

Prescott Press

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Volume 9 Issue 3 Spring 2017



From our PTO President.....

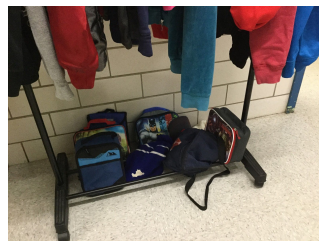
Happy Spring! Whale Day is May 30th! The New England Aquarium is will be transforming the gym into interactive exhibits in which the children will learn about whales and other marine animals. The gym will also be host to a life-sized inflatable right whale! Please consider volunteering. We are still in need of a few more parents to help out throughout the day. Our Cinco De Mayo Teacher Appreciation Luncheon was a huge success!! Thank you to all those parents who cooked, baked, brought food and drinks, and helped set up and clean up!! The Teachers felt very much appreciated. Family Fun Day and Color Fun Run is Sunday, June 11th! If you have not registered for the Color Run, please make sure to do so by Friday, May 19th. Unfortunately we will not be able to accept any late registrations. We are still looking for a President or Co-Presidents for next year. If interested please feel free to email me or Mrs. Killion.

Thank you,

Amy Pfingston



Don't forget the end of year box top drive in on! Collect and send into school by June 12th. The class with the most collected will win an extra recess and popsicle treat!



Lost and Found!

Upcoming events....

- May 11th Paw Sox Game for Most Improved Students
- May 12th Pops Night
- May 18th PTO 7pm
- May 19th Early Dismissal 12:30
- May 23rd Prescott Spring Concert 9:30
- May 24th All Town Elementary Concert 7pm
- May 30th Whale Day at Prescott
- May 31st 3rd Grade Recorder Concert
- June 1st 5th Grade Play Day
- June 11th Family Fun Day
- June 12th Battle of the Books
- June 15th Prescott Field Day
- June 20th Prescott Talent Show
- June 22nd Last Day of School, 12pm

Have a great summer!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

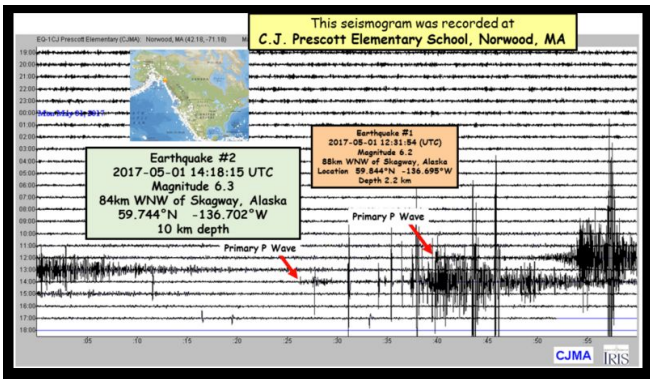
Dear Parents/Guardians,

This year has flown by, it is hard to believe it is May. We are in our 4th week of MCAS testing. The students have been taking their time and trying hard. We finish all testing by the end of May.



The PTO put on a wonderful luncheon for our staff for teacher appreciation week. The theme was Cinco de Mayo and the food was delicious. The decorations fit the theme and our art room looked very festive. Thanks to everyone who helped with the luncheon and the parents who were there to set up, clean up and supervise the students during lunch.

Due to a grant from the Blue Hill Bank Charitable Foundation we will have a resident seismologist come into school and teach lessons on seismology with our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. We have a seismograph in our building located in Mrs. Ficco's room that is back on line recording ground movement.



Teachers are receiving emails about earthquakes occurring around the world. As part of the program students will track earthquakes on maps in their classrooms. We sent home a list of things needed for the seismology lessons. If you can help out with any of these items it would be appreciated.

Summer Academy is the Norwood Public School summer school. It runs for 19 days and covers reading, math and science. Norwood teachers are the instructors. Sign up is going now, <http://www.norwood.k12.ma.us/curriculum/summer-academy.cfm>

If you are moving please let the office know. We are getting ready to place students in classes for next year!

School Nurses



From Donna Twohig

I'm hoping everyone has returned from spring vacation healthy, well and ready to finish out the year. The May sun is strong, please remember to apply sunblock to your child before they come to school each morning. Also, with the warmer weather all children should come to school with a water bottle; there is always water available from the water bubblers.

