

JOHN ELIOT SCHOOL

February 1, 2019



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Principal, Karen Bourn

Assistant Principal, Mona Maas

Eliot fosters a love of learning in a community where everybody matters.

School Bulletin #18 - 2018-2019

web page: <http://eliot.needham.k12.ma.us>

Editor, Susan Rains

DATE	FEBRUARY 2019	TIME & LOCATION
2/1/2019	OPTIONAL -NE PATS SPIRIT DAY	GO PATS!
2/11/19	KINDNESS WEEK BEGINS	
2/11/2019	Progress Reports Distributed	Grades K-5
2/12/2019	EARLY RELEASE DAY NO P.M. KINDERGARTEN & NO P.M. KASE	DISMISSAL AT 12:15 P.M.
2/14/2019	ELIOT HEARTS DISTRIBUTED throughout Needham	VALENTINE's DAY
2/18-2/22	FEBRUARY RECESS	ENJOY
2/25/2019	SCHOOL RESUMES	DOORS OPEN - 8:05 A.M.
2/27/2019	GR 4 & GR 5 Spelling BEE	Perf Center @ 6:30 p.m.
2/28/2019	DEADLINE for PJ & new book Collection	Collection box in lobby
3/1/2019	OPTIONAL - WEAR PJ'S TO SCHOOL Changed from 2/1/19	PJ DAY

From our Principal, Mrs. Bourn

MRS MAXWELL AND MRS SULLIVAN'S ADVENTURES IN CHINA

Earlier this month, Eliot school was fortunate to send two of our very talented staff, Betsy Maxwell, Grade 2 teacher and Melanie Sullivan, Literacy Specialist, to teach a group of educators in Daxing, China. The Chinese educators had signed up for professional development to learn about best teaching practices in American culture. They were responsible for teaching their students in grades 1-12 how to read, write and speak in English. Here are some interesting takeaways from that experience.

1. Instruction is mostly teacher driven but they are adapting to a more collaborative and interactive model of instruction.
2. Teachers were very interested in American culture with specific questions about different religions and cultural events like Groundhog Day and the arrival of a tooth fairy.
3. A typical class size is between 35 and 45 students and school is about 9 hours long in primary school and gets longer as they progress through the grades.
4. The people were welcoming, curious about American culture and overall joyous and playful, especially the adults.
5. The city was beautiful, and even more modern than a typical American city. Your mobile device is used to pay the tab at most restaurants with a QR code on the table. (no tipping allowed!)
6. Children are treated with the utmost respect. Shopping malls dedicate an entire floor to children's activities.
7. Napping is encouraged when you are tired, including during academic times!
8. It was a trip of a lifetime and our teachers learned more than they expected. It exceeded all of their expectations.

We are so happy to continue this relationship with our sister schools in Daxing and are thankful to Boston Ivy and the Needham schools for this amazing experience.



From our Principal, Mrs. Bourn, continued..

TRIP TO CHINA FOR NEEDHAM FAMILIES

Just a reminder that there will be an informational meeting for families interested in participating in this opportunity on February 5, 2019 at 7pm in the High Rock Media Center. You can indicate your interest and/or commitment to participating in the exchange by completing this simple form: [China Exchange Interest 2019](#)

In the [2019 April Info Letter](#) to find detailed information about the upcoming trip for this year's experience. This is a collaboration with [Boston Ivy Global](#) to provide an amazing opportunity for families and students to travel to Daxing, China over April break. This opportunity is available for Needham students and families in grades 4 - 12.

This year, Eliot Principal, Karen Bourn and High Rock Principal, Jessica Downey will be traveling alongside Needham families on this adventure.

For questions, please contact Jessica Downey, Principal of High Rock School jessica_downey@needham.k12.ma.us OR Boston Ivy Global at info@bostonivyeducation.com

SPOTLIGHT ON TECHNOLOGY

At Eliot School, we're ringing in the New Year with lots great technology projects that give students voice and demonstrate their learning.

The KASE classroom recently received six new iPads. We utilized green screen technology to create videos of students frolicing inside snowy [Snow Globes](#). KASE students are also learning about Arctic Animals. They used Rocket Paint and Chatterpix on the iPad to draw and record some facts about an Arctic animal to , show what they have learned. You can see [Emerson's Arctic Fox here](#).

