



Derry Village School

We Open the Door to Learning

September 2016

Morning Arrival

This is a reminder to parents that students who are having breakfast will be able to enter the building at 8:20am. All other students can enter at 8:25am. Please arrive between 8:25am and 8:35am.

Students will be marked tardy at 8:35am. Students who arrive after 8:35am must be accompanied to the office to fill out the necessary tardy slip. When your child is absent or late, please call our office at 432-1233 or email Mrs. Dors kdors@sau10.org or Mrs Soucy dzsoucy@sau10.org

Mark Your Calendar

- Sep 2 PTA Fundraiser begins
- Sep 2 Back to School BBQ 6pm
- Sep 5 NO SCHOOL Labor Day
- Sep 7 NWEA Testing begins
- Sep 7 Parent Info Night K-2 5:30pm, 3-5 6:30pm
- Sep 8 Picture Day
- Sep 26 PTA Harlem Wizards 6:30pm Pinkerton
- Sep 30 Progress Reports home
- Oct 6 District Parent Literacy Info Night
- Oct 10 NO SCHOOL Columbus Day
- Oct 20 District Cybersafety Night
- Oct 28 Progress Report home

New Staff 2016-2017

We would like to welcome the following new staff to Derry Village for the 2016-2017 school year; Melissa Draper (Reading Specialist), Angela Reese (Grade 5), Lisa Gagnon (Grade 5), Katelyn Derry (Reading Assistant), Nick Blackburn (Special Ed assistant), Maureen Dubois (Custodian), Andrea Kelly (Title 1 Math Teacher), Charissa Woodrow (Title 1 Math Assistant), Carmen Zavorotny (Title 1 Math Assistant)

Please make them feel welcome in our school community.

Notice of NonDiscrimination

The Derry Cooperative School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability in admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in its programs and activities. Any student, parent on behalf of their child, or employee who believes that he or she has a disability and thinks that accommodations are necessary to afford an equal opportunity for success, should contact Mr. C. Hunt [Section 504 coordinator.]

Principal's Message

Welcome back to the new school year. I am so happy when the children return to school. Schools are empty places without children. At Derry Village all staff are so excited to have our children return.

I would like to extend a welcome to all new students and new families to Derry Village. Every year we want to make sure that all new students and families get off to a good start. Please be sure to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Coming up this month our PTA Fall Fundraiser begins, NWEA Testing begins (Grades 1-5), we have Picture day, an Early Release day, a Parent Information Evening and Progress Reports go home at the end of the month. As you can see schools are busy places.

We are excited for this school year that holds so much promise and excitement for all. Derry Village is an excellent place for students to learn and to grow. We take great pride in our school.

Please contact your child's classroom teacher if you have any concerns. Teachers are more than willing to help.

Thank you for all your support as we begin this year.

Yours in education,

Chris McCallum



Parent Information Night

Parent Information Evening this year is Wednesday Sep 9. (K-2 5:30pm, 3-5 6:30pm). This evening is an opportunity for parents to hear about the coming year from the classroom teachers. If you are unable to attend and have questions please contact your child's teacher.

Twitter

Parents are reminded to follow Derry Village on Twitter @DVS_NH



Child Nutrition Program

The school Child Nutrition Program is self-funded, running without monetary aid from the School District or Town of Derry. They rely heavily on student meal payments to keep their own payables current, so they appreciate all your efforts to keep money in your student accounts. **Meal Prices.** Breakfast = \$1.40, Lunch = \$2.60, Milk or Juice = 40c (Note: students will only be allowed to carry a negative balance of \$5)

For questions related to Food Services please contact Mrs. Paulin (603) 437-4870 or dvillagekitchen@sau10.org

Nurses Corner

This is a reminder that, like many childhood issues, Head lice (Pediculosis Capitis) can be a common occurrence with children. It is not uncommon for head lice to be noted in the weeks after children return to school after spending vacation time at camps, and having sleepovers. These parasites cannot, fly, jump or crawl long distances, and they do not cause illness. They are transmitted from one child to another through direct head to head contact (ie sleepovers, very close play), or by sharing combs, brushes, hats, bedding, etc. Head lice are not associated with uncleanliness or poor hygiene.

Parents and family members are often the first to recognize the most common symptom of head lice which is constant itching of the head, particularly behind the ears or at the nape of the neck.

It is important to check your child's hair regularly throughout the year.

- Observe for itching of the scalp. If itching is noted...
- Carefully examine the hair and scalp of your children and all family members for lice and/or their eggs. Lice are small, the size of a sesame seed and tan or grey. Nits (eggs) are small, oval shaped and gray or white in color. Nits are usually firmly attached (glued) to the hair shaft, close to the scalp. It helps to use a magnifying glass to detect them.
- Remind your children not to use or borrow anyone's personal accessories like brushes, hats, headbands or combs.

If you suspect your child has lice, check with your health care provider, school nurse or pharmacist for instructions on how to treat an infestation. The school nurse will give ongoing support and ensure student confidentiality. If you have treated your child for head lice, please inform the school nurse and consider informing the parents of your child's close playmates.