Reminder for 3rd Grade Parents: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires physical examinations performed by a physician or nurse practitioner for all students entering Grade 4. I have reviewed all of the third grade files and have sent a notice home if I need an updated copy of your child's most recent medical exam. If you have received a notice, please make sure that you schedule your child for an updated physical exam prior to the start of school in September. If your child has had a recent Physical Exam, please send a copy to the Health Office.

Happy Spring!!



From Mrs. Miller.....

Big Thank You! To Berit S. and the PTO for hosting a 2nd book fair this year. The students were excited and hopefully many bought some interesting books to read this summer. Thank you to everyone who helped out and who "donated" \$1 - the library received some great books that students have already borrowed.

Thanks to a grant written by Mrs. Killion, the library makerspace has some new tables and chairs. The students are finding them easy to work at and can stand or sit depending on the activity they are doing.

The Battle of the Books - program for 3-5th graders - has begun. Students formed their teams last week and hopefully have been reading, reading, reading. We have 11 teams this year. The actual battle will take place mid June. Exact date TBA.

Our annual "Book Swap" will take place in mid June. If students have books that they are done with, hold on to them! They can bring them in on the designated days in order to swap them for "new" books to read this summer. More info on this will be forthcoming.

Enrichment Update

by Maria Brewer
& Regina Sisk



In March the Prescott experienced an excellent presentation from the “Traveling Photographer” - Richard Sobol! He is an award-winning photographer and has written several books based on living things around the world. Mr. Sobol shared what a fun and

unique job he has in taking photos of little seen wildlife in their natural habitats. He is a champion for conservation and you could see his passion in his work. He explained how he works on each book as a project that can sometimes take years to become a book. His travels have taken him around the world and as close as Cape Cod!

Mr. Sobol’s program while sponsored partly by our PTO was also in part sponsored by a grant from the Norwood Cultural Council. The Norwood Cultural Council is a local agency funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.



In April the PTO brought us Prismatic Magic - Spring Jam! It was an exciting high-tech laser light show that had the students and faculty dancing and singing in their shoes! The show featured laser animations of Spring and was all set to the beat of popular music - trust us when we say our students knew many of the words and were singing along! It was a rewarding performance to help relieve the stress of testing and lots of school work!

News from First Grade...

Spring has sprung in first grade! For literacy, students have been working on a poetry unit. They have been reading and writing poetry. Students learned about sensory images. This is when they use their 5 senses to create an image in their mind. They use adjectives to describe things with their senses. Students also learned what an acrostic poem is as well! In May, we will start our unit on folktales and fairy tales! Be prepared to read some of the classics!

In Math, we are currently on Topic 12: Measurement. Students are learning how to measure objects with non-standard units (such as paper clips, etc.). This can be a fun activity to do at home: ask your child to measure things around the house with other objects. For example, how many forks long is the dining table? Have fun with it!

In science, students have been working on a plant unit! They practiced sorting seeds and cutting into a pepper to see how many seeds are inside. They planted sunflower seeds into peat pucks. We are caring for these in our classroom. Students will eventually take them home. You can transplant them outside and watch the sunflowers grow!

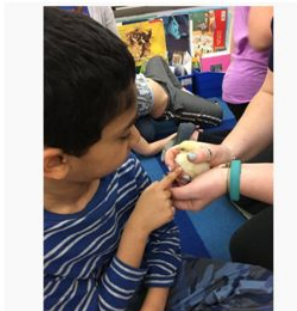
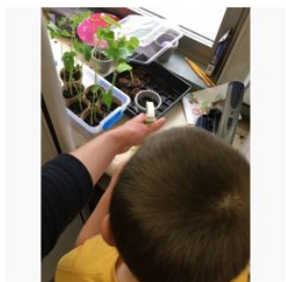
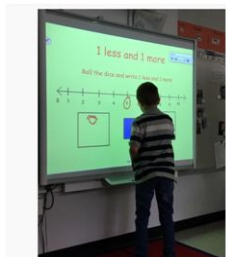
A couple things to be aware of that are coming up:

- First grade field trip: May 23rd. Permission slips and money are due next week!
- The Alphabet Countdown will be the last 26 days of school. Be on the lookout for more information!

