Top O’ the Mornin’ to All Emerson Parents;

It looks like we have survived yet another New England winter! While it was sketchy for a couple of weeks in February, at the time of this writing it is 60° in Fitzwilliam!! While I am sure we will have a bit more cold weather, let’s hope that the sun recovers quickly and provides that warm spring glow. Thank you to all parents who have supported our dress code for recess. Your cooperation and assistance is greatly appreciated.

We continue on our journey with the Seven Habits of Happy Kids. This month our focus will be on Habit 7 – “Sharpen the Saw”. In this final habit, students will learn to take care of their bodies by eating right, exercising and getting enough sleep. Learning can take place in lots of places! They will learn that spending time with family and friends is as important as what is learned in school. Finally, students will learn meaningful ways to help others.

As you may have heard, I have provided students at Emerson with a new challenge. This challenge builds character! Last month students were challenged to persevere at any challenge that they undertook. Eighteen students responded to the challenge and were treated to an ice cream party sponsored by our own PTCO at lunch and were recognized with a metal! This month’s challenge is RESPONSIBILITY. I look forward to having lunch with everyone who responds to this month’s challenge by becoming more responsible than ever before!

To that end, this month’s message addresses the topic of being more responsible, hard-working, and persistent. Here are some ideas for working as a family to help youngsters develop these important traits.

**A GROUP APPROACH:** Thinking of themselves as a “team player” can encourage your child to be responsible. Explain that the family operates as a team. Everyone must play a part to get things accomplished. For example, each member of the family has a role in pre-
paring dinner. One might set the table, while Mom cooks. Another can clear the table, while Dad fills the dishwasher. It takes a team to get things done efficiently and quickly.

**HARD WORKERS WANTED:** Your youngster probably has regular chores to do. You can motivate him to work extra hard by placing “want ads” on the refrigerator. Choose a challenging job, and offer a benefit. For example, “Wanted – a hardworking family member to clean out a corner of the basement! Reward – a nice place for kids to play!”

**STICK IT OUT:** Working toward small goals can make it easier to complete a big task. Perhaps your family room needs a fresh coat of paint. Write down the steps (move furniture and lay down drop clothes, prepare walls, roll paint on the walls, paint trim). Tell your child you’ll take a fun break after each step is done (go to the playground, take a bike ride.)  **GOOD LUCK!**

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**PARENT POWER**

There are many ways that you can support your student’s learning. For example:

- Spend a few minutes every day looking over handouts your child brings home. Fill out forms to return the next day!
- Tell your student’s teacher if you can help them out at school or from home.
- Make sure teachers know you appreciate their efforts. From time to time, send a thank you note or email.
- Contact your child's teacher immediately if you see a problem. Working together respectfully will help your child succeed.
- Attend conferences, parent meetings, and school events regularly.

Here’s to a wonderful month of March. Please know that everyone is always welcome at our All School Assembly to be held Friday, March 10 at 8:50. Until next month...

Best,

Kevin W. Stone, Ed. D.
Principal
Emerson School's Curriculum Night

When: Thursday, March 2
Time: 6-7 p.m.
Where: Emerson Multi-purpose room
What: Come see what Emerson students have been working on in class! Enjoy looking at Pk-6th grade projects, games and activities!
News from the Nurse

**Head lice:** It’s a topic that causes a lot of concern, and with good reason. With spring around the corner, cases of head lice oftentimes resurface. It’s important to stay pro active with your child with frequent checks, as well as reminders not to share hats, helmets, brushes, hair accessories, and the like.

I would like to share part of a letter that our Superintendent recently wrote that summarizes the school’s role:

*The American Academy of Pediatrics characterizes head lice as a nuisance, but not a health threat. In accordance with this guidance and other recommendations from the AAP and other agencies, our nurses address cases of head lice on a student-by-student basis in order to protect student privacy and prevent stigmatizing affected students.*

*Widespread 'head checks' are not considered necessary or appropriate, and so we do not conduct them.*

*Additionally, students with head lice or nits are not excluded from school. Instead, our nurses focus on providing education on prevention and treatment to students who are affected, and their parents and families, and following up with affected students in a way that does not single them out or call attention to their condition.*

*Finally, blanket announcements to parents in a school with identified cases of head lice is not considered best practice, for it causes undue alarm and often inadvertently stigmatizes affected students.*

I am always a resource, and a ‘second set of eyes’ to provide private checks, and to help with questions and concerns. Please never hesitate to contact me.

