

Volume 5, Issue 4
Jan/Feb 2023
www.sau56.org

Idlehurst News

Administrator's Corner



Snow Gear: Brrrr! It's once again beginning to feel like winter! Students will enjoy outdoor recess as much as possible (generally unless it's raining, or the temperature falls below twenty degrees). It's important for students to be wearing a winter coat, snow pants, hats, mittens/gloves, and boots when playing in the snow. Without this snow gear, students must stay on the blacktop portion of the recess area. Please let us know if your child needs any of these items for school. We can help!

Lost and Found: Speaking of snow gear, we have a variety of items in lost and found! Please check out the lost and found display (near the cafetorium) to claim any items your child may have misplaced.

Two Hour Delay: Please remember that school starts at 10:55 AM when there is a two-hour delay. Please do not drop off your children before 10:45 AM on two-hour delay days, as no staff members are on duty until this time. As we begin serving lunch shortly after school begins, there is no breakfast on two-hour delay days. Please ensure that your contact information is updated in Power School so that you receive the Alert Now calls that are issued when there are cancellations and delays.

Job Shadow: Idlehurst Elementary School will be celebrating National Groundhog Job Shadow Day on Thursday, February 2. Job shadowing is an activity that allows students to gain more knowledge of the World of Work, and job shadowing helps students to better understand the value of the lessons learned at Idlehurst Elementary School every day! All Idlehurst Elementary students who do not participate in National Groundhog Job Shadow Day are encouraged to Dress for Success on Thursday, February 2! Students participate in Dress for Success by coming to school with a career costume that is appropriate for school.

Career Spirit Week: Dates will be Jan 30- Feb 3rd. This is a week that we work with the Career Tech Education program at the high school to share with all the students the importance of career building and all the options that are in this world. Students spend the week exploring different careers, learning about jobs and dressing for spirit week. More details to follow!

Universal: We will be rolling out the traffic light for the month of January. We want to have the students stop, think about it and make a good choice. They will be earning traffic lights and working towards the winter carnival.

Response to Intervention: The month of January has all students continuing to work in their intervention groups that are targeting their literacy needs. Kindergarteners are currently being benchmarked. Intervention groups will be formed based on their instructional reading levels. Also happening this month, students in grade 1 and 2 will be taking the Winter MAPS (NWEA) in both reading and math. By February, new groups of intervention will be formed using the NWEA data, instructional level updates, and in some cases benchmarking data.

Coming Events

January

26th: Family Game Night,
6:00-7:30pm at Idlehurst



February

9th: Valentine's Dance,
grades K-6th, 6:30-8:30pm at
Idlehurst

10th: Teacher Workshop Day

20th-24th: Winter Break, NO
SCHOOL

Inside This Issue

Title 1 Reading Tips	2
RTI	2
Family Game Night Out, Valentine's Dance	3
Notes from the Nurse	4
Somersworth Public Library Events	5
Farm to School	6
Winter Fun in NH	7
Parents Make the Difference	8



Title I Tips for Reading Aloud to Your Child



Here are a few things to try this month when reading fiction books to your children:

Read with energy! Vary the tempo and volume of your voice to make the story interesting. Try using different voices for each character. Talk with your child about the way each character is feeling. By using varied words to describe the emotions of the characters you are broadening your child's vocabulary. Try to use words other than mad, sad, and happy.

Tell your child what you enjoyed about the book and ask them to share what they liked (or didn't like) with you.

