



# Derry Village School

We Open the Door to Learning

December 2016

## Reminders

Parents are reminded that prior to 8:25am students are unsupervised. Please be aware that students remain unsupervised until the building opens at 8:25am (8:20am for those going to breakfast)

**Change of address or moving?** Please notify the office of any address or phone number changes. If you know that you will be moving please notify the office.



## Principal's Message

Well December has begun with a quick surprise snow storm and more cold weather is on the way. I am glad that everyone stayed safe over the last few days it promises to be a snowy winter with this start.

Do not forget about Parent Conferences this week. Contact the teacher if you have not already signed up. Parent Conferences are a great opportunity for families and teachers to work together to educate your child. Remember that there is no school on Thursday December 8, 2016.

I would like to thank the families and friends of Derry Village who have generously been donating items and gift certificates to the school to distribute to families at this time of year. We appreciate your generosity and sense of community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all families the very best for the season. Family time is very important and at this time of the year we have the chance to be with family. Please enjoy the time together.

Yours in education,

Chris McCallum



## Mark Your Calendar

- Dec 6 PALS 3-4pm
- Dec 7 Trimester 1 report Card home
- Dec 7 Destination Imagination 3-4pm
- Dec 8 NO SCHOOL
- Dec 8 Parent Conferences 12-7:10pm
- Dec 9 DVS Secret Santa names due
- Dec 12 Reflections at Coffee Factory
- Dec 12 DCSD Budget Meeting: Budget Review 6:30pm Barka
- Dec 14 PTA Meeting 6:30pm Library
- Dec 14 Gr 2 Field Class
- Dec 15 Reflections reception and awards night
- Dec 16 Polar Express Day (Pajama day)
- Dec 16 Drop Off (Gifts) for DVS Secret Santa
- Dec 19-23 DVS Secret Santa Pick Up
- Dec 20 Chorus Concert 6:30pm
- Dec 21 Gr 1 Gingerbread Houses
- Dec 22 Holiday Sweater Day
- Dec 23 Holiday Spirit Day
- Dec 26-Jan 2 Holiday Vacation
- Jan 3 School resumes

## Blizzard Bags

Blizzard Bags will be distributed on Parent Conference Night to all families who attend. If you were not in attendance for Parent Conferences please contact your child's classroom teacher. You can also download a copy of the Blizzard Bag from the School District website <http://blizzardbags.sau10.org> Please note that you will receive notice of whether it is a Blizzard Bag Day or not via the District's Alert System. Listen carefully to the notice. Please also make sure that the classroom teacher has your email address for efficient communication.

## Importance of Parent Conferences

Research shows that family engagement improves school readiness, student achievement, and social skills. Parents and the school have something in common: We both want your child to learn and do well.

When parents and teachers talk to each other, each person can share important information about your child's talents and needs. Each person can also learn something new about how to help your child. Parent-teacher conferences are a great way to start talking to your child's teachers.

### How should you follow up after the Parent Conference?

Make a plan (of how to help your child). Schedule another time to talk (if needed). Talk to your child.



## Chorus Concert

Our Chorus concert will take place on Tuesday, December 20 at 6:30pm. It promises to be a great performance for the families. We would like to thank the chorus students for their hard work in preparing for this very special first concert for the year. Mrs. Sullivan is also complimented on her continued hard work and dedication to the music department at Derry Village. We would also like to thank parents for supporting your child to be part of the Chorus. See you at the performance.

## 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.]

## Nurses Corner

### Healthy Resolutions

With the coming of the New Year, it is a good time to remember that developing a healthy life style is a tremendous gift you can give your child. Set a good example through healthy eating and active living. Making these healthy changes in your family's routine will make for good habits in your child's future. Increase physical activity. Increase consumption of fruits and vegetables which are low in calories and high in vitamins, minerals and fiber. Decrease consumption of sugar sweetened beverages. Decrease screen time by setting limits and being a role model yourself. Let's start the New Year with a focus on developing a healthy life style, making for a healthier mind and body.

*In health, Mrs. Collins [School nurse]*

## Candy Wish

"Pick a treat make a teacher's Christmas sweet." It is that time of year again; the PTA has put up a Gingerbread bulletin board in the school foyer to help collect items needed for classrooms. "Candies" will be placed on the bulletin board with lists of items requested by teachers and other staff. Parents who are looking to help provide some of the items are asked to take a candy and get the items. The candy items can then be delivered to the teacher or staff member. Thank you for your generosity.



## Ski Club

Students in Ski Club will be going to McIntyre Ski Area, Manchester, NH. The program will be on Mondays and will run for five weeks. Ski Clubs dates are; January 9, 23, 30 February 6 & 13, 2016. The buses will leave Derry Village after dismissal and return to school at approximately 6:00pm. All students participating will ride to and from McIntyre on the bus provided.

