



Bloomfield Elementary School News January 2022

School Hours:

Parent and bus drop off begins at 7:45 AM. The instructional day begins at 8:15 AM. Students are late for school if they arrive after 8:15 AM. Most teachers start the day with a morning meeting. This includes reviewing the daily schedule and any changes for the day. Parents/guardians should pick begins at 2:12 PM. Buses are called beginning at 2:15 PM. The **whole** school day is important.



Words of the Week:

Each week a word of the week is introduced to the school community through the daily announcements. This year's words all relate to social-emotional learning and trauma informed awareness. The following words have been introduced since the last newsletter: problem, problem solving, hope, hopeful, joy, and joyful.

Monthly Whole School Meetings

On the last Friday of each month the whole school assembles for a Whole School Meeting. The purpose of these meetings is to build and maintain a safe and welcoming school community. Each meeting follows a consistent agenda including a mindful moment, greeting, celebrations, share, and closing with our Bloomfield Behavioral Purpose Statement. Our next whole school meeting will be by Zoom on Friday, January 28, 2022.

Parent Group

The Parent Group meets the first Tuesday of every month from 5:00-6:00 PM through Zoom. Any parent that would like to help improve the Bloomfield Elementary experience and community is encouraged to attend. The next meeting is tonight January 4, 2022. This meeting will be to discuss and review the calendar funds raised and ideas for projects to support our students, families and staff.

Upcoming Dates and Events:

Monday, January 17: No School in observance of Martin Luther King Jr.
Tuesday, January 18: Picture Retake Day
Wednesday, January 26: Early Release Day for Students (11:42 Parent Pick-up, 11:45 Bus Dismissal)
Tuesday, February 1: 5:00-6:00 PM Parent-Teacher Group
Wednesday, February 9: Early Release Day for Students (11:42 Parent Pick-up, 11:45 Bus Dismissal)
February 21-25: No School- Winter Break
March 9: Early Release Day for Students (11:42 Parent Pick-up, 11:45 Bus Dismissal)

"A friend hears the
song in my heart and
sings it to me when my
memory fails."
Author Unknown

School Recess and Playing in the Snow

Students at Bloomfield Elementary continue to go outside for recess every day that it is at least 10 degrees Fahrenheit. The wind speed or wind chill is also considered in this decision. Because we go out on very cold days, **all students must have boots, snow pants, winter coats, hats, and mittens.** Please let the office know if you are unable to provide these items for your child. The number is 474-6221. If your child is given these items, it will be expected that they will wear them every day.

Playing in the snow at school is different than home due to the number of children outside all at once. Students are taught that they may build with snow, slide on their bottoms with feet first, and run or roll in the snow. At home students can often have snowball fights and make tunnels. These activities are not safe for school.

Safety at School and Beyond:

I am very proud of your children and how well they have done with arriving to school with a mask on, keeping their nose, mouth, and chin covered, washing or sanitizing hands often, and doing their best to maintain space between each other. The cases our district has dealt with have mainly been from outbreaks in the community, in which individuals from school were a direct contact. With the newest guidance from CDC and the Maine Department of Education there will be far fewer students and staff needing to quarantine. This is good news for teaching and learning. Still, it is very important that students and staff with symptoms remain out of school to prevent an outbreak. If a student or staff does test positive for Covid and has no symptoms, the quarantine period is shorter.

Thankful:

It has been a remarkable school year so far with many staff and students needing to quarantine due to being close contacts. Still, I wish you could see what I see here at school. I watch loving parents and caring drivers drop children off to be greeted by smiling staff. I see children with masks and smiling eyes enter the building. I see children sanitize their hands, juggle their backpacks and pick-up their breakfasts while heading to class. I hear magical greetings between staff and students. I see students engaged in learning how to be the best person they can be while conquering challenges in reading, writing, spelling, and mathematics. I hear friendly conversations about our world and how things work in science. I see children that appear to be adjusting to a world with masks, at least for now. I know your children are well-loved at home and want you to know how loved and cared for they are here. I am incredibly thankful for the opportunity to be entrusted with the leadership of Bloomfield Elementary and to be able to have all students in-person for instruction. I am thankful indeed!

Bloomfield Elementary School Community is all of us together. We all belong. We all play an important role in making each day the best it can be for our youth. Thank you for being our partner!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Pillsbury

