

SANDPIPER NEWS

7 School Lane | Kittery Point, ME | Marcelle Durost, Principal

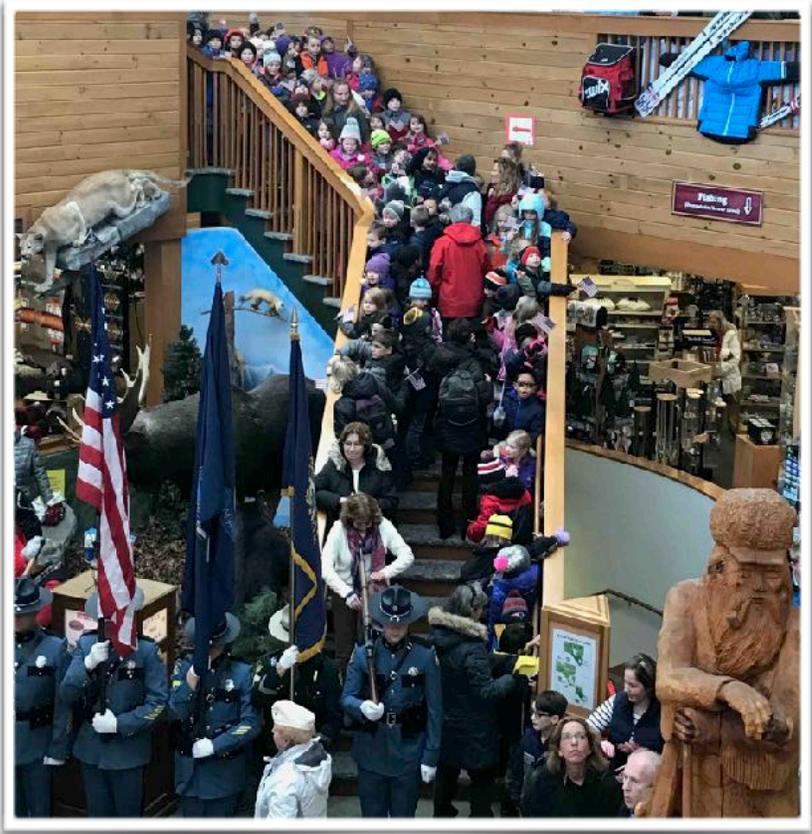
Important Dates

December

- 11 - 2nd Grade Field trip to KTP
10:30 - 12:00
- 11 - Report Cards come home in Red Folder
- 12/14 - PTA Fundraiser pick up
Time TBD
- 20 - Early Release @ 2:00 pm
- 22 - Holiday Break begins
No School

January

- 1 - New Years Day
No School
- 3 - Early Release @ 2:00 pm
- 15 - Martin Luther King Day
No School
- 17 - Early Release @ 2:00 pm
- 25 - PBL Parent Advisory Meeting @ 6 pm - Library



Wreaths Across America

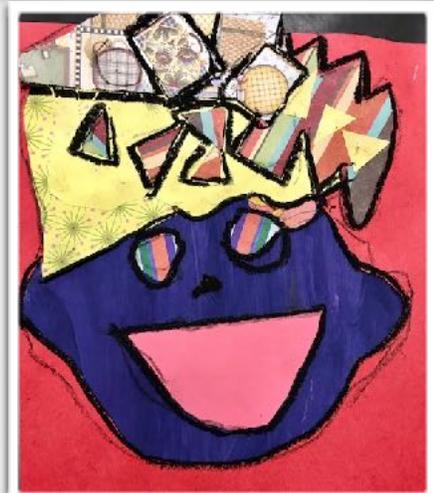
On Monday, December 11th, the 2nd graders attended the Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Kittery Trading Post. They greeted the convoy as it entered and were a part of the ceremony. We even received an honorary wreath.

A HUGE thank you to Ledgemere Transportation for donating the buses and drivers to get us over there as well as the Kittery Trading Post for inviting us to be a part of this amazing experience!!!



