



SMITH SPECTACULAR

September 4, 2026

A Great Week!

It's been a fantastic week with our 1st - 4th graders! There were many smiling faces. We are looking forward to welcoming our PreK and Kindergarten students on Tuesday!

Snacks

We are fortunate in Maine to offer free BREAKFAST and free LUNCH to all students, but we do ask parents to send in a **daily snack, please**. If you need support in supplying a daily snack, please let us know. We appreciate your support.

PIE



Our parent organization (PIE: Partners In Education) will hold its monthly meetings on the second Monday of each month (the only exception is October; it will be the first Monday). PIE is always looking for more members. Meetings take place in the Smith School staff room from 5:30-6:30. We hope to see you there!

Smith School Gear

[Click here to see what you can purchase](#)

ATTENDANCE

Smith School Attendance Update:

Last year at Smith School 18% of students were considered chronically absent. (Missing 10% or more of school days during the year). This year, our goal is to reduce this number to 15% or less!

Even missing a couple of days each month can add up fast.

Here are some tips for helping your child be here at school every day!



Getting your child to school every day can be a challenge. But it's one of the most important ways you can help them succeed.

Children who attend school regularly are more likely to:

- Build lasting, meaningful friendships
- Feel like part of the school community
- Read at grade level
- Pass math assessments



How you can boost attendance:

→ **Share your current contact info with school.**

We're here to help. Stay connected so we can share attendance updates, answer your questions, and connect you to resources.

→ **Champion your child's success.**

Let them know you care about school because when you're excited, they are too. Try tracking and celebrating weekly attendance goals.

→ **Make a back-up plan for getting to school on time.**

It's so important to have people in your life who have your back. Ask family, friends, or neighbors to be your school drop-off (or pick-up) back up. And be theirs too!

→ **Make a going to school routine.**

Write out your plan for that morning.



Plan Ahead 2026-2027



RSU 22 greatly values instructional time, and our students benefit from consistent attendance. When looking ahead to the 26-27 school year, please consider these dates when planning holidays, appointments, and vacations.

HOLIDAYS & IN-SERVICE DAYS

LABOR DAY

NO SCHOOL
MONDAY, 9/7/26

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

EARLY DISMISSAL
FRIDAY, 10/9/26

NO SCHOOL
MONDAY, 10/12/26

VETERANS' DAY

NO SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY, 11/11/26

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

NO SCHOOL
MONDAY, 1/18/27

IN-SERVICE DAY - NO SCHOOL
FRIDAY, 3/12/26

MEMORIAL DAY

EARLY DISMISSAL
FRIDAY, 5/28/27

NO SCHOOL
MONDAY, 5/31/27

VACATIONS

THANKSGIVING

EARLY DISMISSAL
TUESDAY, 11/24/26

NO SCHOOL
11/25 - 11/27/26

WINTER BREAK

NO SCHOOL
12/23/26 - 1/1/27

FEBRUARY BREAK

EARLY DISMISSAL
FRIDAY, 2/12/27

NO SCHOOL
2/15-2/19/27

APRIL BREAK

EARLY DISMISSAL
FRIDAY, 4/16/27

NO SCHOOL
4/19-4/23/27

EARLY DISMISSAL & TENTATIVE
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
FRIDAY, 6/11/27

Parent notification of Planned Absence

This must be filled out and turned in to the office for planned absences of 3 or more days. Thank you.



Help Your Child Do Well in School: **Build the Habit of Good Attendance**



Did you know?

- Too many absences in preschool and elementary school can cause children to struggle socially and academically.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Missing 10% of school (2 days each month) can make it harder to learn to read and do basic math.

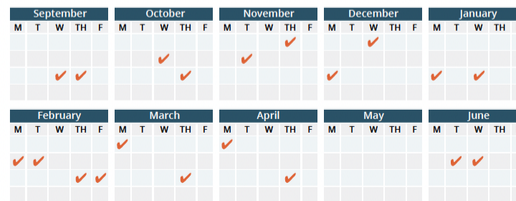
Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school — and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool and through elementary school so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day, is important.



