From the Principal....

December 2019

Dear Families,

In the next few weeks you will receive your child’s progress update in school. We do not expect all children to receive Meets Expectation this early in the year. If you have specific questions regarding your child’s progress thus far, please email their classroom teacher so she/he can set up a time to discuss progress.

It’s almost that time of the year! Please join us at our annual Holiday Music Concert hosted by Mrs. Lazdauskas. The event will begin at 9:45 AM on December 18. The snow date is December 19. Guests will not be admitted in the building until after arrival. For each child’s safety, please allow our busses to arrive so we can get all of our students in the building. Guests will need to sign in and receive a visitor’s pass. There are no seat reservations.

I hope each of you has a great holiday season and a healthy new year.

Thank you,

James Zavodjancik
Principal

Evacuation Drill

December’s Emergency Drill will be a fire evacuation drill.

Our November drill was a lock down. It was our first one and our students did very well in quickly and efficiently following the school’s protocols.

Cultural Family Project

Be on the lookout - in mid-December, you will receive (hardcopy and email) a form titled: Cultural Family Project. In the upcoming months, BHS staff and students will learn about different cultures, countries, contributions, and customs. Students will be asked to complete different tasks to learn about their heritage. We hope you will join us in this learning.

Twitter

Remember to follow us on Twitter at BoothHillSchool

We periodically update school information on this social media site.
Calendar of Events (continued)

Student Council at 8AM
December 6, 2019
December 20, 2019

CCD Dates:
December 3, 2019
December 10, 2019

Half Days (Dismissal at 1:50 PM)
November 27, 2019
December 20, 2019

No School –
December 23 through January 1, 2020

PTO Meeting
December 4, 2019
December 10 – PTO Holiday Get Together
(7PM at Trattoria Roma)

Board of Education Meeting:
December 18, 2019 – Central Office

Parent Teacher Organization

After School Program:
December 2, 4, 5
December 9, 11, 12
December 16, 18, 19

Cookies with Santa and Vendor Fair - PTO
December 13, 2019 at 6PM

Rewards Program

Please consider joining our Rewards Programs through Stop and Shop and Big Y Supermarkets. Moreover, invite family and friends of Booth Hill to do the same.

Stop and Shop –
Visit www.stopandshop.com and select SIGN IN at the top right to log into your rewards account. Once logged in, select MY ACCOUNT, MANAGE MY ACCOUNT, then REWARDS AND SAVINGS. Our school ID is 06757

At each organization, when your card is scanned, a percentage will be sent back to Booth Hill School. We hope you will consider joining the rewards program.

Box Tops for Education

You no longer need to clip them. Please download the app, select our school, and scan your receipts when shopping. Box Top eligible contributions will be automatically added to the school’s earnings.

Food Services

Do you know you can apply for free or reduced lunch for your children? Applications are available on www.sheltonpublicschools.org . Please follow the links – District Information>School Lunch Program >Family application. All questions regarding the program can be directed to 203-924-1023, ext. 309

Student Lunch Accounts

Please log-in to Infinite Campus to find out your child’s lunch account balance. Money can be submitted through Infinite Campus. You can also continue to send it in with your child. Please make sure it is in a sealed and labeled envelope. Checks can be made out to Shelton Lunch Program.
Attendance Practices

Children’s consistent school attendance supports continuous learning progressions and active participation in classroom activities and planned learning.

The following are general guidelines that the district and school follows when tracking attendance throughout the year.

- All late arrivals (after 9:00AM) and early departures (before 3:45) are considered unexcused. A doctor’s note can excuse a late arrival and/or early departure. It will still be marked in attendance as an excused tardy or early dismissal.
- An absence is considered excused when a doctor’s note is received by the school within ten days of the child’s absence.
- A student is considered truant when he/she has accumulated four unexcused absences in a month or ten in a year.