Bird Watching

All classes went outside for bird watching last week during their library sessions. Kindergarten and first grades learned to use binoculars to spot bird at the feeders and in the woods. Second grades created graphs to track the preferred foods of several species and third grades sketched birds from nature.



Color, Color and more Color

Kindergarten artists have been learning A LOT about color in art class! They began exploring the **Primary Colors** through the work of **Piet Mondrian**. From there, these young artists had the opportunity to experiment and mix their own colors by mixing two **Primaries** to get a variety of **Secondary Colors**.

The Kindergarteners chose one of the **Secondary Colors** they mixed on their own to create their face for our project based on the book **“It’s OK To Be Different”** by **Todd Parr**.

These artists cut out their **Secondary** colored faces, mounted them on a **Primary Color** and then got to explore lots of **texture** through a variety of printed and painted papers to make themselves unique and celebrate what makes them different!



Primary Colors- Red, Yellow and Blue

Secondary Colors- Achieved from mixing any two primary colors together

Texture- Something on a surface you can feel and/or see

Box Tops

The PTA collects Box Tops from a variety of products. It is amazing how 10 cents can add up.....10 box tops is a \$1.00 and 100 box tops is \$10.00 and 1000 box tops is \$100.00 !!! Each 10cents adds up! So snip, cut and put labels in a baggie and send to school for every little bit helps! All proceeds goes toward funds to support our students. So get your family, grandparents, friends, and anyone you know to collect the Box Tops for the Mitchell students! Send to school with your child and your child's teacher will make sure they get in the Box Top container.



Xtra Math

Please take a moment to sign up for a free parent account with Xtra Math. Math facts are the building blocks of your child's math education and your child will be well rewarded for the time they spend practicing on Xtra Math. Knowing their math facts frees up their brain powers to tackle more complex math problems. Think of Xtra Math as a math vitamin! If you have any questions, please contact our math specialist Ms. Moulton at kmoulton@kitteryschools.com

PBL-Proficiency Base Learning at Mitchell School

How do we grade in a PBL system?

At Mitchell Primary School we have just revised our report cards in 2nd and 3rd grade to report on how students are progressing on grade level competencies for math and reading. We are working to identifying competencies in all content areas for future reporting. In the 2018-19 school year we will be revising 1st grade and kindergarten report cards.

Grading and Reporting

The Mitchell School is progressing towards using grade level competencies in our Report Cards, as a means for grading student performance primarily in Literacy and Mathematics. With PBL, each grade level, reports are based upon the competencies from their individual grade levels. All schools, K-12 have essentially moved to a 4 point system for grading student performance. Our school runs on a "trimester schedule." We have a trimester report card for students in grades one, two and three. Kindergarten student reporting is completed in January and June. It is important to understand most of our competencies are designed to be met by the end of the school year. It is our goal that most students will meet all competencies (a "3" on the report card) by the end of the school year. Students at the primary level grow and develop at different rates. Please remember these key points about our competency-based reporting system:

- We are now comparing students against a set of competencies based upon national standards. The competencies we have K-3 are the beginning of a continuum K-12, building towards the Traip Academy Graduation Standards.
- A great deal of work has gone into determining the level of performance that will indicate what a 1 2 3 4 means consistently across ALL grade levels. This significantly tightens our grading practice between teachers on all grade levels.
- It is common for students across all grade levels to receive "1"s and "2"s in the first trimester, because a "3" represents meeting the "end of the year competency."

This is the key for the levels of performance used on the Grades One, Two and Three Report Card

Academic Progress	
4 = Exceeds - The student's performance exceeds the end of year competency.	2 = Partially Meets - The student is beginning to grasp concepts, processes and skills of the competency.
3 = Meets - The student meets the end of the year competency, grasps and applies key concepts, processes and skills.	1 = Below - The student needs more time and experience for concepts, processes and skills of the competency