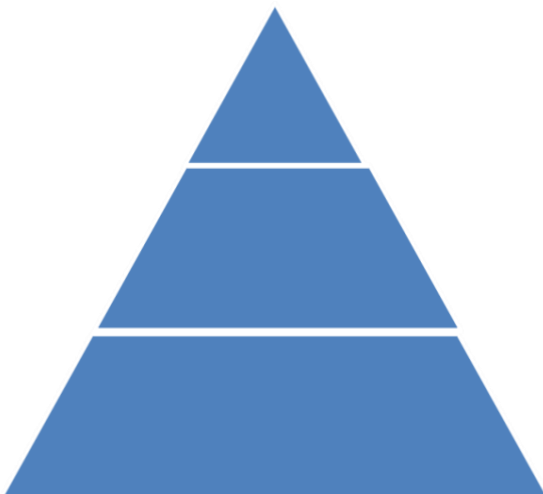
Your Title I Team

Children fall in love with books because of the memories created when they snuggle up and read with someone they love. -Raising Readers



RTI = Response to Intervention

How we meet the needs of each student



- Under RTI when curriculum instruction and assessments are working together more students are achieving success.
- We believe that by using RTI all students will be academically and behaviorally successful if we give them the needed supports.
- We need your support and active participation for students to be successful.



Home to School Connection



You're Invited!

Family Game Night Out

Grades K-8 & their families
 Thursday, January 26th, 2023 6:00-7:30pm
 Idlehurst Elementary School
 46 Stackpole Rd.
please use the parking lot and entrance by the gym

Free family fun with Games
Make-It-Take-It crafts
Free Books for students

Hosted by the Family Engagement Committee

2023

SOMERSWORTH RECREATION Valentine's Dance

Thursday, February 9th
 Idlehurst Elementary School Cafe
 6:30-8:30 pm

\$25 per Couple (1 Adult/Children)
No charge for additional children
\$5 charge per additional Adult

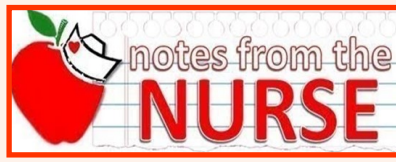
Girls/Boys in Grades K-6 & their special date (Dad, Mom, Step-Parent, Aunt, Uncle, Grandparent, etc.) are invited to a fun filled evening. There will be music, light refreshments, raffle prizes, and a photo booth to capture your special memories. Families are asked to donate a dessert/goodies if you can.

Tickets must be purchased in advance
NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

Tickets will be on sale January 9th-February 8th in the Rec Office at City Hall. Tickets are limited, please call 603 692-9507 to ensure tickets are still available prior to coming in. Cash or checks only. Checks payable to City of Somersworth.

MUSIC - PHOTO BOOTH - REFRESHMENTS





A FREE vision screening will be offered at school on Thursday January 26th. The screening will be provided by the Somersworth Lions Club. The nurse will be present at all times during the screening. The screening consists of an instant scan of the student's eyes to determine the possible presence of eye disorders. No physical contact is made with your child. The child simply looks at some blinking lights for a few seconds and a report will be sent home. More information on the Spot Vision screening tool can be found at www.hillrom.com/en/products/spot-vision-screener/ online Consent Forms are available, contact your child's teacher or call the school.



The weather can be very cold at this time of the year. The children should be wearing warm clothing – coats, sweatshirts, hats, mittens/gloves. They do go outside for recess and special breaks during the school day. If there is snow, the students can play in the snow only if they have snow pants and boots.

Please let me know if you need anything for your child/ren to keep warm and to play in the snow.

Germs, germs, germs are everywhere – and they like to be shared when we are all together. The best way to prevent illness is HANDWASHING with soap and water or using hand sanitizer is the best way to reduce the spread of germs.

*****If you feel your child is ill, please have your child stay home and call to schedule a Provider appointment.....Please do NOT send your child to school if sick before the appointment.** Please call the school in the morning if your child is ill during the night or in the morning – with any questions you may have. Your child needs to be **fever free** (without fever reducing Medication) for 24 hours before returning to school. If your child has vomited or has diarrhea, they should also stay home for 24 hours from the last time this occurred. ****Most important: Please send your student only if he/she is feeling well enough to participate in the learning environment when returning to school.**** Many students have returned not feeling well during the day and it is difficult for them to participate in the learning process. The **School Illness Protocol** has not changed since last year. Please call or email me at school with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your help in keeping our school community healthy.

