



# DMS Newsflash

February 2019

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Our Student Senate recently organized a week of activities to promote **The Great Kindness Challenge**



at Deans Mill School. While events and activities were specific to Deans Mill School, **The Great Kindness Challenge** is a world-wide initiative focused on promoting environments in which stakeholders engage in random acts of kindness.

The Deans Mill School Great Kindness Challenge took place from January 28<sup>th</sup> through February 1<sup>st</sup>. Senators started off the week with a Kick-Off Assembly to introduce the event and challenge others to engage in as many acts of kindness as possible throughout the week. Students were asked to keep track of their acts of kindness and tally their totals at the end of the week. Some special activities that our Student Senators set for the week included following a kindness checklist, participating in recess stations where students had the opportunity to make "chains of kindness," decorating kindness quotes that would be shared with other students later in the week, and dressing up for a certain theme each day to show their spirit for being kind to others.

While there were a variety of fun events planned for the week, the goal of the activity was to create a school community in which all students, staff, and community members learn to be kind to one another on a daily basis. This activity reminded our students of things they could on a daily basis to be a good friend and community member. We applaud the efforts of the members of our Student Senate, Mrs. Morehouse, Mr. Barth, and Mrs. Volpe for organizing this outstanding event! It is always our goal for Deans Mill School to be a learning environment where all students feel safe, happy, and accepted by others.

Regards,  
Jenn & Tom



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## Science and Math Fair

### It's Science and Math Fair Time!

The 2019 DMS Science and Math Fair will held on Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 PM at Stonington High School. Students are invited to present a poster and/or hands-on activity that explores their personal curiosities about a science or math topic. This is a fun, non-competitive event open to all Deans Mill students. Project registration forms are due by Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the co-chairs with any questions or for help with project idea generation. We hope to see you there! Registration form is on Page 12.

Co-chairs:

Merin Troutman ([merintroutman@yahoo.com](mailto:merintroutman@yahoo.com))

Tessa Getchis ([tessagetchis@gmail.com](mailto:tessagetchis@gmail.com))

## Box Tops

Keep clipping your Box Tops!



Every clip counts!



Our next deadline will be February 20<sup>th</sup>. We have started a new race for the second half of the school year! Mrs. Volpe's class won the fall Box Tops race with over 1200 Box Tops collected and earned an extra recess. Great job! If you have any questions, please contact: Jessica Lindenmayer at 540-760-2467 or [jslindenmayer@gmail.com](mailto:jslindenmayer@gmail.com).

## Kindergarten Concert



Thursday, March 7, 2019  
at 6:00 P.M. in the DMS gymnasium



More information will be sent home with your children

Save the Dates!

## Important Dates

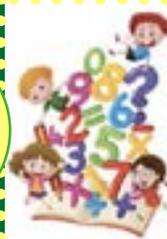
### February

- 6 (Tentative pending snow days) • 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School
- 12 PTO Meeting • DMS Library • 6:30 PM
- 14 Board of Education Meeting • SHS Commons • 7 PM
- 18 Presidents' Day Observance • No School
- 19 Professional Development • Early Dismissal • 12:10 PM
- 22 PTO Movie Night • 6 PM
- 27 Math & Science Night



### March

- 4-8 DMS Reading Week
- 6 Author & Illustrator Day • Suzy Kline Visits
- 7 Kindergarten Concert • 5:30 PM at DMS
- 8 Professional Development • Early Dismissal • 12:10 PM
- 12 Elementary Math Night • SHS • 5:45 PM
- 14 Board of Education Meeting • SHS Commons • 7 PM
- 15 Report Cards Issued
- 15 PTO Movie Night • 6 PM
- 19 PTO Meeting • 6 PM
- 21 World Down's Syndrome Day
- 20-22 Parent/Teacher Conferences • Early Dismissal • 12:10 PM



### Elementary Family Math Night (K-4)

Grab your family—  
it's time to have some fun with math!  
Save the date—  
Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> • 6 PM - 7 PM  
at Stonington High School Commons

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

**How can we use feedback to learn and grow?**



We continue to explore how to give and accept feedback as a tool to help us grow. At Deans Mill School, we are focusing on how to be reflective learners and seek out feedback when we need it, but also on how we can use that feedback to improve our performance.

