



Sunnyside Scoop

Principal and PTO Newsletter
December 2018



Principal's Message...

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you all had a pleasant and relaxing Thanksgiving break. During this time of year, the days flying by. As we continue supporting student growth and achievement, our staff and I found it necessary to look at ways to encourage homework completion. In the past years, we have recognized homework completion monthly with a PBIS Golden Tickets for our end-of-the-year raffles. While this motivated some students, it did not seem to motivate the entire student body. Through our work with Growth Mindset, Tiger PRIDE and Habits of the Mind, our hope is to develop students that are self-motivated, responsible and persevering. Our teachers have been working diligently to differentiate homework to meet the individual needs of our students. Although some homework is computer-based, teachers have the means to provide hard copies of homework if needed. Many teachers have already surveyed their classrooms and made those accommodations. During our PBIS meeting in October, the team decided to trial a "3 strikes rule" which would influence participation in our monthly PBIS celebrations. We did see an increase in homework completion during the month of November with these new PBIS guidelines. In addition to students making positive choices 85% of the days in a month, they will also need to complete their homework monthly (allowed to miss 3).

For example, during the month of November, there were 19 school days; 5 of those days were Fridays, which homework is not typically assigned. Therefore, we are starting at 14 days in which homework would be assigned. Of those 14 days, a student has three "strikes" for not completing their homework, so a student would have to turn in homework 11 days or more in November to qualify for the PBIS celebration. Homework is expected to be completed nightly. These guidelines are in place if something unforeseen happens one night. To continue supporting your child, kindly check their homework planner nightly or feel free to reach out to their classroom teacher. If you have any further questions regarding our homework expectations, feel free to contact me.

As we approach this festive season, I would like to extend warm wishes and thanks to the Sunnyside School community. This is a wonderful time of year to recognize and appreciate our differences. These differences make our communities so rich with character. Each day I look forward to working with the students, families and staff of Sunnyside. I hope that during this holiday season, you are surrounded by family and friends.

Happy Holidays and best wishes for a prosperous New Year!

Mrs. Amy Gost

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- December 3rd & 4th - PBIS Bingo/ Extra Recess Celebration from November
- December 6th - PTO Holiday Fair
- December 7th - PTO Holiday Fair
- December 7th - Report Cards Distributed grades K-4
- December 7th - PTO Pizza with Santa 6-8pm
- December 20th - Winter Concert *Parents in grs 3- 4 @ 10:30am; Parents in grs K-2 @ 2:30.*

- December 21st - Pajama Day ☺
- December 21st - PBIS December Celebration - Movie
- December 21st - Early Dismissal Day @ 1:50 pm
- December 22nd- Jan 1st- Winter Recess No School - *Classes resume on Wed, Jan 2, 2019*



WORD OF THE MONTH

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

CHARITABLE:

[ˈtʃerɪdəb(ə)]

- 🐾 Charitable means freely giving money or help to needy persons.
- 🐾 Sunnysiders show they are charitable when they give to others who are less fortunate.



KINDLE FIRE RAFFLE



STORM students will sponsor a raffle for a **Kindle Fire**. This amazing tablet will allow your student to read books and browse the internet! This device may make nightly reading more exciting and will allow your child to access our online learning sites. Raffle tickets will be sold one for 75¢ or two for \$1.00.

The raffle will run **MON., DECEMBER 10TH THRU WED., DECEMBER 19TH**. Please send raffle ticket money to school in an envelope labeled Kindle Raffle, indicate your child's name and how many tickets you are buying. All funds collected will benefit the students of Sunnyside!

SPOONER HOUSE & ST. VINCENT de PAUL FOOD BANK

Now through December 14, the STORM team will be collecting donations for Spooner House and St. Vincent de Paul. These organizations provide food, shelter and support services to people in need. Over the next two weeks, we will be able to show we are **charitable** by helping others.

