



Cushing Community School December 11, 2020



Third-grade students added just the right touch to our library bulletin board with their snowmen. It's brightened up the room!

News from the Classrooms:

Grade 3 Reader's Theater by Nicole McLellan

Third graders are practicing a reader's theater for fluency and will be recording the video to share with the classes during a morning meeting on December 22nd. We'll post to parents as well so they can see it. It's titled *Reindeer on Strike*. We have 4 reindeer, 2 elves, Rudolph and Mrs. McLellan as Santa. It's sure to be an entertaining play!



Holiday Spirit

On next Friday, December 18, we are asking students to wear something red, green or festive for the holidays. That same day teachers will have our annual “Ugly Sweater Contest,” and students will get to vote for their favorite. Although this year classrooms spend the day in their classroom “pods” events like this help us bring the whole school together and celebrate as a whole community. We can’t wait to see all the color and fun!

Parent Conferences

We were incredibly grateful to have the chance to meet with nearly 90% of families for parent conferences. It was certainly different this year not being in person, but conferences still provided the same rich opportunity to share student successes, review the growth we are seeing, and discuss parents’ questions, concerns and ideas. If you were not able to attend a conference, please reach out to your classroom teacher; it’s not too late. First trimester progress reports will be coming home next week, on December 17.



Saving Smiles Kit

Saving Smiles Kits, which include a toothbrush, toothbrush cover, and floss -- are home with each student today, made possible by the generosity of Saving Smiles of Maine, is an oral health kit. Keep those pearly whites shining!

Toys for Tots

Thank you to everyone who donated toys for the Toys for Tots box this year. We were able to fill it and start over again!



DIFFERENT, SAFE 2020 HOLIDAYS

SPECIAL DAYS – FEELING CONNECTED

IDEAS TO MAKE YOUR 2020 HOLIDAYS STILL MEANINGFUL



THE 2020 HOLIDAYS ARE GOING TO BE DIFFERENT. The advice is to stay at home, be safe, and help stop the spread of COVID-19. But how do we still have memory-making, fulfilling holiday experiences while staying safe? Get creative and maybe invent some new traditions for your family. If you are excited and make it fun your children will have fun too. Happy Holidays!

STAYING SAFE DURING COVID-19



[CDC Guidance on Holiday Celebrations](#)

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MAKE THE DAY SPECIAL

- **Dress up** – either in a theme, ugly Christmas sweater, or formal attire. Take photos to share with people you can't see or video chat.
- **Black Friday shopping** – swap your in-person Black Friday shopping traditions to shop online this year.
- **Watch sporting events and parades from home.** If you've never watched a holiday parade on TV this is a great year to start. Pick your favorite floats.
- **Virtual holiday meal** – eat your special holiday meal the same time as family/friends and video chat.

FEELING CONNECTED TO THOSE YOU TYPICALLY WOULD SEE BUT CAN'T THIS YEAR BECAUSE OF COVID-19

- **Prepare traditional family recipes** for family/friends and **deliver them** in a way that doesn't involve contact with others.
- **Play favorite music** of family members/friends who can't be with you. Record videos of your kids singing it and share it with them.
- **Make a holiday family cookbook** – participants submit recipes and include a story about why the recipe is special. One person gathers the recipes and distributes them, either electronically or printed. People receiving it can make a recipe for their holiday celebration and share pictures, video, or live video chat on the holiday to share what they made.
- **Virtual Santa Claus visit** – one person can dress up like Santa and young children could meet with Santa virtually.
- **Giving back** – try a day, week, or month of positive actions. Brainstorm as a family what those positive actions could be or search for ideas online.



WISHING YOU A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON!

Upcoming Events:

December 16: No school for students

December 23-January 1: School vacation

January 13: Teacher workshop, no school for students



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CCS Website

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