Rather than shying away from challenges or to giving up when we make a mistake or hit a roadblock, we are developing skills to try new strategies and to solve problems in different ways. We look to peers and adults to help us achieve our goals and we know that it takes effort and practice to reach our goals.

**LOVE CHALLENGES, BE  
INTRIGUED BY MISTAKES,  
ENJOY EFFORT, AND  
KEEP ON LEARNING**

**CAROL DWECK**

## Coaching a Growth Mindset

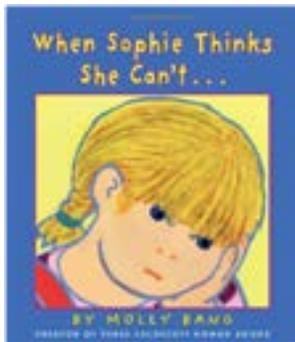
5 Questions to Develop a Growth Mindset	5 Feedback Comments to Develop a Growth Mindset
 What did you learn from today's performance?	 This will be a challenging concept to learn, but I believe you can master it.
 What steps did you take to make you successful today?	 You haven't got it yet, but you will if you keep working and thinking about it.
 What are some different strategies you could have used?	 I really appreciate your effort today.
 How did you keep going when things got tough?	 It is OK to take risks, that's how we learn.
 What can you learn from your opponent today?	 Getting better takes time, and I see you improving.



### **Grade K-*Ish* by Peter Reynolds**

Ramon loved to draw. Anytime. Anything. Anywhere. Drawing is what Ramon does. It is what makes him happy. But in one split second, all that changes. A single reckless remark by Ramon's older brother, Leon, turns Ramon's carefree sketches into joyless struggles. Luckily for Ramon, though, his little sister, Marisol, sees the world differently. She opens his eyes to something a lot more valuable than getting things just "right."

CONTINUED



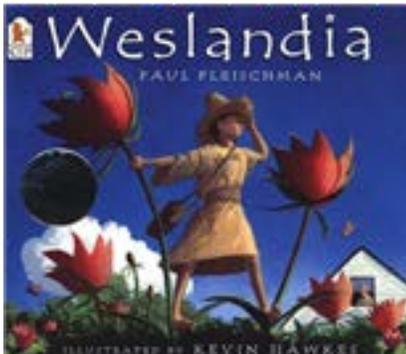
### Grade 1 -*When Sophie Thinks She Can't* by Molly Bang

When Sophie can't solve a math puzzle, she feels upset and inadequate. "I can't do it!" she shouts, expressing the frustration all of us feel when we try and fail. Will she ever be "smart" like her sister? Maybe she isn't smart at all. Luckily Sophie's teacher steps in. What does it mean to be smart? Sophie's class is taught that we get smarter when we exercise our brains, such as when we work harder at solving a puzzle. Struggling to solve a problem doesn't mean "I can't do it!" Sophie and her classmates just can't do it... yet!"



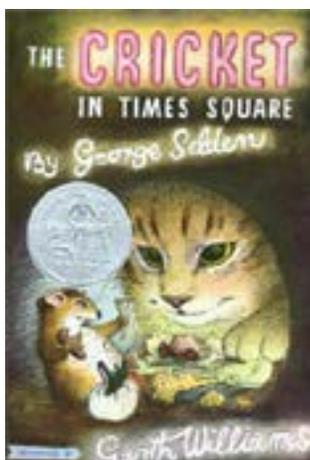
### Grade 2 -*The Dot* by Peter Reynolds

Her teacher smiled. "Just make a mark and see where it takes you." Art class is over, but Vashti is sitting glued to her chair in front of a blank piece of paper. The words of her teacher are a gentle invitation to express herself. But Vashti can't draw—she's no artist. To prove her point, Vashti jabs at a blank sheet of paper to make an unremarkable and angry mark. "There!" she says. That one little dot marks the beginning of Vashti's journey of surprise and self-discovery. That special moment is the core of Peter H. Reynolds' delicate fable about the creative spirit in all of us.



### Grade 3 -*Weslandia* by Paul Fleischman

Enter the witty, intriguing world of Weslandia! Now that school is over, Wesley needs a summer project. He's learned that each civilization needs a staple food crop, so he decides to sow a garden and start his own—civilization, that is. He turns over a plot of earth, and plants begin to grow. As Wesley experiments, he finds that the plant will provide food, clothing, shelter, and even recreation. It isn't long before his neighbors and classmates develop more than an idle curiosity about Wesley—and exactly how he is spending his summer vacation.



