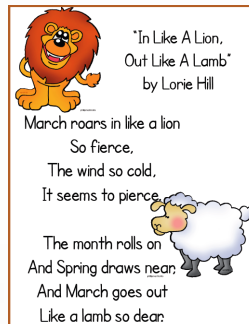




Idlehurst News

Administrator's Corner

Volume 5 Issue 5, March/April 2023, www.sau56.org



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Coming Events

March

29th: Wellness Night,
5:00-7:00 pm at Somersworth High School

April

3rd-7th PTA Book Fair,
Family Night 4/6, @
Maple Wood
4th: Spring Picture Day
6th: Kindergarten Registration Night, 6-7 pm
24th-28th:



Welcome to spring, friends, families, and guardians. It is hard to believe we have surpassed the 100 day celebration, Valentines day, St. Patrick's day, (and the infamous grade 1 leprechaun traps). Without the support of each and every one of you at home, many of these celebrations would not be possible and for that we are so incredibly grateful. With spring comes many exciting events and field trips. Again, these would not be possible without your support at home. Trips include a play at the Portsmouth Opera House, visiting the Seacoast Science Center, Dover Children's Museum, Wentworth Greenhouse, and more to come. We continue to welcome parent volunteers in order to make these trips possible. If you are interested, please contact the SAU to be fingerprinted and cleared to volunteer, (603) 692-4450.

The Universal Team at Idlehurst has rolled out the new spring initiative "Day and Night our Listeners Shine Bright." Students are earning suns and stars for being first time listeners, waiting for the complete set of directions, and waiting to hear 'thank you' before they can begin the direction. Feel free to discuss this with your children at home and practice as several step directions can be a challenge. Also, by encouraging them to listen all the way through on the first time can build great listeners both at home and in the school! If they fill the board with the suns and the stars, they will earn a spring dance party.

Miss Gove and I would like to thank you for all your support that you have shown towards the Idlehurst community, including helping to raise over \$2200.00 in the penny war for the PTA! It is because the love and support from teachers and families that our students continue to blossom and grow each day.



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:

Make reading aloud part of your routine. Read a book to your child each night at bedtime or each morning while you are waiting in the drop off line.

Slow down to take time to process what is happening on each page. Discuss what happened and what you see in the pictures before you turn to the next page.

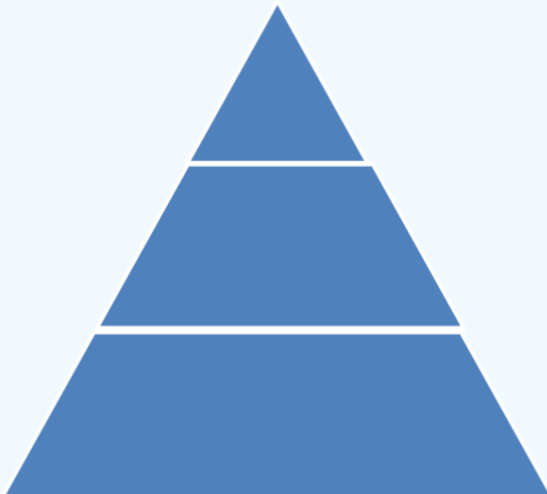
Encourage predictions and accept all responses as possibilities. Say, “That’s an interesting idea.” or “I wonder if that is what the author is thinking, let’s keep reading and find out!”

Your Title I Team

Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.- Emilie Buchwald

RTI = Response to Intervention

How we meet the needs of each student



- RTI believes that behaviors and academic skills are connected
- We want families to work with us in making decisions for your child
- All families are welcome into our school communities



Home to School Connection



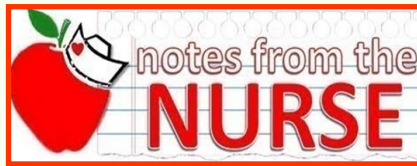


Spring is mud season in New Hampshire, but that doesn't need to keep you home.

