

John Eliot School Bulletin

December 20, 2019

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Principal's News:

SPOTLIGHT ON FIRST GRADE

First grade has enjoyed reading many different versions of the Gingerbread Man! Students read the traditional version first and talked about the story elements. Teachers shared different fractured versions of the classic fairytale. A fractured fairytale changes at least one element of the story (character, setting, problem, solution, or perspective). Ask your child which version was their favorite!

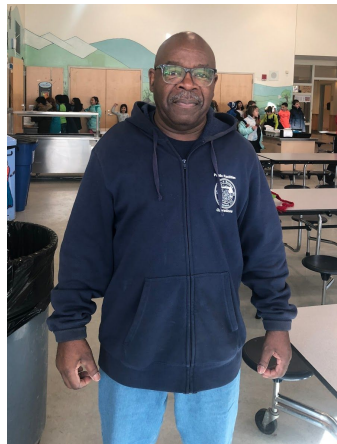
VACATIONS

The Needham Public Schools discourages families from taking unauthorized school vacations. School policy dictates that teachers will not provide children with work before they leave for a vacation while school is in session. There is good reason for this. To do so trivializes teaching and what goes on in each classroom. Concepts are presented to students and homework is based on what is taught in class. Teachers cannot predict in advance where students will be in the learning process. When your child returns to school, the work missed will be given to your child. Together, you and your child can complete it. If you must travel, your children should continue to read daily and write in a travel journal. Thank you for understanding.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

As we near the midpoint of the school year, I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge all of the people that make Eliot a special place for students. I want to thank the office staff who take care of everyone, Mrs. Rains, Mrs. Carney, Mrs. Carroll and Mrs. Sanville; the custodial staff who take such good care of our

building, Mr. Foster, Mr. Lake and Mr. Pena; the cafeteria staff who keep us well fed, Mrs. Grace and Mrs. Bravin; Mrs. Bickford who keep our kids healthy; a special thank you to Eliot's Assistant Principal and Special Education Coordinator, Mona Maas and all of the homeroom teachers, special area teachers, guidance, coaches, and teaching assistants who spend their days caring for and teaching our children; and all of the Eliot families that partner with us to educate and care for their children. May we celebrate our successes in the holiday spirit of peace and love.



TO OUR WONDERFUL PTC
THANK YOU FOR TREATING US THIS
MORNING TO A DELICIOUS BREAKFAST!
THE ELIOT STAFF

Eliot School Winter Concerts

Our annual winter concerts for students, teachers and staff was held on December 17

In the morning we were entertained with an instrumental performance and in the afternoon with a choral concert. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, the evening concert scheduled for Eliot families was cancelled.

Thank you to: Eliot's music teacher, band and chorus director, Mr. Vallatini, beginning strings director, Mr. Smith, string orchestra director, Ms. Casados, strings accompanist, Linda Aiken and chorus and strings accompanist, Zhanna Berezina, and to our talented musicians for entertaining us.

Instrumental concert photos, by S. Rains



Thank you Eliot Families for all of your generous "Holiday Helping Hands" gift cards!

Your thoughtful gifts will go a long way towards making the holidays merry and bright for many Eliot families. Happy Holidays and all of the best in 2020

- The Eliot Guidance Team

NEEDHAM HAPPENINGS

Parent Talk

8th Annual Summer Camp Fair Jan 23rd 6:30-8:30pm at Rosemary Recreation Complex

contact: campfair@parenttalk.org

website link: <https://parenttalk.org/>

Needham Public Library Events from December 21-31

Family Activity

Saturday, December 21st 10:00 AM

All Ages

Families with siblings of all ages are welcome to come create a folded paper icicle craft project together to take home. All materials provided.

Holiday Closings

The Needham Free Public Library will close at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, December 24th. The library will be closed on December 25th and will reopen for regular hours on Thursday, December 26th. The library will close at 5:30 PM on December 31.

Free Movie Showing

Toy Story 4, Friday, December 27th 2:00 PM

PG 100 min.

Woody and the gang find out the world can be a large place for a toy when they go on a road trip with Bonnie and a new toy named Forky. A slight detour reunites Woody with an old friend - Bo Peep.

Free New Years Needham Events at Library

Tuesday, December 31 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

New Years Needham events at the Needham Free Public Library are sponsored by the Trustees of the Library and are free to attend. No button is required at the library location only. All other locations require the purchase of a button. Events at the library include:

Vamessa Trien and the Jumping Monkeys song and dance party at 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Storyteller Diane Edgecomb at 12:30 PM and 1:30 PM

Scott Jameson Magic Show at 2:45 PM and 4:00 PM

Come out and have a **holiday skate with the NHS Boys Varsity Hockey team** - Saturday, 12/28 from 11-12 pm at Babson - \$5 per skater and rental avail. at additional cost. Meet the team and have fun skating on the Rocket's home ice!

	IMPORTANT DATES	
12/23/20 - 1/1/20	WINTER RECESS	
1/2/2020	School Resumes after winter recess	HAPPY NEW YEAR
1/15/2020	Early Release Day, dismissal at 12:15 p.m.	
1/20/2020	Martin Luther King, Jr. HOLIDAY	NO SCHOOL
1/29/2020	Early Release Day, dismissal at 12:15 p.m	



See you next year.....on 1/2/2020!