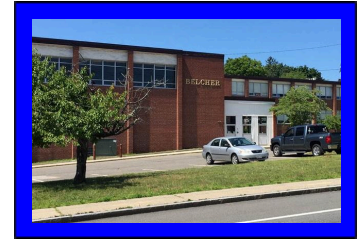


BELCHER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Message from the Principal MARCH 2020

Happy March! Thank you to everyone who helped us to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday this March 2, 2020. Students enjoyed special activities this week. On March 5, 2020 students enjoyed a special assembly celebrating Dr. Seuss. All of us here at Belcher School are proud of the progress students are making in the area of reading and look forward to a successful Spring.

I know that it is March, but it is not too early to think about class placement for next year. If you have special circumstances and would like me to be aware of them please write me a letter. It is soooooo much easier to hear about these circumstances now than after the classes have been created.

At the end of the year Belcher School will host a field day. I often get requests from parents who want to help. If you would like to help organize or take part in this fun day you **MUST** complete a background check, a CORI form. These forms are good for one year. If you have not completed a CORI form please stop by the front office with your picture ID.

On April 16, 2020 from 6pm – 7:30pm Belcher School will host an Art Show. Students will display their works and raise a little money for the PTO. Come see what your children have been doing in the area of art. The PTO will also host a bake sale. At the same time Mrs. Ewing will host our second book fair of the year.

Our lost and found is full. Has your child lost a hat or gloves? Or maybe a beloved sweatshirt never came home? Come check out our lost and found. All items left at the end of the year will be donated.

Thank you and have a great March!

Samuel Karlin, Principal

PTO Corner:

Come support our school!! Our next PTO meeting is on Monday, March 9th at 6:00 in the school's library. Come show your school spirit! Free daycare provided!



Upcoming Events

3/5— In school Dr. Seuss Assembly

3/9—PTO Meeting 6:00pm

3/16 – Bus Evacuation Drill

3/20 - 11:30am Dismissal/ Report Cards Issued

Teacher & Staff News

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

Ms. Belanger:

With the Luck of the Irish, March will be another fun, exciting, and eventful month. We have been working very hard in our class on reading, writing, math, and much more. Language Arts and Math are two subjects we have been working very hard in. Our reading, writing, and math has come a long way. We would like to ask everyone to please help us to learn our subtraction and addition problems. Thank you!

KINDERGARTEN

Mrs. Masse, Mrs. Legiadre, Mrs. Surprenant, & Mrs. Huard:



The month of March brings shamrocks, leprechauns, wildlife, and nature into our classrooms. We will also be looking for signs of spring throughout the month of March. Our classes will continue to meet and greet new letters and review the ones we've met already. Please keep reading our take home books at home! Our word wall continues to grow! Happy St. Patrick's Day!

FIRST GRADE

Ms. Barree:

The children have been working really hard. In the month of February we had been working toward our 100th day of school. There were so many great ideas for the 100th day collections. Thank you to all the parents that brought in special treats for our class on Valentine's Day. They were greatly appreciated! We have been working on greater than and less than symbols in math, as well as estimation, grouping, and place value of the digits 1-100. In Language Arts we have been working really hard at expanding our vocabulary through sight words, high frequency words, and using them in our writing. We have explored quite a bit of poetry as well. Please remember parents that completing and turning in homework is very important to your child's success within the classroom. Keep up the great work!

Mrs. Fontaine:

February was a month filled with "love"  and now we move onto a month filled with "luck" . We will continue working on number operations in base 10 in math. We will also be working on Geometry. In ELA we will wrap up Unit 3 "Time" and begin Unit 4 "Animals." Keep reading every day at home! Thank you for all the family support!

Mrs. Dunn:

It's hard to believe February has come and gone. We'll kick off March with a reading celebration in honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday. Dr. Seuss was the first children's author to make books fun and enjoyable for children. In ELA we will continue to read about "changes over time." In math we'll explore tens and ones. We're going to apply our paragraph writing to How-To writing, and in social studies we'll read folktales and legends. Keep on reading at home and practicing XtraMath.

SECOND GRADE

Ms. Demers, Mrs. Domingos, Mrs. Forbes, Mrs. Kindness:

Welcome back families! March will be a busy month for our second grade students. On Monday, March 2nd we kick off the month with our Dr. Seuss Celebration! Each class will present either a book or poem in front of the whole school to celebrate Dr. Seuss. In the month of March, we will begin our dance collaboration with Pioneer Valley Performing Arts. We will continue to work in our Wonders Reading Series and we will begin learning about time, money, and shapes! Please continue to practice reading and math facts at home!