Items requested for Spooner House's Holiday Baskets

- Kindergarten- Packages of gravy or box/bag stuffing mix
- Grade 1- Box instant potatoes or pie crust mix
- Grade 2- Powdered juice mix, cans cranberry sauce, or cornbread mix
- Grade 3- Pie filling (your choice) or cans evaporated milk
- Grade 4 - Cans vegetables: asparagus, peas & carrots, canned yams
- Staff- Coffee/Tea



Mitten, Hat, and Scarf Drive

Please donate new mittens, gloves, hats and scarves to help keep everyone warm through the cold winter months. Donations will go to St. Vincent de Paul.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

COLD WEATHER



As we are getting into the winter months, please remember that students will go outside if the temperature is about 32 degrees. Please ensure that they are dressed warmly - coats, hats, mittens, scarves & warm shoes. We are finding students coming to school in sweatshirts and not prepared to go outside. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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.



SPOTLIGHT ON GRADE 4



The fourth graders at Sunnyside School have been hard at work using the Engineering Design Process to guide them as they develop their prototypes for the Connecticut Invention Convention. We have had fun in the Learning Commons with the Take-Apart and Garbage Spill STEM activities, which have allowed the students to further explore invention ideas. We look forward to seeing their creative designs, and watching them as they continue on to their presentations.

~Mrs. Everett & Mrs. Krauss

PTO CORNER...



Please join us on December 7th at 6:00 p.m. for our Pizza with Santa and Cookies with Mrs. Clause. Entry to this event is free, however pizza must be ordered in advance. All other food and beverages may be purchased a la carte during the event. Don't miss this fun event!

We will hold our annual Holiday Shop on 12/6 and 12/7 during school hours. Students will have the opportunity to purchase holiday gifts for family and friends. Please send your child into school with either cash or check if you would like them to shop during this event.

Thank you to all of our wonderful families who have supported the PTO this fall. Your efforts through membership, fundraising or volunteering have made a difference in the Sunnyside community, THANK YOU!

Join us for our next PTO meeting on 1/28/19 at 6:00 p.m.

Have a wonderful holiday season!
Sunnyside PTO

Follow PTO on Facebook: Sunnyside Elementary School PTO
Website: www.Sunnysidepto.org
Email: Sunnyside.pto1@gmail.com

Tigers show their PRIDE!

Wishing all of our Sunnyside Families a
PEACEFUL & JOYOUS holiday season.



Ways to support our school...

SHOPAROO

Help raise funds for Sunnyside School. Download the free Shoparoo app and start snapping your receipts. Snap pictures of your receipts through the app from any store, big or small, that primarily sell food, health or beauty items to earn Roo Points (cash donations) for your school. Whether you're shopping at a supercenter, dollar store, or local convenience store - it doesn't matter where you shop or what items you buy - Shoparoo will make a cash donation for every receipt!

SHOP...SNAP...EARN DONATIONS FOR Sunnyside School.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Box Tops for Education can be sent in to your classroom teachers anytime throughout the school year. Please submit them in an envelope whenever possible with your child's name, teacher's name and number of Box Tops written on the outside. The money we receive through this program will be used to purchase supplies for Sunnyside School. The more Box Tops we collect, the more educational supplies we can buy. The class that collects the most will **earn extra recess time!** Happy collecting!

SHOP & SHOP A+ Bonus Bucks

Please register your Stop & Shop card on the Stop & Shop website so that Sunnyside School will receive contributions from your grocery purchases. You will still earn your Gas Points.

- Directions:**
1. Go to Stop & Shop website: <http://www.stopandshop.com>.
 2. Click on the A+ in the upper right hand corner.
 3. When you get to the A+ page click on the Learn more button.
 4. Register your card by responding to the questions about the first 3 letters of your last name and your card number.
 5. Continue responding to the prompts until you have confirmed the registration. Please make sure that you select **Sunnyside Elementary School** as your school of choice. **School Code - 06217**

OR

Send in your 13-digit number, and the name the card is registered under, to the main office.



AMAZON SMILE

Sunnyside School is registered for **Smile Amazon**. It's another reward program where the school earns a percentage of your purchases when shopping with Amazon. All you need to do is sign into Amazon through www.smile.amazon and select Sunnyside Elementary School PTO. Once you select Sunnyside School, every time you shop through smile.amazon, it automatically recognizes that charitable organization. It's the same site as Amazon, and your Amazon Prime subscription works too! The upcoming holiday shopping season is the perfect time to raise money for our school! All proceed will help support our PBIS incentives.

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

TARGET

Help Sunnyside School earn extra funding by registering your REDcard under Sunnyside School. Parents may register online through the Target website. Target will donate up to 1% of your REDcard purchases at Target stores and at Target.com.