What you can do

- Set a **regular** bedtime and morning **routine**.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks **the night before**.
- **Keep** your child **healthy** and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Develop **backup plans** for getting to school if something comes up.
- **Monitor** your child's **absences**.
- Try to schedule **nonurgent medical appointments** and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems **anxious** about going to school, **talk to teachers**, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are **concerned** that your child may have a contagious illness, **call** your school nurse or health-care provider **for advice**. Ask the teacher for ideas to support missed learning time.

Chronic absence is missing 2+ days every month over the course of a school year.



October 2025

Visit Attendance Works at www.attendanceworks.org for free downloadable resources and tools!

Change in plans

Please send all changes to afternoon plans to: Smithoffice@rsu22.us. All changes must be submitted BEFORE 1:00. Thank you.

CHARACTER STRONG

This year we are excited to be using Character Strong once again as part of our school-wide efforts to reinforce positive character traits such as respect, responsibility and kindness and promote a positive school climate. As part of this program, LEAD classes with our school counselor, Mrs. Raymond will be using the Character Strong Purposeful People curriculum. If you want to learn more about this program, be sure to check out the monthly newsletters! We'll be starting the year with our Kindness Kickoff!

Kindness Kick-off Newsletter



Subject: Important Update Regarding Unsolicited Food at RSU #22

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The health, safety, and well-being of our students is our top priority. We are writing to inform you that, according to the RSU #22 Wellness Regulation, we will "Not allow unsolicited food for children in the schools during the school day".

In order to maintain a safe environment for students with severe food allergies and to ensure equitable practices during celebrations we will be adhering to this "no outside food" rule for all classrooms and school events.

Going forward, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- No Outside Food: Only snacks and home lunches for your student are permissible.
- No Homemade Treats: Homemade cakes, cupcakes, or baked goods are no longer permitted to be brought in and shared with the class.
- Celebrations and Birthdays: If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday or a special milestone, please consider non-food alternatives such as donating a book to the classroom library, handing out stickers, or bringing in pencils.

Please note that this policy helps us protect children with life-threatening allergies and ensures that all students are included equally in classroom activities.

If your child has specific dietary restrictions, medical conditions, or requires accommodations, please contact the school nurse or main office so we can make the necessary arrangements.

Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and partnership in keeping our school a safe and healthy place to learn.

Incredible 5-Point Scale

At Smith School, we use the Incredible 5-Point Scale to help your child understand and express their emotions. This simple tool teaches students to recognize how they're feeling and gives them strategies to manage their emotions in healthy ways. By learning to identify their feelings, students can make better choices about how to respond and stay calm throughout their day.

	Looks Like	Feels Like	Looks & Sounds Like
5		Super Mad	Screaming Yelling Throwing things
4		Frustrated	Face is hot Say mean things Do things without thinking
3		Upset / Over Excited	Bothered Annoyed I don't want to talk about it
2		Ok	I will try I will listen I will feel good about it when I'm done!
1		Good to Go!	Interested I can do this Calm Happy

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, September 7: No School, Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8: First day of school for grades PreK and K. All students in school.

Friday, September 18: Picture Day

Friday, September 25: PreK (only) not in session

Wednesday, September 30: All School Share 8:00; Parents welcome!

Volunteer

We are always looking for volunteers to help with photocopying and laminating. If you are interested, please fill out a volunteer form, and we'll be in touch. [Volunteer Form](#)

"BELL TO BELL LAW"



Leroy H. Smith School
319 South Main Street
Winterport, ME 04496
Tel: (207) 223-4282 Fax: (207) 223-2267



Dawn Moore, Principal

dmoore@rsu22.us

Dear Smith School Community,

In alignment with Maine's new "bell-to-bell" law, RSU 22 will implement a new personal electronic device policy at the start of the 2026-2027 school year, restricting device use in all district schools. This supports student learning, minimizes distractions, and promotes positive social interaction.

The policy covers all personal electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, personal laptops, and other devices with internet or cellular capability.

At Smith:

We strongly encourage students to leave smart devices at home to avoid damage or loss. If brought to school:

- **Cell phones and smartwatches** must be off and stored in backpacks from arrival through dismissal.
- **Smart glasses** may not be used at all, due to state and federal privacy laws.
- **Personal laptops, tablets, and gaming devices** may not be used during the school day.