News from PACS.....

We are all so happy to be having better weather! Recently we have been working on identifying opposites, telling time to the hour and prepositions. During our community helpers week, we had the pleasure of having a real chef come in and do a cooking lesson with us. All of our students have made amazing gains in their independence and their gross and fine motor skills.

Coming up we will be having the themes: fairy tales, patterns, animal projects and symbols of America. Our classroom plants have grown so much and we are all eager to go and plant them in our plot.



News from Second Grade

Second grade has been working hard all year! Our Patriotic Performance will be on Tuesday, May 16th. Our literacy units this year have focused on community, animal habitats, and biographies. We will be ending the year with a unit on extreme weather. The past month we have been focusing on biographies. The students have read biographies about George Washington Carver, Helen Keller, Ruby Bridges, and many others. We have also discussed realistic fiction. There have been wonderful conversations about equality. Learning about different genres and different comprehension strategies has been fun!

Our second grade mathematicians have worked hard this year. We have learned many strategies to help us add and subtract up to 3-digit numbers. Our current topic is focusing on measurement. The students are learning about estimating measurements, using different tools to help them measure, and different units of measurement. We are excited to still learn about fractions, shapes, and review what we have learned this year.

As scientists we have learned about predicting the weather, the water cycle, and plants. This week we have been introduced to our larvae (caterpillar) and are excited to watch them transform into beautiful butterflies.

Dates to Remember...

May 16th Patriotic Performance

June 13th 2nd Grade Field Trip to Franklin Park Zoo

June 22nd Last Day of School

News from Third Grade....

We are very proud of our third graders for their super effort on the MCAS 2.0 English Language Arts exam. The students worked hard this year to become strong readers and writers and persevered during the three days of testing to demonstrate the skills that they have developed. Third graders will soon be taking the Mathematics portion of the exam. Students will be very familiar with both the content and the format of the exam through all of their work throughout the year in our Envisions math program.

We recently completed our Geology unit in Science in which the students studied the causes and effects of earthquakes. This unit also focused on the engineering process as the students met with peers from all three classes to design an earthquake-resistant building during our “Shake Tables” lesson. The students had a lot of fun and were excited to see how their designs held up during the testing step of the process. Congratulations to _____, _____, and _____ who had the most earthquake resistant structure!

In Social Studies the students continue to learn about all of the events that led to the American Revolution. We had a visit from Colonial Trades during which the students each assumed the role of a colonist and practiced trading for goods and services with other colonists of various trades. We are all looking forward to an exciting culmination of this unit with our trip to the Boston Tea Party Museum and the Bunker Hill Monument! Thank you to all of those families who helped defray the cost of this trip by their support at our Third Grade Dance and the PTO bake sale at Bingo Night.

Dates to Remember:

Third Grade MCAS Mathematics Exam: Thursday, May 11, Tuesday May 16, 2017

Third Grade Field Trip: Monday, May 22

Thanks Homework Helper Kyle and Phil!



News from 5th Grade...

The fifth grade has completed both the ELA and Math Portions of the MCAS testing! We have a short break, and will begin the Science MCAS on Wednesday, May 17th and Thursday, May 18th. We have been reviewing and studying the last few weeks, and feel the kids are ready! We truly are so proud of ALL the students for all their hard work on the state assessments!

On, Monday, May 1st the 5th grade went on our field trip to Patriot's Place. The students began the day in the Press Box, overlooking the field, working on groups on their new NFL expansion teams! The groups had to come up with a team name and logo, draft their players while staying within the budget they were given, and come up with two features of their new stadiums! The kids had a blast with it. After, we had lunch at CBS Scene and then finished the day with the Patriots Hall of Fame! It was a great day for all!



Important Dates to Remember for 5th Grade!

- *May 17th and 18th - Science MCAS
- *Thursday, June 2nd - 5th Grade Play Date - Oldham School
- *Wednesday, June 14th - 5th Grade Musical
- *Friday, June 16th- Caperton Park
- *Tuesday, June 20th - 5th Grade STEP UP Day - CMS

Photo Gallery



Field Trip to Charolotte's Web.....