(Attendance continued)
- A student is considered chronically absent when they have missed ten percent of their enrolled school days.
- All absences should be called in by the parent/guardian each day that a child will not be in school. Our phone number is 203-929-5625. Calling in the absences do not mean that it will automatically become an excused absence.
- Each trimester the school awards Perfect Attendance Distinction to students who have no absences, late arrivals, or early dismissals. Students must be in school each day, be on time, and never leave early. There can be no excused and/or unexcused codes on the child’s record.

School Bus Behavior

For students taking the school bus to and from school, please realize that expected behaviors during school extend to the ride to and from school. When students choose to not follow safety and school rules, the bus company and school administration impose consequences. The following is the schedule of consequences as determined by bus regulations that may be implemented:

First Incident: Warning
Second Incident: 5 Day Bus Suspension
Third Incident: 10 Day Bus Suspension

Fourth Incident: Suspension until the school administrator meets with the parents for final disposition for the case

These may change based on the severity and frequency of the events that take place. Administrative discretion is always used when determining final consequences.

Booth Hill School’s Mission

It is the mission of Booth Hill School to provide a safe and supportive learning environment with high academic standards for all students. In partnership, with staff,
Drop-off and Pick-up
The doors close by 8:59 for AM Parent Drop Off. School begins at 9 AM. We expect all students to be dropped off and in classrooms at 9 AM.

Please email KristenTReilly@sheltonpublicschools.org and LMckeon@sheltonpublicschools.org if you are changing pick-up.

Changes to pick up cannot be made in the cafeteria with the teacher on duty. If you have not notified us of changes in pick-up, please come to the main office to do so.

We no longer will allow entry into the building from the cafeteria during or after pick-up. All building entrance must be through the front entrance. Please sign-in and take a visitor badge to your destination.

If a child memorizes ten words, the child can only read ten words, but if the child learns the sounds of ten letters, the child will be able to read 350 three sound words, 4,320 four sound words and 21,650 five sound words.

- Kozloff, 2002

For our kindergarten through second grade learners teachers have a focus on phonics (relationship between sounds and written symbols) and phonological awareness (manipulating oral language) during our reading instruction.

It is very important that children are able to hear, speak, identify, and blend different sounds (or phonemes) in English. This is the basis for developing good reading skills.

District Word of the Week – November
Cleverly – Mentally bright; having sharp or quick wit
Subdivide – To divide into smaller parts
Nervousness – Highly excitable; apprehensive
Spectacles – A public show or display; eyeglasses
Paradigm – A display in fixed arrangement of such a set

District Word of the Week – December
December 6 – Quicken
December 13 – Overwork
December 20 – Duplicate
December 27 – No word
A Mindful Moment – Balancing Social-Emotional and Academic Learning

Written By: Mrs. Kimberly Atkinson

This month’s mindful moment focuses on the second of the five social-emotional learning (SEL) competencies: Self-Management. CASEL defines self-management as the ability to successfully regulate one’s emotions, thoughts, and behaviors in different situations — effectively managing stress, controlling impulses, and motivating oneself. The ability to set and work toward personal and academic goals (CASEL.org, 2019, Core SEL Competencies section).

Here are a few tips to help your child improve their self-management. Impulse control is one way to improve self-management. Give your child opportunities to practice patience. Whenever possible, don’t give in to “pestering” by your children. Make them wait it out or accomplish one task before earning something else. Another way to improve self-management is with stress management. Teach your child to listen to their body. Help them to notice how they feel when they are starting to get stressed (e.g., heart racing, temperature rising, etc.) and then remind them about coping strategies such as stopping and taking a belly breath or counting backwards before handling the stressful situation appropriately. Having self-discipline and self-motivation go hand in hand towards improving self-management as well. Teaching your child to stick with something even though it is challenging is the best way to enhance these skills. Whether it is finishing out a soccer season or tackling a math problem, students will grow exponentially when they are allowed to persevere through struggle. Afterwards, point out how proud you are of them for not giving up. This feedback and the feelings they will get from overcoming the challenge are what will motivate them to continue to learn in this way, which is also an invaluable life skill needed for workplace success. Having self-discipline and self-motivation can also be improved through goal setting. Try having your child set goals aligned with those challenging activities and monitor their progress towards them. Go as far as making a visual chart to help them. For example, if they are struggling in soccer and want to quit, set up a calendar of the practices left for the season and a space to write 1 thing they improved on with each passing practice. Not only will they visually see how close they are to their end goal of finishing the season without quitting, but they will also see just how much they learned along the way. Lessons learned can involve skills or even social lessons such as learning to give others a turn at the ball. A process like this can improve your child’s organizational skills and make their learning visible to them as well, thereby encouraging them to take stock in the process and build their overall SEL competency of self-management.

