Dear Parent(s), Guardian(s), and the Booth Hill Elementary School Community,

I hope everyone had a great December. As the New Year approaches, I wish you health and happiness.

With regard to instruction and partnerships, this month I would like to highlight reading fluency and comprehension. These two domains (among others) allow students to access curricula throughout K-12 education and in life. Fisher, Frey, and Hattie (2017) point out that fluent readers are not necessarily the quickest, but those who are able to read quickly and accurately and with appropriate and meaningful expression. If a reader's rate (speed) is too slow it will interfere with their comprehension as the ideas in sentences and paragraphs will be subject to loss due to the chopiness and disconnected language. In addition, a reader can only use appropriate expression when they understand what they are reading. In the end, fluency bridges the divide between decoding and comprehension.

So what do we do with this information, and how can we build fluency? It is well known that disfluent and inefficient readers should be taken seriously to mitigate the long term effects that occur in schooling. Moreover, students who are fluent can always improve, especially in the early years of learning language and comprehending complex text.

Here are two suggestions:

- Independent reading – it may seem simple, but to develop any skill, one needs time and practice. All readers benefit from daily practice. Wide and independent reading increases volume, stamina, and of course fluency and comprehension.
- Recorder reading – Having students read the same passage multiple times and then comparing the differences between the first and last can be motivating to see improvements in a short period of time. This should be done with passages up to one hundred words.

In January, each student will begin their winter assessments. For most grades, each student will be tested on reading fluency, among other indicators. Please reach out to your child’s teacher to review their growth and progress through the year as these assessments are completed. Our teachers will be setting goals, objectives, and lessons based on each student’s growth throughout the year. We invite you to be part of this process to make the biggest impact.

As we approach vacation and the new year – I wish everyone a joyous winter break and holiday season! Please be in contact with suggestions, comments, or questions on how we can become a better school for your children. I appreciate your input and value your perspective.

**Upcoming Information (please see calendar for the most comprehensive list)**

No School – There is no school on January 15 for the observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.


From Food Services: Do you know you can apply for free or reduced meals for your children at any time during the school year? If a family member has been laid off or your work is seasonal, you may qualify. Applications are available on
www.sheltonpublicschools.org under District Information > School Lunch Program – Family Application 2017-2018. All questions can be answered by calling 203-924-1023, extension 309.

Change in pick-up: Please make every effort to inform us of changes in pick-up as early as possible. We prefer that you send a note in with your child to the classroom teacher in the morning. It is difficult to change our dismissal lists to specific staff in the late afternoon once they have been distributed.

Emergency Drill: During January, we will have a Fire Drill.

Attendance – Please remember the following for tracking attendance:
   a.) All late arrivals and early dismissals without formal documentation are considered unexcused.
   b.) An absence becomes excused when the school receives formal documentation within ten days of the absence.
   c.) A student is considered truant if he/she accumulates 4 unexcused absences in a month or 10 unexcused absences in a year. A student is considered chronically absent when he/she misses 20% of their school attendance for any reason.
   d.) *Perfect attendance is awarded at the end of each trimester and once at the end of the year. Students are eligible for this distinction when they are present each day including an on time arrival and remaining for the duration of the school day.

Lastly, for the most up-to-date information and postings, please follow me on Twitter @BoothHillSchool

Take care of yourself, take care of each other, and take care of your school!

Sincerely,

James Zavodjanick, Principal
### BOOTH HILL SCHOOL PARENT CALENDAR

#### January 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Winter Recess NO SCHOOL</td>
<td>2 CCD 3:45-5:00</td>
<td>3 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>4 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>5 Gr. 2 Brownies Daisy 3:45-5:15 Gr. 4 Girl Scouts 3:45-5:15 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8 Gr. 3 Brownies 3:45-5:10 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>9 CCD 3:45-5:00 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>10 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>11 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>12 K-Daisies 3:45-5:15 Cub Scout @6:30-8:30</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>15 No School Martin Luther King Day</td>
<td>16 CCD 3:45-5:00 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>17 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>18 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
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The Board of Education complies with all applicable federal, state and local laws prohibiting the exclusion of any person from any of its educational programs or activities because of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability, genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or general nondiscrimination laws.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Meals</th>
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| **Monday** | French Toast Slices  
Slices of bread coated in an egg batter, with cinnamon and vanilla.  
Turkey Sausage Patty  
Baby Carrots  
Pineapple Tidbits  
100% Orange Juice Blend  
Fresh Banana |
| **Tuesday** | Cheeseburger  
Or Burger  
And  
Tater Tots  
Cherry Tomatoes  
Diced Pears  
Fresh Green Grapes  
Fresh Apple |
| **Wednesday** | Crispy Tacos  
Crispy taco sheds filled with taco meat and cheddar cheese  
Beans & Rice  
Cerel  
Mixed Fruit  
Fresh Orange |
| **Thursday** | Cheese Pizza  
Crispy pizza dough topped with tomato sauce and melted cheese  
Green Pepper Slices  
Diced Peaches  
Fresh Apple |
| **Friday** | Cheese Pizza  
Crispy pizza dough topped with tomato sauce and melted cheese  
Green Pepper Slices  
Garden Salad  
Diced Peaches  
Fresh Apple |

