

## Items of Interest

Rita Ward, Principal

January 14, 2019

Dear Families,

I hope you all had a great weekend!

Here are some staffing updates! Tomorrow, we will welcome back Katie Pelletier to her Kindergarten classroom. During her leave Briana Couto, Thorpe's fellow from Salem State University, has assumed the teaching responsibilities and done a great job. She will now return to her fellowship assignment and be part of the third grade classrooms. In addition, later this week, Ann Gagnon will begin a leave of absence which is anticipated to be approximately three weeks. Jane Matchak will be filling in for Ann during her absence, and we are confident she will do a great job. Finally, Lois Firicano will be joining our staff on February 5th, as the Kindergarten Aide in Annie Tricca's classroom.

A reminder that cell phones and any other electronic devices, including GizmoPal's, are not allowed in any classroom. All students must leave their cell phones/devices in their lockers or backpacks for the entire school day. Please contact me directly if you have any questions or, refer to the *Town-Wide Elementary Parent/Student Handbook* (page 5) for further clarification. Thank you for your support and cooperation!

### *Upcoming Events in January*

- *School Committee meeting on January 14, at 7:00 pm at DHS*
- *DEEP's monthly meeting on January 16th at 7:45 am at First Ipswich Bank*
- ***PAC Meeting on January 16th, at 7:30 pm, location Learning Commons***
- ***MLK, Jr. Assembly at 9am on Friday, January 18th, featuring 3rd grade students***
- *PAC sponsored, Movie Night, Friday, January 18th, doors open at 5:30 pm*
- ***NO SCHOOL, Monday, January 21st***
- *Yearbook Committee Meeting, Thursday, January 24th*
- *Family Meeting, Wednesday, January 30th*

*Library News:* I am very excited to let you know it is *Makerspace Week* in the Library and we will be studying constellations. Students will be focusing on viewing and making constellations. They will not be checking out books this week. ~ Estelle Rand

5th Grade Student Council Meeting Schedule:

- January 14th
- January 28th
- February 4th

***Have a great week!***