### Grade 4 -*Cricket in Times Square* by George Selden

Tucker is a streetwise city mouse. He thought he'd seen it all. But he's never met a cricket before, which really isn't surprising, because, along with his friend Harry Cat, tourist in the city, he wants to look around. And he could not have found two better guides—and friends—than Tucker and Harry. Chester makes a third friend, too. It is a boy, Mario, who rescues Chester from a dusty corner of the subway station and brings him to live in the safety of his parents' newsstand. He hopes at first to keep Chester as a pet, but Mario soon understands that the cricket is more than that. Because Chester has a hidden talent and no one—not even Chester himself—realizes that the little country cricket may just be able to teach even the toughest New Yorkers a thing or two.

*"The goal of fluency instruction is to develop students' word automaticity and rate-appropriate independent reading of connected text with ease and expression to gain meaning."*

*KUHN, SCHWANENFLUGEL, & MEISINGER 2010*

## Basic Early Literacy Skills: Stepping Stones



### Building Fluent Readers

One of our literacy goals at DMS this year is focusing on best practices in teaching reading foundational skills. Oral reading fluency is one stepping stone explicitly taught in the area of reading. Students need ample reading practice to develop fluent reading of text. Fluent readers do not need to spend a lot of time decoding the words on the page and can focus their attention on comprehension. Accurate reading, appropriate rate, and using expression leads to understanding the text in front of them while making connections and accessing background knowledge.

As part of your child's literacy instruction, teachers are explicitly teaching and practicing reading fluency in Kindergarten through Grade 4. Fluency instruction focuses on accuracy, reading rate, and expression to support comprehension. Students in every classroom are reading with purpose in order to gain meaning within a variety of genres. They are learning to recognize words automatically where each reading sounds natural, as if they are speaking.

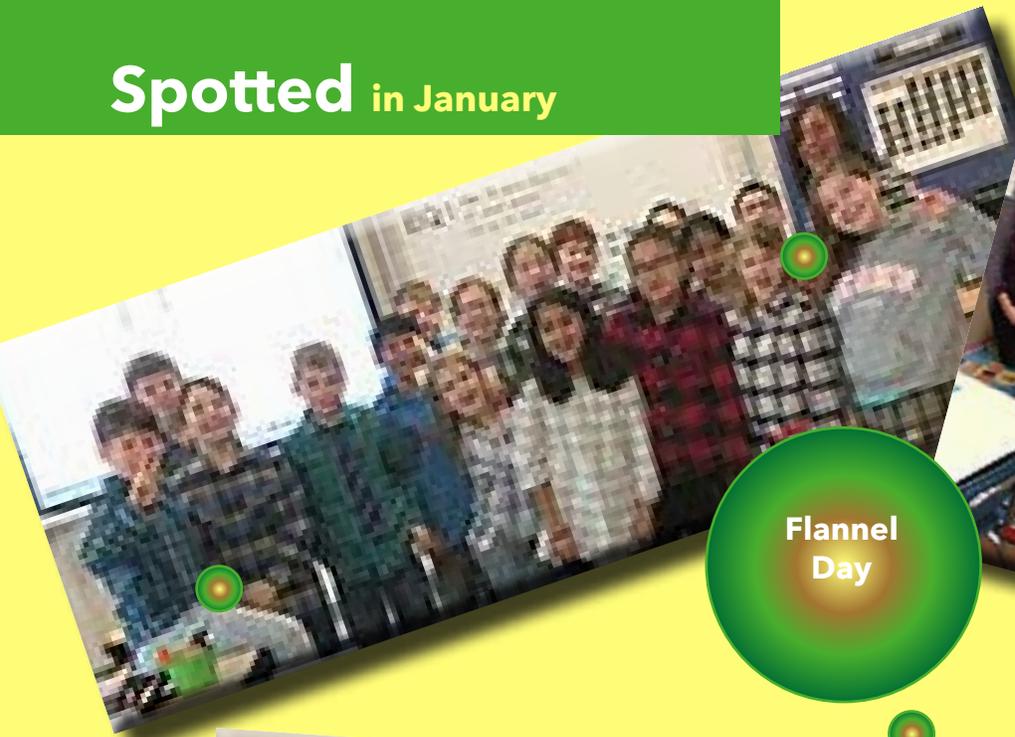
After it is fully developed, reading fluency refers to a level of accuracy and rate where decoding is relatively effortless; where oral reading is smooth and accurate with correct prosody; and where attention can be allocated to comprehension (WOLF, 2003).

