



John Eliot School Bulletin

February 28, 2020

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Principal's News

SPOTLIGHT ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The students have started our highly anticipated educational gymnastics unit. This is one of the most popular units of the year. The core concepts of the unit are balance, jumping/landing, rolling in various directions and feet to hand weight transfers. Our educational gymnastics unit allows all students to participate at their just right level. For example, when we get to transferring weight from our feet to our hands, we might see some students working on basic skills like putting their hands on the floor lifting their feet and having them land in the same spot, while others are trying to explore how we can have our feet come down in a new spot. Each student is showing their understanding of the same concept. For the culminating project at the end of the unit, students will put together a sequence of skills, called a "sentence".

The progress report card in 1st, 3rd and 5th grade will feature a gymnastics skill check. . First graders will be asked complete a forward roll on a flat mat using proper form, 3rd graders will demonstrate their understanding of how to transfer weight from our feet to our hands then back to our feet (ex: donkey kicks, cartwheels, springboard, roundoffs, on/off and over equipment) and finally 5th grade students will create a scored gymnastics sequence featuring various skill requirements.

Stay up to date with the Physical Education Classroom on Twitter: @elioteaglespe

Upcoming PE Events:

3rd Grade Bike Rodeo: May 11th (rain date May 18th)
K-5 Field Day: June 8th (rain date June 15th)



Eliot News

Eliot vs. Hillside ('Hoops in the Heights') basketball game



Dear Eliot Families – The annual 'Hoops in the Heights' basketball game is coming on Friday, March 13th at 6:00 PM at Needham HS. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Plenty of pizza and snacks will be available, so come ready to eat and raise money for the Eliot PTC!

Here are the 2 different ways for Eliot folks to engage with this PTC fundraiser:

1. Purchase tickets to the game for \$4.25/ticket at the link below. Tickets sold at the door are \$5/ticket on game night.

<https://sunita-williams-ptc.ticketleap.com/hoops-in-the-heights-20202/>

2) Volunteer to help at the concession & souvenir stands.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c4cacad22a5fa7-8thannual>

For any questions regarding this event, please contact Josh Goldfine at j.goldfine@comcast.net

Eliot's PTC School Directory (formerly called "The Red Book" now available on-line:

A message from our PTC:

We have decided that printing hard copies of the directory for every family is not the best use of PTC funds, or environmentally friendly. With Membership Toolkit you can now log-in to the website and/or download the app to get all the information you need. Please click below to find links to Membership Toolkit and a printable version of the directory on our website.

<https://www.johneliotptc.org/school-directory.html>

YEARBOOK ORDER FORM - Check your child's backpack today!

- Step 1:** Visit <http://www.memorybook.com/online-pay/parent-pay/>
- Step 2:** Enter your school code **096654** then click "Go to your school account log in"
- Step 3:** Click on the link below your school name
- Step 4:** Login if returning or register as a "new user"
- Step 5:** Buy a yearbook for **\$20**

An announcement from Mary Lammi

Assistant Superintendent for Student Support Services

An interview process for the position of Executive Director of Special Education will be held in March and will include a Parent/Guardian Forum on March 18th at 9:30 at the School Administration Building.

From Eliot's School Nurse: *Kerry Bickford BSN, RN*

A reminder to Eliot families of the following guidelines for when to keep children home from school:

Your child must stay home from school when he/she is experiencing:

A diagnosis of a communicable disease

Fever greater than 100°F within the last 24 hours off of fever reducing medication

If diagnosed with a strep and/or bacterial infection, a student should stay home until a full 24 hours of antibiotic treatment has been completed

Vomiting/diarrhea within the last 24 hours; students should be able to consume and tolerate their "typical" diet before returning to school

Acute pain that requires relief by narcotic medications

An upper respiratory illness with persistent coughing and/or unmanageable nasal discharge

An undiagnosed rash

Introduction to High Rock School

Rising Sixth Grade Parent/Guardian Evenings

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 6:30 pm

High Rock School Gymnasium

Hosted by Jessica Downey, Principal of High Rock School

This parent/guardian orientation meeting is for any 5th grade parent/guardian whose child will be attending High Rock School in the fall of 2020. This program will give a broad overview of the High Rock School program including:

- the cluster model
- a typical day in 6th grade
- methods of communication
- course selection process
- transition process

Introduction to METCO Middle School Programming

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 7:30 pm following larger presentation

High Rock School Library

Hosted by Joanne Allen-Willoughby, Director of METCO,

and Leslie Smart, Associate Director of METCO.

