



Sunnyside Scoop

Principal and PTO Newsletter
January 2018



Principal's Message...

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to wish our Sunnyside families a very healthy and prosperous new year. With every New Year, we reflect upon our previous accomplishments and set goals for the future year. The positive partnership that the school and families have is evident with our student and school success. By working together our students, your children, gain dual support to accomplish these goals both academically and personally. We are excited to see more outstanding progress in 2018. We will begin our winter assessments on January 4, 2018. This new data will be useful in setting new academic goals to meet the needs of our students. We appreciate the continued support.

Mrs. Amy Gost

JANUARY CALENDAR

- January 2nd - School back in session
- January 8th - CAS Leadership Conference for some STORM Students 8am
- January 11th - PBIS Shopping
- January 15th - No School - Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 17th - PTO Outback Restaurant Night Fundraiser *(tentative date)*
- January 22nd - PTO meeting 6:00 pm in the Media Center
- February 2nd - Spirit Day...Football Jersey Day ☺



WORD OF THE MONTH

The word of the month is **Respect**. Our students are working diligently to represent the meaning of this word in their work and daily interactions.

Respect

re:spect [ri-spekt]

noun

1. A particular, detail or point - *to differ in some respect*
2. Relation or reference - *inquiries with respect to a route*
3. Esteem for a sense of the worth or excellence of a person, a personal quality or ability -
I have great respect for her judgment.
4. Deference to a right, privilege, privileged position or someone or something considered to have certain rights or privileges; proper acceptance or courtesy - *to show respect for the flag*
5. The condition of being honored - *to be held in respect*

Verb

1. To hold in honor - *I can respect a loyal friend.*
2. To show regard or consideration for - *to respect a person's beliefs*
3. To refrain from intruding upon or interfering with - *to respect a person's privacy*



WORDMASTER'S CHALLENGE



Grade 3 Sunnyside School achieved Highest Honors in the recent **WordMasters Challenge™**—a national vocabulary competition involving nearly 150,000 students annually. The third grade team scored an impressive 187 points out of a possible 200 in the first of three meets this year, placing second in the nation.

Competing in the difficult Blue Division of the **WordMasters Challenge™**, third grader Kailey Hill earned a perfect score of 20 on the challenge. Nationally, only 14 third graders achieved this result. Other students from Sunnyside School who achieved outstanding results in the meet include third graders Jayden Davis, Christian Gonsalves, Violetta Kushta, Natalia Pagliaro and Max Parent. The students were coached in preparation for the **WordMasters Challenge™** by Kristen Festa and their classroom teachers.

The **WordMasters Challenge™** is an exercise in critical thinking that first encourages students to become familiar with a set of interesting new words (considerably harder than grade level), and then challenges them to use those words to complete analogies expressing various kinds of logical relationships. Working to solve the analogies helps students learn to think both analytically and metaphorically. Although most vocabulary enrichment and analogy-solving programs are designed for use by high school students, **WordMasters Challenge™** materials have been specifically created for younger students in grades three through eight. They are particularly well suited for children who are motivated by the challenge of learning new words and enjoy the logical puzzles posed by analogies.

So proud of our Sunnysiders!

CANCELLATIONS

During these winter months please remember the following:

- ✓ Listen/ watch for school cancellations and late openings each day—even when the weather seems fine.
- ✓ Tune into the following TV stations: Channel 3 (WFSB.com), Channel 8 (WTNH.com) and Channel 4 (WVIT.com). You may also check these stations' websites and click on school closings.
- ✓ District website: www.sheltonpublicschools.org
- ✓ Check the information on the back of the yearly calendar for arrival and dismissal times.
- ✓ School starts at 11:05am on a 2-hour delayed opening...the building opens at 10:50am. Please plan accordingly.
- ✓ If your phone number has changed, kindly call our main office to update your child(ren)'s record.



LUNCH PROGRAM

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 at www.sheltonpublicschools.org under District Info-School Lunch Program-Family Application 2017-2018. Please contact us at 203-924-1023, x309 with any questions.

NURSE OFFICE

When visiting the nurse to either pick-up a sick child or stopping in for another medical related issue, please stop by the main office first to sign-in. The nurse will then be contacted to ensure she is available and not attending to a student's medical needs. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

SPOTLIGHT ON UNIFIED ARTS

ART



Kindergarten and 1st grade have been working on our Multimedia units. Kindergarten created collages with self-portraits and winter scenes, and crayon rubbings with texture plates; 1st grade worked on collages with shapes, stamping, and texture. Coming up next, Kindergarten will begin three-dimensional artwork and 1st grade will learn about color families!