Further Reading:

<https://cedu.niu.edu/literacy-clinic/resources/raising-readers/fluency.pdf>

Mrs. Chimento & Mrs. Bowman  
DMS Reading Support Team

# Spotted in January



Flannel Day



Comparing weights



Board of Ed Presentation



Leadership Conference



# Kindness Challenge



**RAINBOW OF KINDNESS**

**SHADES OF KINDNESS**

**KINDNESS WARMS YOUR HEART (AND YOUR HEAD!)**

**CRAZY ABOUT KINDNESS**

**COZY, COMFORT, AND KINDNESS**

# Spotted at Winter Fest



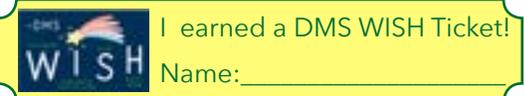
Greetings, Families!

We hope that 2019 is off to a positive start! Since the beginning of the school year, many of you may have heard your child talking about earning WISH tickets, stamps, or filling his or her classroom bucket. You may be asking, "What does all this mean?"

Below is an explanation of the positive behavior support program that is being used at DMS.

## Individual Level - WISH Tickets

WISH Tickets are given to individual students or to small groups of students who are observed going beyond what is expected. Students can earn WISH tickets in the classroom, in the hallway, at specials, recess, and lunch for a variety of behaviors, such as helping another student pick up a book he or she dropped.



When students earn WISH tickets, they put their name on them and put them in their classroom raffle. At the end of the week, two tickets are chosen per classroom and the winning students get to choose from their classroom reinforcement options. This may include pencils, bookmarks, their choice of seat for the week, or choosing a movement break for the class.

## Classroom Level - Buckets

Each classroom has a bucket that students in the class work together to fill. When a majority of the class is meeting expectations, students can earn stamps that will fill their bucket. Once the bucket is filled, the class can choose an activity that the entire class can participate in. This may include extra recess, special guest readers, extra movement breaks, or a stuffed animal day!



## Whole School Level - Bucket Challenges

All the classrooms in each grade level work together to fill enough buckets to participate in the school-wide bucket challenge. There are three challenges each year. Each grade level that reaches the bucket goal during the time frame participates in an assembly. This year students have earned the opportunity to watch the Principal and the Assistant Principal get covered with Silly String.

## How can you reinforce at home?

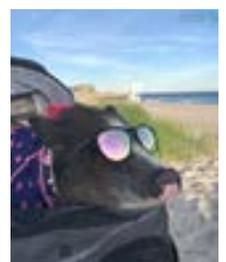
When your children bring home their WISH tickets at the end of the week or tell you they earned a WISH ticket:

- Praise them for earning a WISH Ticket.
- Ask them why they earned the WISH Ticket.
- Ask them how earning a WISH ticket made them feel.
- Talk about how it makes others feel when we are following the DMS WISH.

## For our next challenge they will get to meet Roxy the famous pig.

We hope that this helps to answer any questions that you might have about the positive behavior supports that are happening at DMS!

Have a fabulous February!  
Mrs. R(obenhymer) & Ms. M(oniz)



Our goal for the year is to keep families informed about grade level curriculum in Music, Art, Library, and Physical Education and how they can support their children at home.

## Music



*Mrs. McMinn*

This month third graders will reinforce their rhythm reading skills and add a new note– a dotted half note. Students will sing familiar songs that include dotted half notes, such as “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” and “America.” Students will experience how dotted half notes can be used in music in a  $\frac{3}{4}$  time signature. That means there are 3 beats in a measure. Did you know that waltzes are in  $\frac{3}{4}$  time? We will practice playing songs that use dotted half notes of note such as, “Whether the Weather.” Students will create their own “weather rhythms” and perform them on instruments.

A **big** thank you to the Stonington Education Fund who awarded DMS music a new instrument, coming soon! We can’t wait to play the contra-bass bar that is going to sound awesome with our Orff Instrumentarium. It’s a low pitch that will be great for many steady beat activities as well as for accompanying students while they’re singing. Thank you, SEF!