This parent/guardian orientation meeting is for any 5th grade METCO parent/guardian whose child will be attending High Rock School in the fall of 2020.

Introduction to Special Education at High Rock School

Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 6:30 pm

High Rock School Gymnasium

Hosted by Judith Murphy, Grade 6 Special Education Coordinator

This informational session is for parents/guardians of students who receive special education services and will be attending High Rock in the fall of 2020. This program will be in the High Rock Library/Media Center and will give a broad overview of the special education program including:

- what is a learning center
- how services are delivered
- a typical day for a special education student
- support services and personnel
- method of communication

***All parents/guardians of current 5th grade special education students are strongly encouraged to attend both the March 3 and March 10 introductory sessions.**

Ms. Kozin's Therapy Dog visits Eliot

On Valentine's Day, Grade 4 teacher, Ms. Kozin, treated her class with a visit from Baylee her therapy dog.

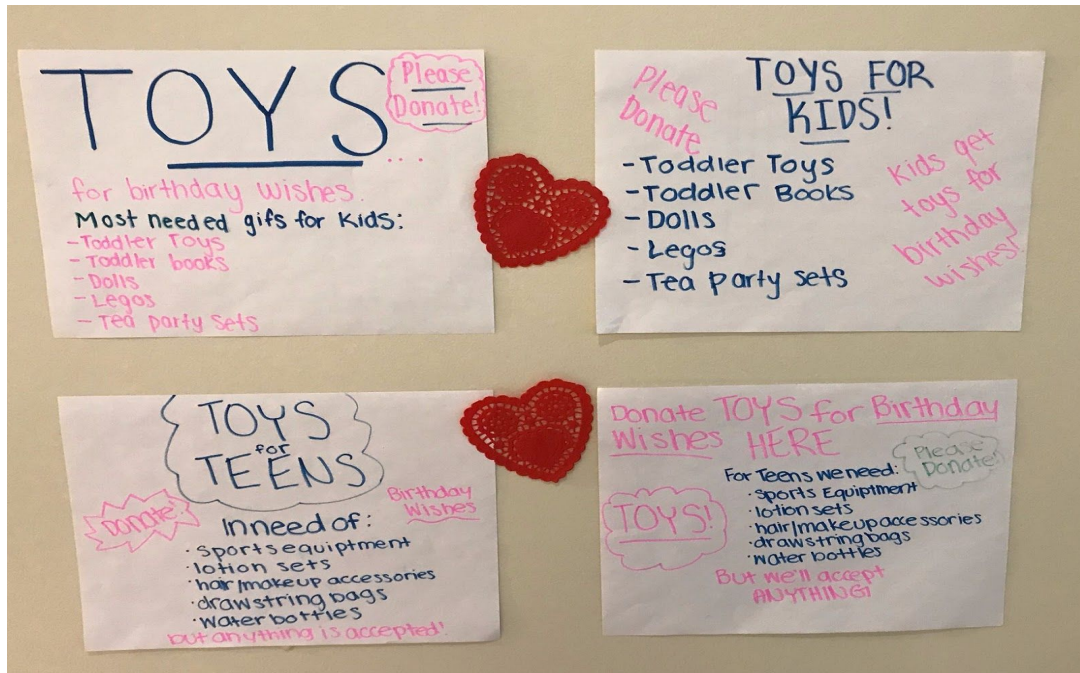
She said that the kids loved reading out loud to him to boost their oral reading fluency and confidence!

Photos by Clay Marsh



Birthday Wishes Fundraiser

Please see the donation
box in the school lobby.



Grants In Action

NEF Funds 10 Winter Grants Totaling \$34,296

February 27, 2020

At the Needham School Committee on Tuesday, the Needham Education Foundation (NEF) announced the recipients of 10 grants totaling \$34,296 in the winter grant cycle. A large grant will allow 35 middle and high school teachers to participate in a three-day Project-Based Learning (PBL) workshop, where they will design a project to implement in their own classroom and learn skills and strategies to design and implement additional PBL activities in the future. PBL is at the forefront of educational methods that teaches many of the skills linked to the district's recently-developed Portrait of a Needham Graduate competencies.