**SIMPLY ROOTED**  
In food and family  
All of our entrees are made with lean meats, low-fat cheeses, and  
whole grain products. This is because we are Simply Rooted™ in  
food and family and we care about what we serve  
to our young customers. Our ingredients are locally sourced, all natural, and  
organic or non-GMO, whenever possible.

**Lunch Prices**  
Full Price Lunch $2.75  
Reduced Lunch $1.40  
All lunches come with fruit, vegetable and milk selection  
Milk variety includes skim, 1% white milk and fat free chocolate  
Questions, comments?

**Alternates Available Daily**  
Chicken Nuggets  
Whole grain breaded chicken nuggets  
Bagger Fun Lunch - Whole wheat bagel with cream cheese, low fat yogurt and cheese stick  
Garden Salad - Mixed greens, tomatoes, cucumbers and low fat cheese w/ whole grain roll  
Meatless Weekly Alternates:  
Week 1  
Organic Yogurt and Fruit Parfait with Granola  
Week 2  
Vegetable Burger, Whole Wheat Bun w/ Lettuce & Tomato  
Week 3  
Hummus Plate with Veggie Sticks and Pita Bread  

We proudly support clean, organic, local and  
sustainable agriculture.
Camp Invention®

Invent THE FUTURE TODAY

BUILD DESIGN & CREATE!
TAKE HOME 2 ROBOTS!
HANDS-ON STEM FUN!

EXPLORE THE TECHNOLOGY BEHIND SELF-DRIVING CARS AND INVENT A VEHICLE OF THE FUTURE
DESIGN FUTURISTIC DREAM HOMES WITH SMART FURNITURE AND SMART ENERGY
BUILD AND PERSONALIZE A ROBOTIC DOG AND CONSTRUCT A ONE-OF-A-KIND DOG PARK

EASY WAYS TO SAVE:

$25 off
When you sign up by 3/23/18 using the promo code IDEAS25.

$15 off
When you sign up between 3/24/18 and 5/4/18 using the promo code IDEAS15.

$25 off
per sibling when you register 2 or more siblings using the promo code SIBLING.

Your local Camp Invention site information:
Price $250 (before discount) | For children entering grades K–6
Register at campinvention.org or 800.968.4332.

Shelton Intermediate School | 675 Constitution Blvd. North, Shelton, CT 06484
July 23 - 27, 2018 from 9:00am - 3:30pm
Directed by Adam Rudman
arudman@sheltonpublicschools.org

IF THESE DATES/TIMES DON'T WORK FOR YOU, PLEASE VISIT CAMPINVENTION.ORG FOR OTHER LOCATIONS NEAR YOU.
On Thursday, December 7th, Booth Hill families returned to school to participate in our Literacy/STEAM Night! Classroom teachers provided problem solving activities to complete collaboratively. A presentation from the Discovery Museum in Bridgeport focused on the moon and the stars. There were a variety of stations including a Lego display, 3-D printing and drones! The Huntington Branch librarian, Miss Marissa, was available to sign up families for library cards and share all of the events that the library has planned for the month of December! Students received a treasured ‘No Homework’ pass for their attendance and participation in the fun! The final event of the evening was documented with a family photo planting the American flag on the moon! An out of this world way to end the evening! To view photos of the evening, please join the class using the following code: du06ff5.
Winter Wonderland
Encourage your child to share either in writing or in conversation changes in the weather and how activities differ when the temperatures drop!! And don’t forget the fun of sitting together as a family to enjoy a good book!

Fun Fact
Karate first started in India and spread to China before reaching Japan in the 1600s!

Did You Know?
The Huntington Branch and Plumb Memorial libraries in Shelton have planned, FREE activities for children throughout the month!

www.sheltonlibrarysystem.org

Game Night Ideas
Looking for a fun way to spend a chilly evening with the family? Grab a board game and your family members and make learning and memories happen at the same time! Here are some tried and true games for which the only technology needed...is your brain! Check out: Boggle, Scrabble, Memory, Bananagrams, Blokus, What’s Gnu?, Cranium Cadoo, Clue Jr., Scattergories, Apples to Apples!