### Save the dates:

- On Sunday, February 24, 2019 at 3:05 P.M. 4<sup>th</sup> graders will sing at a Providence Bruins hockey game. All DMS families are invited to attend the game (ticket orders are due by Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>).
- On Thursday, March 7, 2019, 6:00 P.M. a Kindergarten concert will be held in the DMS gymnasium.
- Ever wonder what happens at a professional orchestra rehearsal? The Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra is offering **free** admission to senior citizens, students, and families on Saturday, February 23, 2019 from 2:30-5:00 P.M. to attend an open rehearsal at The Garde Arts Center in New London. For more information and **free** tickets please contact me at [emily.mcminn@stoningtonschools.org](mailto:emily.mcminn@stoningtonschools.org)

## Art



*Miss Biernacki*

Third grade will be cozying up with some yarn this February. Textiles and fibers have been used as a means of artistic expression throughout time and from every culture across the world. The variety and versatility of this medium makes it infinitely interesting; there are just so many possibilities! We will look at various examples of weaving from different times in history, such as African Kente Cloth and Renaissance tapestries, and discuss how fiber arts vary from art forms like painting and drawing. Typically, art made from fibers had a function or purpose in addition to providing decoration. Third graders will be weaving their own small tapestry. We will use different techniques and patterns to make the tapestries unique and textural.

## Physical Education



Mrs. Castodio

Third graders have been having a ball (*no pun intended*) in PE class this marking period! Their most recent games/activities have been some of their all-time favorites— Quidditch and Box Polo. If you know the Harry Potter stories, then you know Quidditch. We played a muggle version, and the most popular position to play was Harry’s position, the Seeker. This was a fan favorite because it involved strategy on how to capture the golden snitch (*our Zee Ball*) on one bounce, which required quickness, agility, and focus for when that time came. The game was full of fast action play by the Beaters, the Chasers, and the Goalkeepers. The beaters used their “bludgers to stop the chasers from throwing the “quaffle” into the rings high above the goalkeepers, who protected their goal with their goal sticks. It was such fun to play this game!

Box Polo is another fast-action game that involves the shooting skills of floor hockey and the defensive skills of goalkeeping. A twist in this game is that points are bad so the team with zero or the lowest points wins. These games are fun and full of high energy, which in turn gives every student a cardiovascular workout to be remembered.

## Library



Mrs. Anderson-Halbert

With Valentine’s Day coming up, why not read some poetry? Poetry has been used for centuries to express love, but can also be a fun way to express any type of feeling! Some great silly poets that students love include Shel Silverstein, Ken Nesbitt, and Jack Prelutsky. There are also some great picture books written in verse like *Hi, Koo!: A Year of Seasons* by JON J MUTH and *Blue on Blue* by DIANNA WHITE. Students can also become the poet! Acrostic poems using the words **love** or **snow** are great ways to get younger students thinking poetically, while older students might want to try creating a rhyme scheme in their poetry. Some great resources and apps that involve poetry can be found here: <https://turbofuture.com/internet/k12interactivepoetry>. Also, students can put their poems into cards for family and friends to jazz up their Valentines!

## Mrs. Sanford

Grade 4 Teacher

Language Arts and Social Studies

*Favorite thing about DMS: “Wonderful staff that is like family, and the wonderful families we get to work with!”*

*Years at Deans Mill School: “4.”*

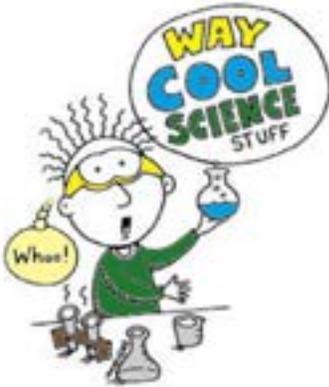
*Years Teaching in Stonington: “29.”*

*Hobbies: “Running, reading”*

*Little-known fact about me: “I was the teacher on the set of Mystic Pizza and my name is listed in the credits!”*



KATHY SANFORD  
FROM PAWCATUCK, CT



## Calling YOUNG SCIENTISTS to the 2019 DMS SCIENCE and MATH FAIR

**WHO: Kindergarten – Fourth Grade (this means YOU!)**

**WHEN: Wednesday February 27, 2019, 6:30-8PM**

**WHERE: Stonington High School Cafeteria/Commons**

**WHAT: Explore personal curiosities about science and/or math. At the fair, students present what they've learned with a poster, activity and/or hands-on demonstration\***