Awarded grants also include:

- Charles Coe, an African-American professional poet, author, and teacher, will spend a week helping 7th grade students use poetry as a lens for their own life experiences, and teaching them the importance of creative expression.
- Mitchell students in grades 1 through 5 will benefit from visually-based math puzzles that support a deeper understanding of concepts for all students, including ELL and other high-needs learners.
- ImprovBoston will bring their program "Lessons of Improv: The 4 Cs (Communication, Collaboration, Creativity and Critical Thinking)" to Pollard, allowing 7th grade students to take the stage alongside the cast in an environment of supported risk-taking.
- To promote enhanced concentration through body stimulation, Balance Ball Chairs will be added to 7th and 8th grade Language-based special education classrooms.

- Master Lego Model Builder Ian Coffrey will introduce Kindergarten students at Broadmeadow to the basics of design, planning, and project management to create large structural towers using mobile Lego makerspace kits.
- Logitech Crayons will be available to High Rock students as a tool for art and technology integration in all curriculum areas, expanding the ways they can learn and create, and providing accessibility to students who experience physical or sensory barriers to traditional art learning.
- Six creative calming stations with puzzles, project kits, and games will be installed throughout Broadmeadow for children needing a break from class due to stress or the need for self-regulation. The selected materials are creative, meditative, or cooperative, and will bring about a sense of accomplishment and self-efficacy when completed by a student.
- One High Rock teacher, a member of the school's Equity Steering Committee, will participate in Cornell's four-course online Diversity and Inclusion Certificate Program, which will provide training to support more inclusive practices to benefit both students and staff at the school.
- An accessible three-wheeled bike will be available for students for whom a two-wheeled bike either is not safe or inaccessible in order to participate in the third grade "bike rodeo" at all five elementary schools.

Needham Happenings

Shrek The Musical

Needham High School is proud to present "**Shrek The Musical**". Performances on March 13 & 14 at 7:00 p.m. and March 15 at 2:00 p.m. at the Newman Elementary School auditorium. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and may be purchased on myschoolbucks.com or by contacting Betsey Pratt at betsey_pratt@needham.k12.ma.us to request a ticket order form.

Family Fun Morning at Carter Nursery School

On Saturday, March 7, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m

Carter Nursery School Family Fun Morning on Saturday, March 7, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at 800 Highland Avenue, Needham, featuring music with Thomas Meunier, Face Painting and Balloon Animals with Miss Natali and Arts & Crafts. Tickets at door are \$10/child with a \$30 max/family. For more information, www.carternurseryschool.com.

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NEEDHAM COMMUNITY FARM

Registration has begun for the farm's upcoming **family gardening classes**. Visit the site (<https://www.needhamfarm.org/>) to register.

Looking for volunteer opportunities with your kids - Sign up for a shift to help out on the farm!

The Needham Community Farm is dedicated to providing educational opportunities and growing fresh produce for those in need.

Plugged In Band Program

Plugged In Band Program spring session rock band classes for kids ages 8-18 of all skill levels begins on February 24. Registration for private lessons is ongoing. For more information, please call 781-444-1879 or visit www.pluggedinband.org.

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Needham Free Public Library - March Events

Read to Tucker the Dog - From 3:30-5:00 PM on Tuesdays, March 3, 17 & 31

Read to Ozzy the Dog - From 2:30-4:00 PM, Saturday, March 14th

Children in Grades 1-5 are invited to sign up for a 15 minute time slot to practice their reading skills by reading aloud to a hypoallergenic trained therapy dog.

To sign up, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204

Crazy 8's Math Club - Wednesdays March 4-April 15th

Children will build stuff, make music and make a mess in this fun, no-stress, hands-on math club. Children in Grades K-2 will meet at 3:30 PM. Children in Grades 3-5 will meet at 4:15 PM. Registration is required and is for attendance at all sessions. To register visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

PJ Storytime with Kappa Kappa Gamma - Thursday, March 5th 6:00 PM

Children in Grades K-2 are invited to come to the library in their pajamas sporting their favorite stuffed animal for a PJ storytime. Storytime will consist of books, activities and a craft presented by the women of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Society of Babson College.