Special Education

Mrs. Bukowski and Mrs. Greenia:

Wow! The second semester is almost over. Time flies when you're having fun. As always, we have been practicing our basic facts in math and increasing our sight words in reading. In second grade, we have been working on writing a three paragraph essay. Please try to read with your child and practice their basic facts every night.

SPECIALISTS

Title 1 Reading Mrs. Merchant and Mrs. Franco:

We hope everyone enjoyed their vacation. We are all ready and eager to get back to work. Be sure to read each night! It will make an enormous difference in how helping you read better. Keep up the hard work!

Our vocabulary words for the month of February were:

powerful, vanish, mysterious, scold, dainty, merry, cozy, scheme

We anticipate that you are all becoming **powerful** word wizards. Use these words as often as you can so that they don't **vanish** from your vocabulary.

ELL Mrs. LaDuke and Mrs. Serrao:

We have completed ELL testing. We hope that everyone had a Happy Valentine's Day and a wonderful winter break! Our next ELPAC (English Learner Parent Advisory Council) Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10th from 6:00-7:00p.m at Belcher. We look forward to seeing all of our English Learner parents at this meeting.

Music Mr. Fossa:

Happy early spring! Our second graders are really excited to begin playing the glockenspiels. They are like xylophones but made out of metal. The students will be playing these instruments for our spring concert at the end of the school year. More details to come.

Technology Mrs. Desautels:

No matter how long the winter, spring is sure to follow... In the computer lab students celebrated *Read Across America* by reading different Dr. Seuss stories and then exploring websites related to his books. Students will also be honing their keyboarding skills this month! Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Physical & Health Education Ms. Moss:

P.E. is More Precious Than Gold - We start the month off with some Dr. Seuss-themed stations to honor Dr. Seuss. It is important to have sneakers on your P.E. days because sometimes schedules allow for students to get some physical activity in even during delayed openings or early dismissals! I'm feeling VERY LUCKY this month and may even break out the Irish dancing shoes!

Guidance Ms. French:

Wow! It's already March! Thank you parents and families for continuing to support your students as they make their way through this school year! One of the best things you can keep doing for your child is to encourage them to talk about school and ask about their day. Talking with them about school every day is a great way to let your child know you care about the time they spend away from you and, very importantly, this also lets them know you think school is a very important part of their life. Ask to see their school folders. Let them see you looking at the completed papers they bring home. Help them with their homework and make sure they return it to their Teacher. All of these actions really reinforce all the work that's happening while your child is here in school, and definitely makes a BIG difference 😊!

Library Mrs. Ewing:

We are getting ready for our Belcher Book Fair the week of April 13th - April 17th. The evening Book Fair / Art Show will be on Thursday, April 16th from 6:00-7:30pm. Hope to see you there. If there are any volunteers that would be able to help me set up for and run the book fair, please contact the school or email me at pewing@cpsge.org. Thank you and have a great month!

Nurse Kathy:

Looking forward to Spring? I hope it comes sooner rather than later! Thanks for the clothing donations so I'll be ready when the children start falling in the puddles! Keep checking for head lice and letting me know so I may follow the protocol for allowing students to return to school after treatment and removal of the eggs (nits). Remember if your child has a fever 100.4 or greater, keep them home until they are fever free for 24 hours without medicine. Please continue to send in all immunizations and physicals. As always, any treats sent in for birthdays or holidays must be store bought with a label and need to be checked by me due to the many food concerns that children have (not just nuts). They should be nut-free and not made in a factory that makes other products with nuts. FYI Dunkin Donuts is very popular, but they do not guarantee that their food is nut safe. Thanks for your help in keeping all the children safe, healthy, and comfortable at school.

Kathy McCarthy, R.N.

Safety is always a concern to keep our students safe. A few friendly reminders to parents when dropping off and picking up students:

- ➡➡ Please NO PARKING in the drop off area behind the school and in the bus lanes.
- ➡➡ Please drive slowly in the parking lot.
- ➡➡ Allow for extra time and be cautious
- ➡➡ If you are dropping off in the rear parking lot, please do not hold up traffic. Park in the lot if you are walking your child into the building.
- ➡➡ Dismissal is 2:38. Unless a note is sent in with your child, they will be sent home on their usual way.
- ➡➡ All pick up people must be listed on that student's emergency form to allow us to dismiss.
- ➡➡ Please keep your phone numbers updated in the office.

“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”

~ *Mark Twain*