Promoting self-management is not an easy task. Most likely, your children will fight it at first, but staying the course will reap huge rewards for both your children and you in the end. Furthermore, the benefits towards the skills they will need in society are invaluable. -KA

Resources
PBIS News

Holiday season is here and with that comes extra excitement and energy from our students! Classroom teachers are reviewing the expected behaviors matrix with their class and are getting the students excited to earn Board Game Day, which will take place right before our Holiday recess on December 19th. Those students who demonstrated expected behaviors during the month of December will enjoy this incentive. Parents are notified with a “positive note home” saying their student has earned this reward! Please encourage your child to put forth their best efforts.

The students will focus on the character word diversity during the month of December. This is a fantastic character word to explore this month. There are so many different holidays celebrated during the winter months it is important that our students are aware of and taught about other cultures, traditions and holidays. Students who are around diversity can gain a learning experience by being exposed to a wide range of opinions in classroom discussions and developing critical thinking skills and problem solving skills. The links below are to interesting articles that show how diversity is related to having a growth mindset and our 21st century learning skills.
https://ampglobalyouth.org/students/5-reasons-diversity-important-21st-century/

The Character Word of the Month for November was Respect. Congratulations to the following students for being recognized by their teachers for exemplifying this trait on a daily basis!

Adam Anastasio  Colin Hicks  Panayotia Aslanidis
Penelope LaBonte  Addison Vasser  Sophia Jarrtian
Gabriel Vitti  Aubrie Glendening  Jack Long
Lawrence Merly  Sofia Strazza  Natalia Woods
Ryker Parkins  Olivia Montefusco  Joseph Jarrtian
Dean Bohrer  Avery Dwyer  Jacob Diaz
Kara Kindle  Jade Crawford  Mia Sosa Ham
Kya Register  Aliviana Rodriguez  Mason Teixeira
Ellis Rodriguez  Olivia Vittorino  Robert Colgan
Charlotte Kramarczyk  Lilyana Clemente  Adrian Aleman
Brayden Tait  Ella Rizzo  Penelope LaBonte
Sofia Moura-Sanchez  Keenan Bruce-Tagoe  Isabella Munroe
Antonio Aleman  Gianni Falzarano
solid foundation in math is essential for students to succeed in school and beyond. Incorporate math into your family’s daily life—without a lot of time, effort, or expense—with these fun ideas.

In the kitchen. Cooking is not only a terrific way to help children understand fractions—it’s also excellent family bonding time. Show younger children how measuring two half-cups of flour yields the same amount as one full cup. Ask older children to help you cut a recipe in half or double a recipe. Have them write down the new measurements and check the computations together.

At the grocery store. Bring a calculator with you to the store when you shop. Young children can add up how much you have spent on groceries or saved with coupons. Kids in third grade or higher can help determine which size of detergent offers the best value, or whether using a particular coupon is cost-effective.

In the garage. A tire gauge is one of the simplest tools for a child to use, and can help him or her learn about addition and subtraction. Show your child how to measure the pressure in your bicycle or car tires. Then, have your child help you determine how much air you need to add or release. Older children can calculate gas mileage.

On the computer. Find activities that reinforce math skills, from computer games like Math Blaster to apps.

On the road. Long car trips were made for math games. Pick a number from one to 10 and have each family member try to find a license plate with the target number. Younger children can add the numbers together. Children who have learned subtraction can try to find one that involves adding a few of the numbers and then subtracting one.

Kids who have learned multiplication and division can put those skills to use.

At the toy store. If your child is trying to save up to buy something special, keep a chart of how much money they will need and what they have saved to date.

At home. Classic games such as dominoes, cards, puzzles, or Monopoly teach math reasoning. Sewing and building projects both involve plenty of computation. Teach your child how to measure and sew fabrics together, or build basic structures out of wood (with adult supervision).

Above all, avoid passing any math phobias that you might have on to your child. It’s important for children to hear at home that what they’re learning is valuable—that all the work they’re doing trying to comprehend division or fractions or measurement will pay off their whole lives.

Web Resources

Common Sense Media provides reviews of education apps.
www.commonsensemedia.org

PBS Parents has a math portal with tips, games, and everyday activities.
www.pbs.org/parents/education/math/

The Figure This Family Corner offers tips, tricks, and downloadable brochures.
www.figurethis.org/fc/family_corner.htm
### BOOTH HILL SCHOOL PARENT CALENDAR

#### December 2019

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<td>After school program 3:50-4:50</td>
<td>Biddy Basketball</td>
<td>PTO Toy Drive ends After school program 3:50-4:50</td>
<td>After school program 3:50-4:50</td>
<td>Student Council Meeting 8am Report Cards distributed</td>
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<td>CCD</td>
<td>Biddy Basketball PTO Apparel arrives</td>
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<td>Student Council Meeting Brownie Meeting Biddy Basketball</td>
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<td>After school program 3:50-4:50</td>
<td>CCD</td>
<td>Holiday Party PTO 7-9pm @ Trattoria Roma</td>
<td>After school program 3:50-4:50</td>
<td>PTO Santa Event 6-8pm</td>
<td>Brownie Meeting</td>
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<td>Biddy Basketball</td>
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<td>After school program 3:50-4:50</td>
<td>Biddy Basketball</td>
<td>Holiday Concert 9:45am After school program 3:50-4:50</td>
<td>After school program 3:50-4:50</td>
<td>Early Dismissal for Students and Staff 1:50pm</td>
<td>Early Dismissal for Students and Staff 1:50pm</td>
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<td>Biddy Basketball</td>
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<td>Student Council Barn Classroom Parties Per PTO</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.
## Welcome to our Lunch Cafe at...

### Monday
- 2 Cheesy Stuffed Bread Sticks
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Whole Wheat Dinner Roll
- Sweet Corn
- Diced Pear Cup
- Fresh Apple
- Yogurt Parfait

### Tuesday
- 3 Cheeseburger
- Homemade Lite Veggie Pasta Salad
- Red Pepper Strips
- Pineapple Cup
- Strawberry Cup
- 100% Juice Fruit Punch

### Wednesday
- 4 Chicken Corn Dog
- Oven Baked Fries
- Fresh Baby Carrots
- Cucumber Coins
- Applesauce
- Fresh Pear

### Thursday
- 5 Crispy Tacos
- Black Beans
- Fresh Banana
- 100% Juice Fruit Punch

### Friday
- 6 French Bread Pizza
- Garden Salad
- Applesauce
- Fresh Orange

### Weekly Alternate: Chef Salad with a Dinner Roll

### Weekly Alternate: Turkey and Cheese on a Bun

### Baked Chicken Tenders
- Whole Wheat Dinner Roll
- Fluffy Mashed Potatoes
- Diced Pear Cup
- Fresh Apple
- Veggie Burger

### Pasta & Meat Sauce
- Homemade Garlic Bread
- Fresh Baby Carrots
- Pineapple Cup
- 100% Juice Fruit Punch
- Strawberry Cup

### Fluffy Whole Grain Pancakes
- Syrup
- Crispy Pork Sausage Links
- Crispy Potato Puffs
- Fresh Pear
- Applesauce

### Nachos Grande
- Salsa
- Black Beans
- Fresh Banana
- 100% Juice Fruit Punch

### French Bread Pizza
- Garden Salad
- Applesauce
- Fresh Orange

### Holiday Joy
- Whitsons is hiring substitute food service workers. We are looking for dependable team players to work in the Shelton Public School kitchens. Please contact the food service office at 203-924-1055 for more information or apply at Whitsons.com

### Winter Recess

### Harvest of the Month
- Whitsons proudly supports local, sustainable agriculture! We use focus on using ingredients that are locally sourced, all-natural, organic and non-GMO whenever possible.