-Lynne A. Rumba, RN
Emerson Preschool and Kindergarten Registration
For New Families

Wednesday, March 22\textsuperscript{nd} from 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM
Thursday, March 23\textsuperscript{rd} from 7:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Friday, March 24\textsuperscript{th} from 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Where: Emerson Elementary School
27 Rhododendron Road

Children must be five years of age by September 30, 2017 to enter Kindergarten
Children must be four years of age by September 30, 2017 to attend the 4 year old Preschool program.
Children must be three years of age by September 30, 2017 to attend the 3 year old program.

Parents must present a birth certificate, immunization record and physical at the time of registration and bring their driver's license to photo copy. Proof of residency is also required (electric or tax bill or car registration).

We look forward to providing your child with a happy and successful learning experience during his/her elementary school years. Parent Teacher Conferences will be going on during these times as well. For any questions, please call 585-6611 between 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

(All preschool registrations are automatically put on a wait list and will not be considered until all documentation is in hand.)
Staying Safe and Warm at Recess

In accordance with the Monadnock School District Wellness Policy, students play outside at least 30 minutes a day; in some instances this amount is increased with another 20 minute period. It is therefore IMPERATIVE that students come dressed for winter. As always, there are several location options for students to play at recess; the blacktop (which is plowed and has activities for students) and the wooded areas and field (that are not plowed). The wooded areas and the field are often the most desirable but also offer the most safety concern. For the safety and well-being of all Emerson students, the following expectations have been explained and outlined for students.

ALL students, regardless of where they play, should be dressed appropriately for the cold weather. If the temperature is below 40 degrees outside, students are expected to wear long sleeve coats. In addition, hats, boots, snow pants, and gloves are expected to play in the field or the wooded area. Students who do not have appropriate attire WILL be asked to play on the hot top/paved areas.

Students who are not able to follow safety requirements will be provided with the following:

A verbal warning: students will be told what they are doing that is unsafe and will be expected to change their actions.

If the situation persists, students will be directed to another activity.

Continuation of the behavior will result in a behavior report, notification to parents, and the loss of outside privileges.

Your assistance is requested as we make sure that all students are healthy and safe. We would appreciate a discussion of this policy at home so that students are aware of its importance. Also, if your child is in need of snow attire, please be sure to contact Dr. Stone, Mrs. Stevens, or Mrs. Rumba, who are always ready to assist as we can!

Along similar lines, as has been stated earlier, mid-year is the time when students begin to get comfortable with school; and school expectations seem to “be forgotten”. For this reason, our behavior policies have been attached to this newsletter. Please take the time to review these policies with your child; with a focus on safety. The faculty and staff at Emerson Elementary take safety very seriously. We thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter as we continue to strive to be “Champions for Students”!!
**February Awards**

Ms. Sander - Makenzie, Braden and Aiden  
Mrs. Buonomano - Grace, Liam and Thomas  
Mrs. Sestito - Kendrah and Jenna  
Ms. Meyer - Zoe and North  
Miss Thomas - Alora and Isabelle  
Ms. Tolman - Valerie, Liana, Sydney, Willow and Caleb  
Mr. Raymond - Lily, Owen, Jack and Justin

**Great Job!**

**PERSISTENCE Awards**

Ms. Sander - Kiana and Caelynn  
Mrs. Buonomano - Sage, Skyla and Johnny  
Mrs. Sestito - Adelaide and Kayden  
Ms. Meyer - Brooke  
Miss Thomas - Keegan G., Andrew and Silas  
Ms. Tolman - Trista, Julianna and Felicity  
Mr. Raymond - Coral
Important Reminders

- Please note that students cannot be dropped off until 8:20. If there is a 2 hour delay, students cannot be dropped off until 10:20.
- When there is a 2 hour delay, breakfast and snacks bags are not available so please be sure that your child eats before coming to school.
- In the morning students are to be dropped off at the foyer area. Parents are not to walk students to their classrooms as this is disruptive.
- If your child is going to be late or absent, it is school policy that you call the school to let us know. Prior to school being open, please leave a message on the answering machine. This is especially important in inclement weather.
- During walker sign outs, parents are not allowed to go to their child’s classroom. If you need to talk to your child’s teacher, please make an appointment with the teacher, email or call.

All these reminders are for the safety of your child and the other students in the building. Your cooperation in following these rules/policies would be greatly appreciated.

*If you have any question as to whether or not there is school or a delay, please refer to one of the resources listed below.*

**Radio:**
- WKNE—FM - 103.7 FM
- WKBK—AM - 1290 AM
- WOQL—FM - 97.9 FM

**Television:**
- WMUR—Channel 9
- SAU #93—352-6955, Selection 4
- www.mrsd.org

PARENTAL DISCRETION IS ALWAYS ADVISED AS TO ATTENDANCE IN INCLEMENT WEATHER
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March 2017