**\*NO food, open flames, live animals or large projectiles are permitted**

- **Students can work alone or in a group (max 4 people)**
- **The Fair is non-competitive; students show work at their comfort level**
- **Sponsored by the DMS PTO**
- **Co-chairs: Merin Troutman 860-460-2364; [merintroutman@yahoo.com](mailto:merintroutman@yahoo.com)  
Tessa Getchis 860-367-4602; [tessagetchis@gmail.com](mailto:tessagetchis@gmail.com)**

Complete the registration form below and return to your teacher by Friday, February 8, 2019 OR email project submission to [merintroutman@yahoo.com](mailto:merintroutman@yahoo.com). An email confirmation will be sent when registration is received.

→→Need an idea? Search "DIY Science Projects for Kids" online to get started!←←

<u>Name of presenter(s)</u>	<u>Grade/Teacher</u>	<u>e-mail</u>
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....

Project title: .....

Short Description:  
.....  
.....

Do you need (check box): Electrical outlet  Extra demo/floor space?

Our building project is moving further along by the day!

On the first floor, classrooms are being painted while we wait for the delivery of built-in classroom cases. In the classrooms, the mechanical systems are being inspected above the ceilings and ceiling tiles are being installed. Moisture mitigation in the concrete subflooring is complete in the corridors and the installation of the flooring tiles is being coordinated for off hours.

On the second floor, classrooms and hallways are painted. Installation of countertops and window sill millwork is ongoing and plumbers are installing sinks. The second floor hallway is nearly complete and we are awaiting delivery of lockers.



**METAL PANEL INSTALLATION— EAST SIDE**



**EXTERIOR VIEW AT OLD ENTRANCE**



**KITCHEN EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION**



**CEILING GRID INSTALLATION IN CAFETERIA**

*CONSTRUCTION UPDATE, CONTINUED*

In the kitchen, tile flooring has been installed and food service equipment was delivered. Each piece is being set in place and connected to gas and electricity, and installation will be completed by early February. Painting in the cafeteria is nearly complete, allowing for installation of the ceiling grid. The HVAC ductwork contractor installed return air grilles in the ceiling. The construction trades will complete finishes (i.e. painting, floor tile, etc.) as they work their way down the main corridor and into the cafeteria.

On the outside of the building, windows have been installed in all classrooms and in the cafeteria. This has allowed the installation of exterior metal panels to begin. The contractor is working his way around from the east elevation and rapidly covering the insulation board with the final finished panels.

We are excited to share that the playground design has been reviewed by the state and approved by the K-12 Building Committee for funding. Construction will begin once the equipment has arrived and the temperatures support installing the concrete footings for the equipment.



**A 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR CLASSROOM**



**2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CORRIDOR**



**A 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CLASSROOM, CORRIDOR WALL**



**A 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CLASSROOM, PERIMETER WALL**

## **The PTO has a few open chair positions that we need filled as soon as possible.**

**Cultural Enrichment** • This committee has a \$3,000 budget. Your job would be to find assemblies that would enrich the kids' cultural experiences through science, technology, art, music, or nature, to name a few.

**Math Night** • Math Night is March 12<sup>th</sup>. We need help shopping for balloons, tablecloths, and need someone to set-up a Sign-up Genius to get snack and refreshments donated for the event.

**Trivia Night Committee** • We will be hosting our 2<sup>nd</sup> Trivia night. The PTO is looking to get a committee together by the end of the month.

**Concessions** • The 4<sup>th</sup> grade Party Committee hosts concessions at a few events, and we are looking for someone to run those. The events are the Math & Science Fair (concessions), Art & Music Night (concessions & flowers), and the Kindergarten concert (just flowers).

**Please contact Katie Quinlan at [quinlanpto@gmail.com](mailto:quinlanpto@gmail.com) if interested in helping.**

## **Dear DMS & WWB Community,**

The turnout for this year's **Winter Festival** was better than we could have imagined. Super Heroes & Villains was a fun event to put together and see come alive. We were so excited to see so many families enjoying themselves. The Winter Festival Committee worked hard to make this event

happen and there is nothing better than seeing an event that brings the community together.