### Lunch Prices
- Full Price Lunch: $2.75
- Reduced Lunch: $0.40
- All lunches come with fruit, vegetable and milk selections.
- Milk variety includes skim, 1%, white milk and fat free chocolate.

### Alternates Available Daily
- Grilled Cheese- American Cheese melted between 2 slices of Whole Wheat Bread
- Chicken Nuggets- Whole grain breaded chicken nuggets
- Bagel Lunch- Whole wheat bagel, low fat yogurt with cheese stick
- Garden Salad Entree- Mixed Greens, tomatoes, cucumbers and low fat dressing w/ whole grain bread

We recognize consumers are reducing their meat intake and instead embracing more plant-based foods for their positive impact on the planet and our health. In response, we are expanding our menu offerings to include more plant-based, vegan and meatless options.
...from our Central Office
Pet Programs for Kids

Love pets? The Connecticut Humane Society offers interactive, educational programs about our furry best friends. These programs are perfect for classrooms, libraries, youth clubs and community organizations.

PACK: PETS AND CARING KIDS (GRADES K-2)

Learn about keeping different types of pets happy and healthy!

THE SAFETY PAWTROL (GRADE K-5)

Discover dog body language clues and how to safely approach and interact with dogs.

To schedule a class contact:
outreach@cthumane.org or 860-594-4502 ext. 6308.

Program Fee: $50

CHS is unable to bring live pets to programs

Both programs align with Common Core Standards
Preventing Dog Bites

Each year there are over 4.7 million dog bites reported in the United States. The good news is that with education dog bites are preventable! Read on to see how.

Dog Bite Facts:
- 50% of all dog bites are inflicted by the victim's family dog.
- Only 10% of bites occur from an unfamiliar dog.
- Children are the most commonly bitten age group, with ages 5-9 being the most at risk.
- Senior citizens are the second most commonly bitten group.

Why Dogs Bite:
There are a number of reasons a dog may bite, with the most common reason being fear. In a stressful, uncomfortable, or fear-provoking situation a dog may bite to defend itself or territory. Bites may also happen if a dog is protecting something of value to them such as food, their owner, or toys. Dogs who are sick or injured may also bite in an attempt to protect themselves or to be left alone.

Ways to Prevent Dog Bites:

Education: Learn how to read dog body language. Then teach your family and friends! (Flip over for a dog body language diagram you can share with them).

Socialization: Introduce your pets to people, places, and other animals when they are young. This will help your pet feel more comfortable in all types of situations and prevent bites. If your pet is older and wary of new things consult a trainer for guidance.

Safe Interaction: Learn how to properly greet an unfamiliar dog and pass this information on to your children. Read the tips below to get started.

Always ask the owner for permission before petting a dog.
Always allow the dog to sniff your hand before you pet them.
If the dog backs away from you, don’t follow them. Thank the owner and walk away.
Pet the dog gently on the side of their neck and back. Avoid reaching over the dog's head.
Body Language of Fear in Dogs

Slight Cowering

Major Cowering

More Subtle Signs of Fear & Anxiety

Licking Lips when no food nearby

Panting when not hot or thirsty

Brows Furrowed, Ears to Side

Moving in Slow Motion walking slow on floor

Acting Sleepy or Yawning when they shouldn't be tired

Hypervigilant looking in many directions

Suddenly Won't Eat but was hungry earlier

Moving Away

Pacing