In first grade, Mrs. Sullivan's class is learning about the Chinese New Year. Gung Hoy Fat Choy! They are in the process of creating a podcast and audiobook about the Chinese New Year. Be sure to check the [technology student projects website](#) to see their finished masterpieces.

In Spanish, third graders are learning body parts. Using Scratch, an online coding website, they programed a snow person to say his/her body parts when clicked. Take a look at [Hombre de Nieve](#) and test your Spanish vocabulary!

All of Eliot is gearing up for our Kindness Project. Mr. Kerr's fourth graders produced kindness [video skits](#), that they will present at our school assembly next week. These original skits show students including everyone, helping others, and being kind. Meanwhile, Ms. Delaney's fourth graders are taking candid photos of Eliot students caught in the act of being kind. They will create a slideshow of all these random acts and share it with the Eliot community at the assembly.

Finally, Fifth graders reviewed and discussed Digital Citizenship. Activities focused on considering their digital footprint, being kind online and protecting their privacy.

We hope you enjoyed viewing the students' work and encourage you take a minute to share some feedback with the students [HERE](#). Let our students know that their "voice" is being heard by an authentic audience.

ELIOT SCHOOL NEWS (ESN)



January 31, 2019 - Second Edition

An Interview with Mrs. Mullin, Eliot School Librarian

Reported by: Eliot Third Grade Students: Lily Charbonnier, Lyndsey Goldfine, Madeleine Rowe, Regan Shavor and Patrick Tracy - Editor: Mrs. Rains



Q: Did you like to read when you were a kid? If so, what was your favorite book when you were in elementary school?

A: Yes, I loved to read. My favorite books were the ones in The Little House on the Prairie series, by Laura Ingalls Wilder.

Q: Did you always know that you wanted to be a librarian?

A: No, I didn't particularly know what I wanted to do. It wasn't until I volunteered at the public library in a literacy program helping adults learn to read, that I decided I wanted to be a teacher. After my student teaching at Needham High School I took a job in the library there, and then I realized I had found the job that I loved.

Q: How many chapter books do you read in a school year and do you like fiction better than non-fiction?

A: I read lots of books in the school year, many picture books. But I read about one chapter book a week. I like non-fiction, but my favorite type of book is fiction.

Q: What is your favorite thing about your job?

A: Working with students. I love to see when they get excited about a book. The best part for me is helping a student find the right book at the right time.

Q: How do you know what books the students in all grades would like?

A: I read book review journals and meet with other librarians to discuss books. Also, I read the suggestions that students leave in the library suggestion box in the library.

Q: How many books are in the Eliot library and where did they come from?

A: We have approximately 19,000 books. They come from money that the town gives us from the annual budget (like an allowance) and from the "birthday" book donations.

Q: What do you do with the old books and the unpopular books?

A: When books don't get borrowed very often, I offer them to teachers for their classroom libraries. Anything not taken by a teacher gets donated to organizations in need of books. Some books that are old and in poor condition, or out of date, get recycled.

Q: What is the most popular book in the school library?

A: The graphic novels are very popular. But the most popular book is the Guinness Book of World Records.

Q: Is there a map of the library?

A: This year students have been helping me put one together so that books can be found more easily.

Q: Why is there a huge quilt covered with handprints hanging in the library?

A: The quilt is there to mark a moment in history and as a beautiful decoration for the library wall. It was created by Eliot parent volunteers. It represents all the students and staff at the Eliot when the new Eliot School building opened in February of 2004.

Q: Would you like to write a children's book, if so, what would the topic be?

A: Yes, I'd like to write a book. I think it would be about someone who had an adventure because they read a book.

FAVORITE BOOKS OF THE REPORTERS (pictured with Mrs. Mullin, on right)

Lily Charbonnier, [The Lost Stone](#), from the Kingdom of Wrenley series, by Jordan Quinn

Lindsey Goldfine, [Jenna's Dilemma](#), from the Camp Confidential series, by Melissa J. Morgan

Madeleine Rowe, [Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix](#), from the Harry Potter series, by J. K. Rowling

Regan Shavor, [Puppy Love](#), from the Dork Diaries series, by Rachel Renee Russell

Patrick Tracy, [Dog Man Unleashed](#), from the Dog Man series, by Dav Pilkey



Student Council is sponsoring Eliot School's

Pajama Program & Pajama Day!