Performer Jackson Gillman - Songs and Stories for a Small Planet - Tuesday, March 10th, 4:00 PM

Jackson Gillman, Stand Up Chameleon, combines comedy with original songs and stories in an entertaining performance about planet Earth. Jackson has performed at the National Storytelling Festival and has been a Teller-in-Residence at the International Storytelling Center. He has been featured in festivals around the country and has performed on the radio on Mass Mouth's Big Mouth Off Finale. Drop in to see this amazing performer.

Family Activity Morning - Saturday, March 14th, 10:00 AM

Families with siblings of all ages are welcome to celebrate spring. Come decorate a flower pot and plant a sunflower.

After School Activity - Thursday, March 19th, 3:30 PM

Children ages 6 years and up can drop in to imagine and create combining LEGO's with the Library's collection of Play Mobiles. Adults are welcome to take photos of their child's creations.

Free Movie Showing - Arctic Dogs, Rated PG, 1.5 hrs - Friday, March 20th 3:30 PM

Drop in to see this animated movie in which Swifty the Arctic Fox longs to become one of the Arctic's star husky couriers. To prove he can do it, he commandeers one of the sleds and delivers a mysterious package to a secret location. Once there, he stumbles on a hidden fortress commanded by an evil genius.

Bookventurer's Book Club - Saturday, March 21st, 3:00 PM

Children in Grades 3-5 read the book then come together to discuss it while enjoying related activities and a snack. This month's book is *Fuzzy* by Angleberger and Dellinger. What would it be like to go to a school where your best friend is a robot? Maxine befriends Fuzzy, a bot in the new Robot Integration Program. She teaches him everything she knows about surviving Middle School. But it becomes a true matter of life and death when a digital student evaluation system takes shaping the perfect student to extremes. Copies available at the Children's Desk. Registration required. To register, visit the Children's Desk or call 781-455-7559 x 204.

IMPORTANT DATES

	MARCH	
3/3/2020	Eliot School Council Meeting @ 3 p.m.	Principal's conference room
3/4/2020	Early Release Day, dismissal at 12:15 p.m.	
3/13/2020	Pep Rally - Hoops in the Heights	Performance Center 2 p.m.
3/13/2020	Hoops in the Heights Basketball Game	NHS - GYM - 6-8 p.m.
3/15/2020	NEF Spelling Bee	NHS Cafeteria @ 3 p.m.
3/18/2020	Early Release Day, dismissal at 12:15 p.m.	
	APRIL	
4/1/2020	Early Release Day, dismissal at 12:15 p.m.	
4/10/2020	Good Friday - No School	
4/14/2020	Eliot School Council Meeting @ 3 p.m.	Principal's conference room
4/20-4/24	April Recess	
4/27/2020	School Resumes after April Recess	
	MAY	
5/6/2020	Early Release Day, dismissal at 12:15 p.m.	
5/20/2020	Early Release Day, dismissal at 12:15 p.m.	
5/25/2020	Memorial Day - No School	

	JUNE	
6/3/2020	Early Release Day, dismissal at 12:15 p.m.	
6/3/2020	Annual School Picnic Art Show in lobby	Playground
6/4/2020	Spring Concert for Families Art Show in lobby	Performance Center 8:45 a.m.
6/7/2020	Needham High School Graduation	
6/19/2020	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL with one snow day Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.	

MCAS DATES

Grade 3 -	April 6	Monday	ELA session 1
	April 7	Tuesday	ELA session 2
	May 7	Thurs	Math session 1
	May 8	Fri	Math session 2
Grade 4 -	April 14	Tuesday	ELA session 1
	April 16	Thursday	ELA session 2 (Rescheduled from April 15)
	May 12	Tuesday	Math session 1
	May 13	Wed	Math session 2
Grade 5-	April 2	Thursday	ELA session 1
	April 3	Friday	ELA session 2
	April 28	Tuesday	Math session 1
	April 29	Wed	Math session 2
	May 18	Monday	Science/ Tech/ Engineering session 1
	May 19	Tuesday	Science/ Tech/ Engineering session 2



See you next week.