Ms. Mey RN, Idlehurst School Nurse (jmey@sau56.org) 603-692-2435

**February Events
at the
Somersworth Public Library**

Escape Room: Jewel Heist!

Running February 1 – 28.

Join us for our first ever escape room! Follow the clues to unlock boxes, find the missing jewels, and escape capture before time runs out! *Recommended for all ages (children may need guidance).*



Build a Fairytale

Thursday, February 23 • 10am

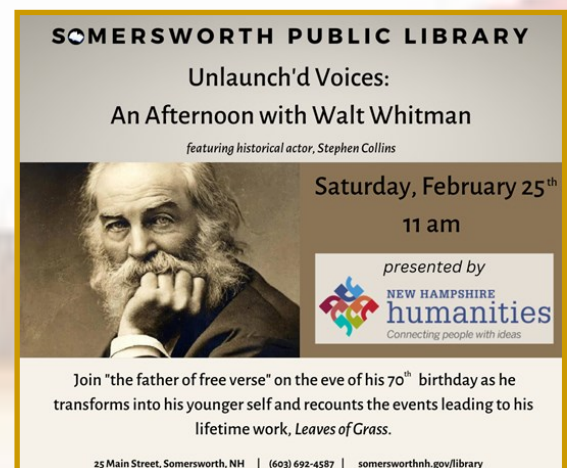
Join us for a fun-filled journey where library participants won't just imagine a story...they'll engineer it! Story explorers will collaborate in groups to: craft a boat for the Gingerbread Man, design a bridge for the Three Billy Goats, and test houses for the Three Little Pigs. Presented by the Children's Museum of New Hampshire. *Recommended for ages 5 - 12.*



An Afternoon With Walt Whitman

Saturday, February 25th • 11am

Join "the father of free verse" on the eve of his 70th birthday as he transforms into his younger self and recounts the events leading to his lifetime work, *Leaves of Grass*. Historical actor Stephen Collins gives a phenomenal performance through his recitation of poetry and readings of actual letters. The audience will experience Whitman's movement from selfishness toward selflessness and witness his growth into a mature artist. *All ages.*



For more information please visit <https://www.somersworthnh.gov/somersworth-public-library/pages/library-programs>



Fresh Vegetables Still Tasty in the Dead of Winter

Maple Wood Elementary is keeping the new Farm to School tradition alive this winter, with local produce that keeps for months, even unrefrigerated. Last month students sampled various winter squashes, and parmesan cheese on top, to roasted butternut and acorn squash wedges, and ending the year with a sample of pumpkin cake to jog the pre-holiday season spirit. We are grateful for the time Ms. Wilson puts into creating quick, fun local foods lessons for this cafeteria activity, and for the hardworking farmers at Rollinsford's Brandmoore Farm for the love, care, and time it takes to grow fresh food. <https://www.brandmoorefarm.com/>

This month Maple Wood students will sample local parsnips from M and R Harvest of South Berwick, whose produce can also be purchased at Brandmoore Farm's brick-and-mortar store. Maple Wood understands the importance of supporting our local growers; the students love sampling foods familiar to them but in new styles of presentation and trying new foods for the very first time. Some of the recipes can be found on the NH Harvest of the Month website, such as the overwhelmingly popular kale chips <https://www.nhharvestofthemonth.org/kale-chips.html>. This site provides valuable resources for both educators and families- lesson plans, age-specific reading lists, and easy recipes to prepare at home as well as for an entire cafeteria's worth of eaters. Try some at home with your student, and get the conversation started for the spring growing season. It will be here soon enough!



Winter Fun in New Hampshire!

Ice Castles

Dates and hours are weather dependent. Closed on Sundays and Mondays, except for holidays.

The acre-sized, all-ice castle returns this winter. It 's features include ice slides, caverns and archways, crawl tunnels, mystery forest light walk and snow tubing.