Technology Corner

www.eslgamesplus.com
www.funbrain.com

Try This!
During a snowy day, make a family time capsule. Include favorite activities, books, memories and of course pictures of all the fun your child has during the season! Tuck it away in a safe place and revisit it next year in 2019!!

Nancy Burns, Reading Consultant nburns@sheltonpublicschools.org
Christine Butler, TESOL Teacher cbutler@sheltonpublicschools.org
Susan Pan, TESOL Teacher span@sheltonpublicschools.org
<table>
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<td>9 Bouncing Babies &amp; Jumping Beans! (Infants-Age 2) 10:30 AM - 11 AM <del>AND</del> 11 AM - 11:45 AM</td>
<td>10 **Toddler Movement (Ages 2'/2-) 11 AM - 11:30 AM</td>
<td>11 **Spanish with Sandra (Ages 1-6) 5 PM - 5:30 PM</td>
<td>12 Show-and-Tell Stories All Ages: 10:30 AM - 11 AM <del>AND</del> Ages 3 &amp; Up: 11 AM - 11:45 AM</td>
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<td>15 CLOSED - Happy Martin Luther King Jr. Day!</td>
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<td>22 **Cinnamon Buns (Grades 5-8) 4:45 PM - 6 PM</td>
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This calendar is color-coded by intended audience:

- All Ages / Infants-PreK / Elementary School Students / Tweens (Grades 5-8)
- Please see descriptions for specific age categories.
- Events preceded by ** require prior registration.

Call the library or visit our website at sheltonlibrarysystem.org/events/ and click on "Online Event Listings." In order to take place, events requiring registration must have at least 3 registrants by the morning of the preceding day or by the registration deadline.
JOIN US FOR OUR REGULAR PROGRAMS!

**Bouncing Babies & Jumping Beans**
Tuesdays at 10:30 AM - 11 AM & 11 AM -11:45 AM
Snuggly wee ones and energetic toddlers (infants to age 2) are invited to join Ms. Marissa for stories, scarves, the giant parachute, bubbles, and more!

**Toddler Movement**
Wednesdays at 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Miss Robin provides a fun, active musical program for children ages 2½ -4 and caregivers. Please register; sessions run for an entire month.

**Spanish with Sandra**
Thursdays at 5 PM - 5:30 PM
Children, ages 1-6, and their caregivers learn Spanish through songs, games, stories, and other fun activities. Please register; sessions run for an entire month.

**Show-and-Tell Stories**
Fridays at 10:30 AM - 11 AM & 11 AM - 11:45 AM
Join Ms. Marissa for stories and songs! Plus, bring along a show-and-tell item. All ages are welcome at the 10:30 AM session. The 11 AM session is for ages 3 & up only and includes a bonus craft or game before the stories!

**SPECIAL EVENTS IN JANUARY**

**Minute to Win It: LEGO® Games**
Monday, January 8 at 5:15 PM - 5:45 PM
Kids of all ages are invited to complete challenges using LEGO bricks in under one minute! Who can build the highest stack of LEGO® bricks - using only one hand? Who can dig the most LEGO® bricks out of JELLO? Try to beat the clock! Registration begins December 23.

**Read-Together Club: Inspector Flytrap**
Saturday, January 20 at 1:30 PM - 2 PM
This month, children, ages 6-9, and their caregivers can borrow copies of a funny collection of mysteries that a Venus flytrap and his goat assistant are determined to solve! Read together at home. Then, come to our meeting for an activity that includes both kids and adults! Please register beginning December 16.

**Cinnamon Buns**
Monday, January 22 at 4:45 PM - 6 PM
Tweens in grades 5-8 can make delicious cinnamon buns from scratch! Please note: Anyone under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult (someone over 18 years old). This adult must stay in the library for the entire event. Registration begins January 2 and closes January 18.

**Germ Busters**
Thursday, January 25 at 2 PM - 2:30 PM
Kids, ages 3-5, can learn all about germs and how to fight them! Plus, practice the proper way to wash hands while singing a getting clean song. Participants will try a special 'lotion potion' that glows on the spots of their hands that they missed washing! This program will be run by a representative of Griffin Health. Register beginning January 4.

**Winter Blues Buster: Crafty Afternoon!**
Monday, January 29 at 4:45 PM - 5:30 PM
Kids of all ages can fight mid-winter boredom by choosing from a variety of crafts including Spirograph, Perler Beads, pasta jewelry, and more! Register beginning January 12.