



Peacham Elementary School

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Friday Notes

Dear Peacham School Families,

Friday, December 13, 2019

Upcoming Events

12/17/19 PTF Meeting 5:30 pm
12/23/19 - 1/1/20 NO SCHOOL

Mobile Planetarium

As the holiday season is upon us, families prepare to gather together. These gatherings can be so memorable because stories of the past and present are shared amongst family members. The students at Peacham School experienced the art of storytelling right before Thanksgiving break. Thanks to the generous grant provided by the Parent Teacher and Friends group, Peacham students were told stories of the night sky when the mobile-planetarium from the Fairbanks Museum visited on November 26th. The 4th-6th grade classes listened to stories about Greek myths and legends that are illustrated by the various star patterns in our sky. They learned that there are three kinds of Greek myths: explanation myths based on the stars, constellation myths, and story myths that use our skies constellations to retell a story. The lower grades, preschool to 3rd grade, listened to stories from a smattering of Indian nations, including our local Abenaki tribes. Through these stories the students were able to experience cultural stories around harvesting, competitions, and how important it is to obey your "elders". The seven dancing children in the night sky, learned that lesson! After the presentations, the buzz and chatter amongst the students in the school was enthusiastic. What a great way to begin time with family and friends by experiencing the art of storytelling and opening the door for more exploration of the night sky and classic myths. Thank you PTF!
~Andrea McLaughlin

We enjoyed a productive week of learning. During the half day on Wednesday, most of our staff participated in a CPR, First Aid, and Emergency Response training geared towards rural areas and lead by our fabulous neighbor, Andrea Kane.

Home & School Connection

Please find the December edition of the Home & School Connection newsletter in Friday Folders today. This month's letter has some great tips and ideas for the upcoming December break, enjoy!

Report Cards

First trimester report cards went home last Friday. As we typically do, we have received several calls and emails from families with questions. We continue to work on having consistent and clear communication about what report cards reflect; however, there is always room for us to improve. Peacham School uses a standards based grading system that is linked to the Common Core standards which are end of the school year expectations. That being said, it is common and perfectly fine for students to receive 2s on their report cards during the first trimester. We would not expect students to already be meeting every end of the year grade-level expectation. Report cards reflect where students are at on the continuum of their learning. I hope you will all continue to ask your child's teachers questions about their progress or for help understanding their scores; that is what we are here for! Thank you for being partners in your child's education.

I hope you all enjoy the weekend with your families,
~Ashley

Mission Statement: *The Peacham Elementary School is a community of learners and teachers dedicated to developing the ability of each individual to think and communicate clearly, to explore the world, to make responsible decisions, and to have concern for the common good.*