Have you ever been snuggled up nice and warm in your PJ's with a book to read at bedtime? Many of us are fortunate enough to have books and a pair of warm pajamas to get us through the chilly winter months. Some children however, are not so lucky. They don't have nice warm pajamas to wear to bed and they do not have books to read at bedtime.

Many children across the United States are in need of new pajamas to keep them warm during our cold winter and books to read at home. Student Council is sponsoring a Pajama drive to help these kids.

So...

**Please donate NEW Pajamas and/or NEW Books of any size by
Thursday, FEBRUARY 28, 2019.**

Donations can be placed in the Pajama Donation Box located in the Lobby.

For more information about the Pajama Program please visit
<https://pajamaprogram.org/>



Wear your favorite warm Pajamas to School!!

On

Friday, MARCH 1, 2019



***We're looking for paper hearts/Valentine's to
distribute around Needham. If your child wants to
make some, please have him/her bring them in by
February 8th. Thank YOU!***

From our School Librarian, Mrs. Mullin

The following books were donated to the John Eliot School Library during November 2018.

The Wolf, the Duck, and the Mouse was donated by Mitchell Pollack.

Ballet Shoes was donated by Lindsey Goldfine.

Spy School Goes South was donated by Liam Velde.

Windows was donated by Mischa Loeb.

Mission Defrostable was donated by Asher Rottler.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown was donated by Nicholas Nasson.

Picturepedia was donated by Will Vettraino.

The Very, Very, Very Long Dog was donated by Ari Supra.

The Case of the Stinky Stench was donated by Zoe Olivia Ronan.

Big Book of Who: Basketball was donated by Foster Whitney Wilinski.

Tales for a Not-So-Happy Birthday was donated by Phoebe Moran.

Kids Bake! Was donated by Michael Williams.

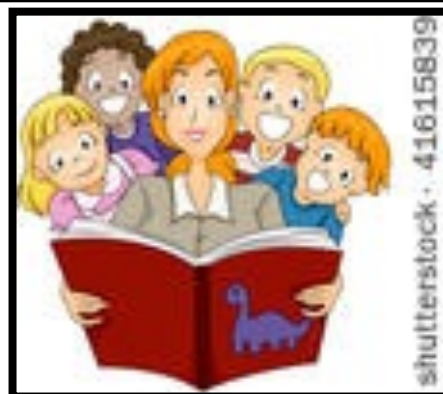
What Do You Do With a Chance? Was donated by Noah Moran.

How to be an Elephant was donated by Tyler Hesser.

Whatever After: Seeing Red was donated by Simona N. Patten.

Gone Fishing was donated by Bear M.V. Hawkey.

The Wall in the Middle of the Book was donated by Eli Kahn.



The following books were donated to the John Eliot School Library during December 2018.

Martha & Chrissie: The Greatest Rivalry in the History of Sports was donated by William S. Mercer.

Evil Spy School was donated by Mae Alwart.

Miss Petitfour was donated by Sacha Mia Elena Capobianco.

Ending: The Last was donated by Perla Santiago.

Pokemon Deluxe Essential Handbook was donated by Parker Matthew Van Dam.

Pokemon Super Deluxe Essential Handbook was donated by Tammy Arimoro.

Rescue & Jessica was donated by Adriana DeMaio.

Neck & Neck was donated by Emmett Maxwell.

Maker Lab Outdoors was donated by Victoria Katz.

Pink is for Boys was donated by Lanna Schneider.

Weekends with Max and Dad was donated by Grace Flanagan.

The Red Fox Clan was donated by Ty Davis.

Women Athletes Who Rule! Was donated by Carmen Schuller.

Jedi Academy: The Principal Strikes Back was donated by John Francis McCarthy, III.

Read the Book Lemmings! Was donated by Claire Taylor.

Let's Investigate With Nate was donated by Ellie Franco.

Monster Trouble was donated by Alex Friedman.

The Third Mushroom was donated by Sam Fishbein.