Resources for further information:

- NH Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health @ www.dhhs.nh.gov
- Communicable Disease Control @ www.cdc.gov

We appreciate all your efforts in helping to control this nuisance. If you have any questions or concerns, please call your school's nurse.

Free and Reduced Lunch

At this time applications for the Free and Reduced lunch program are being collected from families who qualify. If you require assistance completing these forms please contact the school office.



NWEA Testing - Grades 2-5

During the month of September Grades 1-5 students will take tests called Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). You will also hear them referred to as NWEA tests. We give students MAP tests to determine their instructional level and to measure academic growth throughout the school year, and from year to year in the areas of reading and math. Your child will take the tests on a computer in our lab.

MAP tests are unique in that they adapt to be appropriate for your child's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude toward testing. With MAP tests, we can administer shorter tests and use less class time while still receiving detailed, accurate information about your child's growth.

Over a two week period, your child will spend a total of about two hours completing these tests. Each school year, students in grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 take the tests in September, January and May. At the end of the school year you will receive a report showing your child's growth.

We have found MAP testing to be a rewarding experience as we determine every child's individual growth and achievement. Partnering to help all kids learn, parents and teachers can have a profound positive effect on the lives of our children. We ask that you support your child by ensuring they get a good night's sleep, a good breakfast and that they arrive at school on time.



Parent Handbook

The parent (and student) handbook can be found in electronic version on the school webpage at <http://dvs.sau10.org/info/school-handbook>

This handbook is designed to answer many of the frequently asked questions about the school. It contains information and explanations for all parents and students new or not so new to Derry Village.

Parking and Traffic Flow Reminders

The safety of our students is our highest priority. Please follow drop off and pick up procedures very carefully to keep all of our children safe. We ask that you do not get out of your car in the morning car Drop Off Lane, this will keep traffic flowing at a busy time of the day.

Kindergarten afternoon drop off. Parents are reminded to not park in the bus drop off area.

Being On Time Matters

It is important to get our children to school but it is also important to get kids to school on time and ready to learn. The two biggest culprits that get in the way of being on time include oversleeping and morning stress.

1. Check and prepare backpacks every night.
2. To **ease the morning rush**, make sure your child gets to bed early enough to get a good night's sleep. Younger children need 10 to 12 hours of sleep a night. Consider that when setting bedtimes.
3. **Create evening routines** that help your child wind down from the busy day and ease the transition to sleep. Getting to bed early makes a big difference in the morning rush.
4. **Get a reliable alarm clock.** Consider putting an alarm clock in your child's room to help him or her begin to take responsibility for getting up in the morning. If hitting the snooze button makes you oversleep, put the alarm out of arms reach so you have to get out of bed to turn it off.
5. Reduce morning stress by **planning ahead**. Make lunches before going to bed. Decide on and set out clothes at night.
6. Some families even set the table for breakfast before going to bed to make things easier in the morning.
7. If your child tends to dawdle or needs a long time to wake up, consider **moving their wake up time** up a bit so they don't have to hit the ground running. Some kids prefer to get to school with a few minutes to spare so they can settle in before the school day starts.
8. Experiment with the changes you need to create a positive atmosphere in the morning so you can send your student off to school in a good mood, **ready to learn**.



Pack It Light, Wear It Right: Backpack Awareness

National School Backpack Awareness Day is an annual event each fall. Across the country, occupational therapists are educating parents, students, educators, and communities about the serious health effects that backpacks that are too heavy or worn improperly have on children.

Aching backs and shoulders? Tingling arms? Weakened muscles? Stooped posture? Does your child have these symptoms after wearing a heavy school backpack? Carrying too much weight in a pack or wearing it the wrong way can lead to pain and strain. By considering the following suggestions, parents can take steps to help children load and wear backpacks the correct way to avoid health problems.

Loading a pack

- ✓ A child's backpack should weigh no more than about 15% of his or her body weight. This means a student weighing 100 pounds shouldn't wear a backpack heavier than about 15 pounds.
- ✓ Load heaviest items closest to the child's back (the back of the pack).
- ✓ Arrange books and materials so they won't slide around in the backpack.
- ✓ Check what your child carries to school and brings home. Make sure the items are necessary for the day's activities.
- ✓ If the backpack is too heavy or tightly packed, your child can hand carry a book or other item outside the pack.
- ✓ If the backpack is too heavy on a regular basis, consider using a book bag on wheels if your child's school allows it.



Wearing a pack

- ✓ Distribute weight evenly by using both straps. Wearing a pack slung over one shoulder can cause a child to lean to one side, curving the spine and causing pain or discomfort.
- ✓ Select a pack with well-padded shoulder straps. Shoulders and necks have many blood vessels and nerves that can cause pain and tingling in the neck, arms, and hands when too much pressure is applied.
- ✓ Adjust shoulder straps so that the pack fits snugly on the child's back. A pack that hangs loosely from the back can pull the child backwards and strain muscles.
- ✓ Wear the waist belt if the backpack has one. This helps distribute the pack's weight more evenly. The bottom of the pack should rest in the curve of the lower back. It should never rest more than four inches below the child's waistline.
- ✓ School backpacks come in different sizes for different ages. Choose the right size pack for your child's back as well as one with enough room for necessary school items.