For more information visit <https://icecastles.com/new-hampshire/>



Somersworth Lions Club Public Skating, 135 West High Street Somersworth, NH

Hours of operation are weather dependent so please check their Facebook page for updates at <https://www.facebook.com/SomersworthLions>

There is no cost for skating but donations are accepted and appreciated. Donations (cash or check) can be placed through our mail slot on the front door of the white building. You may bring your own skates or skate rentals are available (please check their FB page about this before arriving). Come to free skate or bring a hockey stick to practice your skills!



20th Annual Keene Ice and Snow Festival

When: Saturday, February 4, 2023 | 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

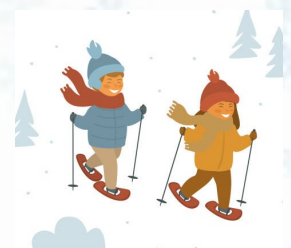
More information: [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

The Keene Ice and Snow Festival is held at Central Square in downtown Keene and is free and open to the public. This family-friendly winter carnival includes snowball fights, ice sculpture competitions and plenty of hot cocoa sipping.



Snowshoeing

There are some great winter trails in NH that are perfect for snowshoeing and you can bring your own or rent at certain locations. If you have your own you can visit Ordione State Park in Rye or any local site that has these types of trails. If you are looking to rent, Gunstock mountain in Gilford and Loon Mountain in Lincoln are just a few great options. Visit the link below to NH Magazine for more locations.



Dover Arena, Recreational Public Skate 110 Portland Ave

Dover, NH Drop-ins welcome - Limited to 130 skaters. No figure skating lessons, moves or hockey sticks will be allowed during these sessions. Visit <https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/recreation/arena/public-skate/> or call 603-516-6000 for pricing and to confirm times as they are updated monthly.



Visit this site for more events and resources <https://www.nhmagazine.com/family/>

Parents Make The Difference

Teach your child to achieve any goal by following four steps

January is a time for taking stock and setting goals. Many adults make some type of New Year's resolutions. Then two weeks later, most realize that they haven't followed through. Kids are no different. This year, show your child how to achieve a goal. First, encourage your child to choose a goal that can be reached in a short time frame. Then, help your child follow four steps for achieving the goal:

1. State the goal. "My goal is to learn my multiplication facts." Ask your child to write it down and hang it in a prominent spot.
2. Plan how to meet the goal. "I will make flash cards and study them for 15 minutes every night. I will ask Dad to quiz me on Fridays."
3. Talk about the goal with others. This builds commitment to the goal. Your child should tell the teacher about the goal, too.
4. Do each step in the plan, one at a time. If problems come up, talk about possible solutions. Perhaps your child is too tired to review flash cards after a long day of school. It might work better to study them in the mornings while eating breakfast instead. Notice effort and progress each step of the way – and celebrate together when the hard work pays off!

"Set your goals high, and don't stop till you get there." – Bo Jackson

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Share the wonders of science with your elementary schooler

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to teach your child about science. Just do some simple things like these:

- Encourage your child to collect and organize objects, such as leaves, rocks, shells or bottle caps.
- Encourage investigation. Give your child a magnifying glass. Ask, "What things do you see?" "What's similar and what's different with and without the glass?"
- Talk about the science that happens at home. Which cereals get soggy in milk? Why do foods in the refrigerator get moldy? Why do some plants need more water than others?
- Show an interest in science. Look at the moon and the stars with your child. Weigh snow. Mix paint colors.
- Include your child—as an observer or, better yet, a helper—when you make household repairs or work on the family car.
- Nurture curiosity. Ask your child questions. "Why do you think ... ?" "What might happen if ... ?" and "How can we find out ... ?"
- Go to the library. Check out books on different scientific topics.
- Give your child something to take apart—a ballpoint pen, a candle, an old toy. Encourage your child to figure out how it works.
- Talk about the weather. Have your child record the temperature each day for a month. Note whether the day was sunny, cloudy, rainy, or snowy. Which was the coldest day? How many snowy days were there?

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