## Five Tips to Keep Kids Learning During the Holidays

Holiday break is coming up, and while students get a well-deserved break from the classroom, it doesn't mean children need to stop learning. Here are a few tips to keep children's minds sharp and challenged during their break, and it might just prevent cabin fever:

1. Ask your child's teacher or search online for worksheets or projects that can be done over the holidays. For 20 to 30 minutes a day, review with your child **math** concepts, spelling words, or sentence structure. You can also work together in starting a cool science project.
2. Have your child **read** to you daily from the newspaper, a magazine, or excerpts from their favorite book, and let your child see you reading.
3. Use the winter break to strengthen your child's **vocabulary**. This is a perfect time to start a treasure chest of words, by having your child look up new words, then write the word and definition on 3x5 cards. Use the word in a sentence or have them write a story based on the word. This exercise will reinforce reading comprehension and **writing** skills.
4. Give your child an opportunity to appreciate **the arts** by attending free events like concerts or plays during the holidays, or stop by a local museum.
5. Give a book or educational gift that will keep on giving throughout the year.

Taken from; <http://www.ed.gov/blog/2013/12/five-tips-to-keep-kids-learning-during-the-holidays/>



## NWEA Testing

This is a reminder to all Grades 1-5 students and parents that we will begin our winter NWEA testing in mathematics and reading when we return after the holidays. As always, well rested, well fed students perform better on these types of tests. Attendance on the days of testing is also extremely important. Please check with your child's classroom teacher for the days your child will be tested.

## Winter Playground

For your information: Temperatures including wind chill are considered before sending students out to the playground for recess. When the temperature falls below 20F, taking into account windchill, students are kept indoors.

As a reminder to parents on days when there is snow on the playground be sure to send your child to school with coat, gloves, snow pants and boots.



## LifeChanger of the Year

LifeChanger of the Year program is an annual program, sponsored by the National Life Group Foundation, that honors K-12 public and private school educators and employees from around the country who are making a difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership. Last year, LifeChanger of the Year recognized more than 600 teachers and school employees from all 50 states.

Nominating someone is easy to do. There is no cost and anyone—including parents, administrators, school colleagues, students (with approval from an adult), and other members of the community—can nominate any full-time K-12 public or private school employee. Each nominee is celebrated in various ways and has the opportunity to be considered for the grand prize of \$10,000 to be split with the winner and their school. Nominating a teacher or school employee as a LifeChanger of the Year is great way to make them feel special and acknowledges their hard work. Additional details can be found on the LifeChanger of the Year website at <https://lifechangeroftheyear.com>

## Holiday Fair

Thank you to our hard working PTA for their efforts to host another successful Holiday Fair. Thanks to all parents, staff and students who volunteered this year to make our Holiday Fair a success. Community events like this are great for our school spirit. Thank you to all who attended this event.

## Secret Santa Workshop

Thank you to all families who attended the Secret Santa Workshop and Cake Walk. This PTA initiative gives students the chance to purchase holiday gifts for family and friends. Moms and dads, uncles and aunts, grandmas and grandpas can expect a delightful surprise for the Holidays. Thank you to Student Council members who helped our younger shoppers. Thank you to parent and student volunteers who helped wrap the gifts. Also thank you to Mrs. Landry for her support of our students.

## Reflections

Congratulations to all the students who took part in the Reflections program. The National PTA Reflections Program is an art recognition and achievement program for students. It provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by a pre-selected theme, while increasing community awareness on the importance of the arts in education. Artwork will be on display at the Coffee Factory in Derry on December 12.

**Are You A Family In Need Of Holiday Gifts?**  
**Or**  
**Do You Want To Be A Holiday Shopper For A Child In Need?**



***\*If You're A Family In Need of Holiday Gifts!\****

**Step 1:** Email or call Mrs. Triplett or Mr. Hunt with your child's name and Holiday Wish List. (Clothing, Books, Toys, Supplies, Etc.)

Mrs. Triplett/School Counselor/260-2793/ [atriplett@sau10.org](mailto:atriplett@sau10.org)

Mr. Hunt/Assistant principal [432-1233/chunt@sau10.org](mailto:432-1233/chunt@sau10.org)

**Step 3:** Requests for holiday gifts are due no later than Friday December 9th.

**Step 2:** Pick up your child's gifts in the main office on Monday December 19th-Friday December 23rd.

***\*If You Would Like To Shop For Holiday Gifts!\****

**Step 1:** Email or call Mrs. Triplett or Mr. Hunt to get your holiday shopping list.

Mrs. Triplett/School Counselor/260-2793/ [atriplett@sau10.org](mailto:atriplett@sau10.org)

Mr. Hunt/Assistant principal [432-1233/chunt@sau10.org](mailto:432-1233/chunt@sau10.org)

**Step 2:** You will choose from an anonymous list of possible items to shop for!

**Step 3:** Items can be dropped off in the Holiday Box in the main office by Friday December 16th.

***Thank you for supporting children and families in our DVS community!***

# Show off your Holiday Spirit DVS!

*On Thursday, December 22rd, wear your favorite Holiday Sweater!*



*On Friday, December 23rd, dress up like an Elf, Reindeer, Snowman, Gingerbread Man, or even Santa!*

