day. The Robin Hood PTO, on behalf of the Robin Hood Community has dedicated a flag with gratitude to all veterans and first responders who have served. Thank you for your service.



SMORE

What do you think of our new newsletter platform? We hope you like it! We are now using "Smore", an online publishing site. Thank you to the Robin Hood PTO for making our Smore subscription possible!



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