**Thank you to our business sponsors:** Arruda Real Estate, Bank Square Books, Blast, Blue Bird Day, Brenda De Los Santos Photography, Launch, Malted Barley, Mystic Luxury Cinema, Mystic Movie Theatre, Mystic Cycle Center, Ocean Community YMCA, Pfizer, Quinlan Enterprise, Ray Willis, and Supercharged.

**Thank you to our awesome local food sponsors:** 84 Tavern on Canal, Bess Eaton, Big Y, Dinoto Distributors, Jealous Monk, Margie Morin, Noah's, Somewhere in Time, Stonington Pizza Palace, and Stop & Shop. Thank you to all of the families who donated candy for our candy bar!

**Thank you to our family sponsors:** The Adkins Family, The Halle Family, The Corkhill Family, The Feinstein Family, The Freitas Family, The Gowen Family, The Halloran Family, The Harvey Family, The Head Family, The Kasprzak Family, The McBain Family, The Quinlan Family, and The Troutman Family.

**To all of the volunteering parents, students, and staff:** Thank you for your help. It takes a lot of manpower to pull these events off, and we were successful because of all the amazing volunteers. There were so many Stonington High School students who volunteered for the whole day that it freed up parents to enjoy the day with their children. We truly appreciate the high school students' time and energy. Their help made a huge impact on the success of this event.

Thank you to the Stonington High School custodians for helping us before and after the event.

**Our last and biggest thank you goes to the Winter Festival Committee.** Events like these take a lot of ideas, a lot of time, and a lot of hard work. We can't thank everyone enough for coming together and helping make this event possible. Thank you Morgan Adair, Jenni Adkins, Melissa Checchi, Jenn Dinoto, Tina Freitas, Carron Gowen, Megan Graham, Alissa Halle, Emily Harvey, Cheryl Hayward, Kristy Head, Claudia Hoddersen, Liza McBain, Cameron Nichols, Katie Quinlan, and Julie Stillman. What a great group. They each took on different tasks and delivered.

We thoroughly enjoyed working with you all. Girls, **thank you!**

Katie Quinlan  
DMS PTO President

Alissa Halle  
WWB PTO President

ENJOY A FUN NIGHT WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS!

Deans Mill School  
**PERFORMANCE**

★ WITH THE PROVIDENCE BRUINS ★

FEATURING A PERFORMANCE BY OUR 4th GRADE CLASS!



**SUNDAY  
FEB 24**

**3:05 VS. HFD**

DUNKIN' DONUTS CENTER  
PROVIDENCE, RI

INCLUDES  
**HAT, POPCORN &  
FOUNTAIN DRINK**  
FREE FOR ALL KIDS  
IN THE GROUP



**FOR ONLY \$22 PER PERSON**

**PURCHASE  
INSTRUCTIONS**

To purchase tickets please fill out the order form below and return it to school as soon as possible with cash or checks made payable to DMS PTO by February 8th. For more information please contact Tracy Brunelle at [tracyibrunelle@gmail.com](mailto:tracyibrunelle@gmail.com)

\_\_\_\_\_ # of tickets x \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**FEB 24**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (D): \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ # OF KIDS  
IN YOUR GROUP

CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

CASH \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Kindergarten Registration

## Stonington Public Schools New Kindergarten Registration 2019-2020 School Year



### REGISTRATION DATES & TIMES

- > **Dates & Times:** Friday, March 22, 2019 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Tuesday, March 26, 2019 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM
- > **Registration Location:** Administration Building  
49 N. Stonington Road  
Old Mystic, CT 06372
- > **To Register Call the School Secretary:** Deans Mill School: (860) 535-2235  
West Broad Street School: (860) 599-5633

*Registration will be by appointment and will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Children don't need to be present at the time of registration.*

### Eligibility

A child must be five years old on or before January 1, 2020.