After three years of pre-pandemic planning, the Wellness Committee is *finally* hosting the districtwide **Wellness Fair** at Somersworth High School. On **March 29th from 5-7pm**, all students and their families are invited to the High School cafeteria to learn about health and wellness opportunities in our community. This will include exercise and fitness, recreation and summer camp offerings, library programming, nutrition resources, and even participate in a seed starting activity led by students from the Maple Wood Sustainability Club. Reps from Mr. Fox Composting will be on site to demonstrate and educate about reducing food waste in our community, and to share information about inexpensive residential composting services available in Somersworth. This runs into the dinner hour, and our fantastic cafeteria staff from Cafe Services will be preparing and serving a free meal to all who attend.



Is your family interested in having a garden this spring and lack the space or sunlight? **The Community Gardens** at Malley Farm are offering plots again this year to Somersworth residents who either have that issue, or who simply wish to garden amongst friends and fellow community members. Plots are limited and are assigned on a first come first serve basis, with priority given to prior Community Garden participants. For more information, call the DPW at 603-692-4266, or stop by their office M-F 7-3:30 (closed 12-12:30), just behind the police station off Blackwater Road. Spring and summer will be here before you know it, and growing your own food is a great way to spend those seasons



March is National Nutrition Month

Snacks can play an important role in meeting kids' nutrient needs. Choosing a variety of foods from all of the food groups will give them the energy they need between meals.

Letting the kids help prepare the healthy snacks is a great way to talk about healthy foods for their body for learning, play and for the future. Students are offered a Free Fruit or Vegetable Snack each day at school. Trying something new is always fun to do!

Please click on this link for healthy ideas from

[Eatright.org](https://www.eatright.org)



Wellness Event Wednesday

March 29th

Somersworth High School from

5 - 7pm

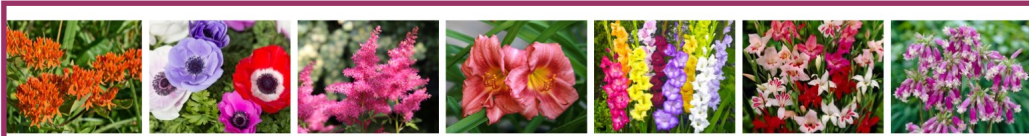
Delicious Free Dinner, Discover New Wellness Opportunities in our community,

Demonstrations to watch, Try out fun activities

Hope to see you there!



Somersworth Youth
Connection



Our Spring Bulb Fundraiser Is Underway!



Order your bulbs, bare roots, and tubers for all of your perennial planting needs this spring!

Bulbs will be shipped directly to you in early May, just in time for spring planting.

Order by April 24, 2023!

Go to threeriversfundraising.com and enter our group code listed below to begin shopping!



OR scan the QR code ↷

DC9CED



Did you know that there is a Before Care program at Maple Wood through SYC? Program starts at 7am, and includes:



time in the gym



time with crafts



games

It's a great place for students to get warmed up and transition to the school day. Spots are available to sign up! Cost is \$30 a week, and only \$25 a week if you qualify for free or reduced lunch! Contact cdonohue@sau56.org or 603-817-3998

Coty Donohue
Program Director- Somersworth Youth Connection (SYC)
Somersworth School District- SAU 56
603-817-3998

Somersworth Public Library March & April Events



SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY	
Children's Programs	
<p>STORY TIME </p> <p>TUESDAYS • 10:30 AM</p> <p>Stories, songs, finger plays, crafts and fine motor activities.</p> <p><i>Recommended for ages 4 and under.</i></p>	<p>BABY PLAY HOUR </p> <p>THURSDAYS • 10:30 AM</p> <p>Informal playgroup to encourage play and social interaction between parents, caregivers, and babies.</p> <p><i>Recommended for ages 2 and under.</i></p>
<p>STEAM & PLAY </p> <p>WEDNESDAYS • 5:30 PM</p> <p>Explore, create, question and experiment!</p> <p><i>Recommended for ages 5-12.</i></p>	<p>LEGO ENGINEERS</p> <p>SATURDAYS • 11AM</p> <p>Free-build your own creation, or complete a Lego-challenge! Work independently or collaborate with friends.</p> <p><i>Recommended for all ages.</i></p>
25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH (603) 692-4587 somersworthnh.gov/library	

Seed Starting with Recycled Planters

Wednesday, April 12 • 5pm

Join Wendy Berkeley from the NH Farm to School program for a seed starting program. You'll enjoy decorating your own recycled planter and sowing seeds while learning about the life cycle of plants and how important agriculture is in our lives. *Recommended for ages 12 and under.*

SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

STEAM & Play &

new hampshire farm to school

Seed Starting with Recycled Planters

Wednesday, April 12 • 5pm

recommended
for ages 12 &
under

25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library

Jeff Warner: Music in My Pockets

Saturday, April 22 • 11am

Jeff Warner joins us for an afternoon of singing games, accessible "pocket instruments" like spoons and dancing puppets, tall tales, funny songs, old songs and songs kids teach each other in the playground. We will revisit 1850 or 1910 in a New England town, with families gathered around the kitchen hearth with traditional music, participating in timeless, hearty entertainment: a glimpse into how America amused itself before electricity. *Recommended for all ages.*

SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

JEFF WARNER:

Music in My Pockets

Saturday, April 22 • 11am - 12:30pm

Singing games, accessible "pocket instruments" like spoons and dancing puppets, tall tales, funny songs, old songs, playground songs...see how America entertained itself before electricity!

25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library

Tween & Teen Writing Contest

Submission deadline: April 30th

The Somersworth Public Library is holding a writing contest this spring for tweens and teens. Write a haiku, a short story, a critical essay - it's entirely up to you! There are no theme restrictions; follow your inspiration to create an original work that you feel proud to present for the library. Entries can be submitted in person or by email and should conform to the guidelines outlined on our [website](#).

SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

IT'S ALL Write!

Writing Contest for Tweens & Teens

Submission deadline: April 30
Voting: May 1-7
Winners Announced: May 9
Prizes: \$15 Amazon gift card for the Tween & Teen winner

25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library

PTA News

We had a successful Penny War Fundraiser in March and thank you to all who contributed!

Upcoming Book Fairs
Maple Wood April 3-7
Idlehurst May 8-15

Be on the lookout for more information on upcoming events:

Little Caesars Fundraiser



April family fitness night



PTA night out at Board and Brush



Upcoming Meetings:
* April 11th
* May 17th
* June 1st for elections

Parents Make The Difference

March weather activities can teach your child science skills

According to the old saying, March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Is this true where you live? In many parts of the country, March brings changeable weather—which makes it a great time to enjoy science and other weather-related activities. With your child:

- Keep a temperature graph. Have your child record and graph the temperature each day for a month. Or use the online weather report for your area. Record whether the day was sunny, cloudy, or rainy.
- Measure the rain. You'll need a plastic jar with straight sides and a flat bottom, a ruler, and a marker. On the outside of the jar, use the ruler and marker to mark off each quarter inch. Have your child keep track of the amount of rainfall.
- Make wind chimes. You'll need four clean, empty cans, some string, and a coat hanger. Make sure the edges of the cans are not sharp. Help your child punch a hole in the bottom of each can. Tie a knot in one end of the string and thread the string through a can. Then tie the other end to your hanger. Repeat with each can. Each time the wind blows, the cans will make music!

You and your child can also go online to learn more about weather. Check out these fun, age-appropriate websites:

- Weather Wiz Kids, www.weatherwizkids.com.
- The Old Farmer's Almanac for Kids, www.almanac4kids.com/weather.
- NASA's Climate Kids, climatekids.nasa.gov/menu/weather-and-climate.

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Celebrate the month of April with fun learning activities

April may bring showers—but it also brings learning opportunities. Here are some enjoyable things you can plan to do with your child this month:

- April 2 is International Children's Book Day and Hans Christian Andersen's birthday. This day is designed to inspire a love of reading. Head to the library and check out some books!
- April 13 is the birthday of Thomas Jefferson. Go online to learn more about this president. Take a virtual tour of his home, Monticello, at explorer.monticello.org/virtualtour.
- April 15 is income tax deadline day. Talk about the purpose of taxes. Practice calculating percentages with your child. April 22 is Earth Day. As a family, think of something you can do to protect the earth. Perhaps you could plant a tree, reduce water usage or set up a recycling station at home.
- April 23 is the day Shakespeare's birthday is celebrated. Ask your child to write a scene for a play and act it out with friends or family.
- April 26 is the birthday of John James Audubon, who is known for his drawings and paintings of North American birds. Challenge your child to draw pictures of the birds around your home.
- April 30 is International Jazz Day. Find a radio station that plays jazz and listen to it with your child. Then each of you can describe how the music makes you feel.

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