Summer Birds was donated by Emma Batsevitsky.

Be Brave Little Penguin was donated by Shayne Semprucci.

The Three Billy Goats Gruff was donated by Shepard Whitney Wilinski.

From our Spanish Teacher, Ms. Jodrie

January: Here is what we were up to during the month of January in Spanish class.

First graders learned how to say some body parts in Spanish, so ask them to sing you the “Head, shoulders, knees and toes” song in Spanish for you

Second graders reviewed body parts, so ask them to sing you the “head, shoulders, knees and toes” song in Spanish. Ask them to tell you about the alien they made as well!

Third graders made their New Year’s resolutions in Spanish, so ask them to share them with you. They reviewed body parts, and also talked about their state for the state fair in Spanish, so ask them to share something with you about their state if they haven’t already!

Fourth graders created New Year’s resolutions in Spanish, and then started talking about food and meals, so ask them to tell you about what they like to eat in Spanish!

Fifth graders started learning about Argentina as that is their country study for this year. They also reviewed food, talked about meals and performed a skit about a restaurant, so ask them about how that went!

Here is the website for continued practice at home <http://spanishnps.weebly.com>

And don’t forget to follow me on twitter: @EliotelemSpan



The 90’s @ Eliot!

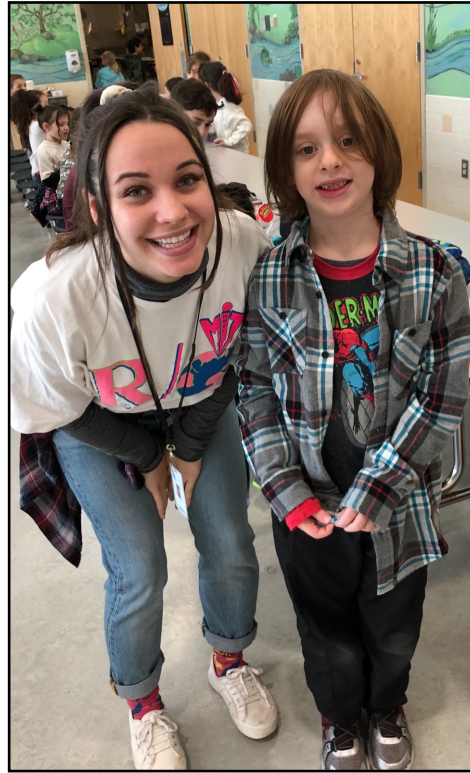
Some students and teachers celebrated the ninetieth day of school, this week, by dressing in 90’s fashion. Mrs. Schwarm and students posed for Mrs. Bourn. More 90’s photos on the following page.



GRADE 1 Students and Ms. LaFleur

Celebrated the 90th day of school in 90's style!

Photos by Ms. LaFleur & friends



90's



90's



Eliot Elementary School



Eliot School 4th and 5th Grade Spelling Bee

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

6:30pm @ Eliot's Performing Arts Center

All Fourth and Fifth Graders are encouraged to participate!

Sign up with a Team of 3, or individually.

All students will have a team.

The word list is available on the Eliot Website to practice.

Come join the fun! Prizes for all Participants!

Eliot Spelling Bee

Participant Name: _____

Teammates (2): _____

Circle Your Grade: 4th Grade 5th Grade

The deadline for GR 4 & GR 5 students to register for the PTC sponsored Spelling BEE is February 8th. If a student wants to sign up and does not have a team, he/she will be assigned one. The PTC will also provide students with a poster board to make team posters. To find a list of words to study, please check the Eliot School Webpage - **look for spelling bee list in the Eliot Happenings folder.**

If you have any questions, please contact the PTC chair of BEE:

Nicole Pollack at: ncpollack@gmail.com

CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSET, MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

Extra coats and clothes? Donate them to a child this winter!

Cradles to Crayons Winter
Collection Jan. 14-Feb. 14

BRING ALL YOUR LIGHTLY USED
COATS, CLOTHES, PJS, AGES 0-18
TO THE BIN IN YOUR ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL LOBBY

Brand new socks and underwear
are also appreciated!!



The next Eliot bulletin will be posted on FEBRUARY 7, 2019