*\*\*State Law requires students to register for school by age 6. If you are unsure about your child's readiness for kindergarten, feel free to contact DMS Principal, Jennifer McCurdy ([jmccurdy@stoningtonschools.org](mailto:jmccurdy@stoningtonschools.org)) or WV/WB Principal, Alicia Dawe ([adawe@stoningtonschools.org](mailto:adawe@stoningtonschools.org)) to discuss enrollment options.*

### To register\*, you MUST bring the following:

1. **Proof of Residency** (All 3 listed below):
    - SIGNED LEASE AGREEMENT OR MORTGAGE
    - CURRENT UTILITY BILL (ELECTRIC, PHONE, CABLE)
    - DRIVER'S LICENSE/CAR REGISTRATION
  2. Child's birth certificate or passport
  3. Legal guardianship papers (if applicable)
  4. Custody papers (if applicable)
  5. **Kindergarten Health Assessments** must be completed prior to entry into school. All Kindergarten Physicals must be completed between January 1st and Dec 31st of the calendar year the child starts school. If the exam was done prior to January 1st, entry to school is accepted until a new physical exam is completed one year from the date of the last physical to remain compliant in school. Please bring documentation of the **MOST RECENT PHYSICAL** with you to registration.
  6. Immunizations Records
  7. **Lead screening results:** Universal blood lead testing is mandated in CT. Children are tested between 9 months and 36 months of age. Proof of testing is required prior to the start of school. This should be documented on physical exam form.
  8. **Health related questions, please contact the school nurse.**
- > *\*Class placement will not be available until all registration requirements are met*



LEARN PRESENTS THE 3RD ANNUAL

## DISABILITY SUMMIT



SATURDAY, MARCH 16 • 10:00 AM-3:00 PM  
MOHEGAN SUN CONVENTION CENTER  
1 MOHEGAN BLVD UNCASVILLE, CT



[www.learn.k12.ct.us](http://www.learn.k12.ct.us)

### OVER 70 AGENCIES

Family-friendly event open to educators, families and caregivers

The first 200 children receive a FREE BOOK

Take a picture with mascots:  
Mohegan Sun sports teams BlackWolves and CT Sun & Looney Toons characters

This event features local and statewide CT resources for families of children with disabilities from birth to age 21

### 12 INFORMATIVE PRESENTATIONS

11:00 - 12:00, 12:30 - 1:30, 2:00 - 3:00

TOPICS INCLUDE:

"Transition 101"

"Understanding Your Child's IEP"

"Supporting Siblings of Children w/Disabilities"

"Assistive Technology in the Home, School, & Workplace"

"Department of Developmental Services Panel"

and MANY MORE!



For event updates and details follow us on Facebook!  
(860) 400-0848 x2118





## Kindergarten Registration

If you have a child who will be entering Kindergarten in the fall, feel free to send the school nurse results of a recent physical and immunization records. Be sure to complete the Kindergarten Registration— see p. 16.

## Absence and Illness Policy

It is imperative during the cold and flu season that you are reminded of the illness policy.

### 24-Hour Rule

If a child complains of illness, has a temperature over 100°, or is judged to be ill by the nurse, parents/guardians will be called. The child should remain home until the temperature has remained normal, without the use of fever-reducing medications, for 24 hours. The “24-Hour Rule” also applies for vomiting and diarrhea. Please notify the school nurse with information regarding illness/injury. If your child is seen by a medical provider, please provide a doctor’s note.



### Keep me home if...



I'm vomiting

I have a fever

I have diarrhea

I have a sore throat

I have an eye infection

I have a rash, lice, or nits

I'm just not feeling very good



[dmsnurse@stoningtonschools.org](mailto:dmsnurse@stoningtonschools.org) •  
Phone: 860-535-2235 • Fax: 860-535-2392

Notify the school nurse with the nature of your child’s absence. Some students and staff at DMS require special monitoring due to their immune systems and susceptibility to viral illnesses, so please inform the nurse as soon as possible when your child is ill so she can take the steps necessary to keep everyone as healthy as possible at school.

[dmsnurse@stoningtonschools.org](mailto:dmsnurse@stoningtonschools.org)

**When your child is sick, do not expose them to others!**

Your cooperation is greatly instrumental in helping to keep the DMS community healthy!

## Clothing donations needed

Elastic-waist pants of all sizes, underwear, socks, long-sleeved shirts, all sizes are needed.

## Dress appropriately for the weather

Students will be having outdoor recess. Since classroom temperatures may vary, dressing in layers is always a good option. Reminder: send in a change of clothes, no matter what grade. Accidents happen.

## Stay hydrated

Even though the weather is chilly, students still need to stay hydrated, eat healthily, and get plenty of rest! Remember to provide a water bottle for your child to use in school.