In 2nd grade, we have started to learn about new color families, warm and cool colors. Students have created cool color paintings inspired by Claude Monet, designing their own bridges for their paintings and applying the paint in an Impressionist way (short, quick brushstrokes)! 3rd grade has been working on completing our three-dimensional unit, creating beautiful pinch and coil pottery with clay, and paper sculptures. 4th grade has worked on wrapping up our painting projects, learning many new color vocabulary words and creating lovely monochromatic winter paintings. Both 3rd and 4th grade will begin working on drawing skills next!



2nd Grade Self-Portraits displayed in the hallway



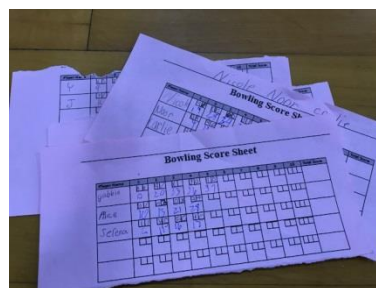
3rd Grade Pottery

LIBRARY

Sunnyside Elementary School has registered to do the Hour of Code. Code is the language used to program computers. Students will be practicing with unplugged activities first. Once they have this foundation, they will begin their exploration of programming. Grades K and 1 will experience courses which will lead them to understand computer coding fundamentals. Second, third, and fourth grade will be given choices for their Hour of Code. They will problem solve and persevere as they explore programs such as Lightbot, Tynker and Scratch. This year, one of the choices for code included creating their own Google logo. Collaborative projects included vocabulary slideshows with third grade. Students in fourth grade worked on recording their social studies research on the five regions of the United States. One fourth grade recorded using a green screen and the other fourth grade learned how to create their own videos using WeVideo. A third grade class is coming in to the Library Learning Commons to demonstrate their knowledge of the rock cycle using Stop Motion video. Students also continue to take out the Nutmeg Nominees for the Battle of the Books. If you are not able to check out a book from our library, the public library will have copies of the titles.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Welcome back and Happy New Year to everyone. Hope your holidays were healthy and enjoyable! In, physical education class, all grades are involved in a very extensive bowling unit which is a great family fun activity during these cold days of winter! We are lucky to be able to have 6 bowling lanes here in our gym, with kids working in small group settings. Also, we have "official" gym bowling balls with finger holes!! Students will be taught how to hold the ball and various strategies to knock the pins down. Everyone will also use their muscles to be the "bowling machines!" ball returners, pin sweepers, and pin "setter-uppers. By doing these jobs, the students will perform and cooperate with peers while having a fun and engaging learning experience. 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade Sunnysiders will also learn how to record official bowling scoring on bowling score sheets. And of course, rock n' roll will be blasting through "Sunnyside Bowling Alleys!"



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2018-19

Shelton Public Schools will begin Kindergarten registration for the coming 2018-19 school year. Feel free to pass this information onto neighbors, friends & family. A mailing is going out to all in-town day care providers, posted on the SPSS website under the "registration" tab & published in newspapers. New kindergarten parents will contact their "home" school to "sign up" for this registration opportunity.

Registration dates:

Thursday, February 8, 2018 & Friday, February 9, 2018
Monday, February 26, 2018 & Tuesday, February 27, 2018

CAS 18th ANNUAL ARTS FESTIVAL - RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to the following Sunnysiders for receiving the CAS Arts Award for Sunnyside School. These students have shown outstanding ability and passion in the area of art or music.

They will be honored at an Award Ceremony on
Tuesday, February 13, 2018 from 5-8pm at the Aqua Turf in Southington, CT.

We are so proud!

Maria Nguyen Gr.4 & Taj Smith Gr.4



PTO CORNER...

- 🐾 Thank you to all the parents that donated items and time to make our **holiday breakfast and shopping** a huge success.

1/17 - Outback Restaurant Night Fundraiser - (tentative date)

1/22 - PTO Meeting @ 6pm in the Media Center

- 🐾 We have done a great job with Shoparoo; remember to continue snapping pictures of all your shopping & grocery receipts through the app!
- 🐾 Thank you for using the smile.amazon website for your Amazon shopping. Sunnyside School receives 5% back from your purchases. Your support is greatly appreciated. Feel free to use this avenue throughout the year when purchasing through Amazon.

Direct link - <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-3588783>



Follow us on Facebook: Sunnyside Elementary School PTO

Website: www.Sunnysidepto.org

Email: Sunnyside.pto1@gmail.com

Tigers show their PRIDE!