Non-compliance with this policy will be addressed as follows:

1. **1st instance:** Parents notified; device held until dismissal, then returned to student.
2. **2nd instance:** Parents notified; device held for parent/guardian pickup only.
3. **Repeated/ongoing violations:** Family meeting to problem-solve, with an individualized support plan as needed.

Our goal is to help students build healthy device habits, stay engaged in learning, and ensure consistent expectations at school and at home.

Thank you for your partnership as we implement this law and support student focus and well-being.

Sincerely,

Dawn Moore

Dawn Moore

Principal, Smith School

Community Events

This website will provide you with information about events, sign-ups for clubs, etc., available to your children. Please check often. We will be putting flyers, etc., directly into this folder.

Parent Handbook

SCHOOL LETTER DAYS



September

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A	1 B	2 C	3 D	4 E
7 Labor Day	8 F	9 A	10 B	11 C
12 D	13 E	14 F	15 A	16 B
19 C	20 D	21 E	22 F	23 A
28 B	29 C	30 D		

SEPTEMBER MENU

SEPTEMBER		LEROY SMITH SCHOOL		2026	
BREAKFAST					
Includes Juice, Milk, Fruit, Grains, & More. Each day of the week has a feature that rotates monthly.					
Banana Bread	Fresh Baked Muffins	Warm Donuts	Yogurt Parfait	Cinnamon Roll	
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
LUNCH					
Includes Milk, Fruit, and Salad Bar each day. Check the cafeteria menu board for Chef's Specials and Peanut Butter & Jelly Meal.					
8/31	1	2	3	4	
Chicken Nuggets with Dipping Sauces Seasoned French Fries Dinner Roll	Walking Tacos Served with seasoned beef, cheese, salsa, and toppings Mexican Street Corn	Chicken BLT Pasta Salad All white chicken tossed with Ranch sauce, bacon, tomato spinach, & whole grain pasta Breadstick	Waffles Baked whole grain waffles served with syrup, Maine Blueberries, and Sausage	Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 	
7	8	9	10	11	
LABOR DAY  NO SCHOOL	Egg McSmith English Muffin Sandwich loaded with Egg, Ham, & Cheese Hashbrown Potato	Hamburger USDA Beef Patty on a whole grain bun with choice of American Cheese and toppings French Fries	Pasta & Meat Sauce Our spaghetti sauce is made in house with herbs, spices, and ground beef Dinner Roll	Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 	
14	15	16	17	18	
French Toast Sticks Baked whole grain french toast served with syrup, Maine Blueberries, and Sausage Hashbrown Potato	Hot Dog Steamed frankfurter in a toasted bun Italian Veggie Pasta Salad	Vanilla Yogurt Parfait with Maine Blueberries, Strawberries, & Granola Fresh Baked Muffin	DELI SANDWICHES choice of Ham, Turkey, Cheese & Veggie toppings Chips Gluten Free Bread Available	Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 	
21	22	23	24	25	
Pancakes Fluffy whole grain pancakes served with syrup, Maine Blueberries, and Sausage	Thai Salad with Chicken Fresh salad mix with sliced veggies and chicken and scratch made Sweet Chili Dressing Breadstick	Hamburger USDA Beef Patty on a whole grain bun with choice of American Cheese and toppings Pasta Salad	Crispy Chicken Drumstick with mashed potato and roasted vegetables Dinner Roll	Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 	
28	29	30			
Cheesy Breadstick Dippers Savory baked whole grain sticks with Tomato Marinara Dipping Sauce	Chicken Tenders with Dipping Sauces Roasted Potatoes Buttered Corn	Irish Beef & Noodles Savory USDA ground beef with egg noodles and gravy Roasted Carrots Dinner Roll		SALAD & FRUIT BAR Offered at Lunch Every Day 	
Menu Subject to Change. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.					

2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

[illegible]

Email: dmoore@rsu22.us

Website: <http://smith.rsu22.us/>

Location: [319 South Main Street, Winterport, ME, USA](#)

Phone: [207-223-4282](tel:207-223-4282)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/smithschoolwinterportfrankfort>



Dawn Moore

Dawn is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters