



# The Fox Flyer



VOL 7

No. 2021

18 Tremont Street, Wilton, NH 03086

FRES, April 6, 2021

## Principal Newsletter by Mr. LaRoche

Hello FRES Families,

We are officially under forty days left of school and teachers are working hard to squeeze in as much as possible. We will be at the best point possible when we reach the last day of school and it will look different from a non-covid year. We have some plans to address that issue and I will describe some now.

A Summer Academy is planned for July 2021. It will run from July 6th to July 29th, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, from 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM. Teachers are working to identify students who would benefit from the additional instruction and I will send a letter out to gauge interest from families. The general idea is that we will have two classes per day with a snack break. The classes will be Reading, Math, and Specials. Reading and Math, of course will be to practice, catch up, or enjoy the subject in the content area. After hearing from many people, the social aspect of students missing out on things like movement, music, art, and technology seems very important. This class would be our offering for children to gather and enjoy special area content.

We are also looking to the fall in regards to tutoring. I will work with remote planning committee to hopefully use some of the covid funds to help students in-person after school. This tutoring is being offered now but many families are still hesitant to be in-person and the thought is that we will be in a better place in September. The tutoring would be for Reading or Math, only.

Finally, please consider becoming active in the PTO. Some of the parents are moving on the WLC as their child moves to sixth grade and the group could use your help. You can just pick one or two events to be a part of and will not be expected to do more than you are able. If nine people joined in and divided events up, it would be light work. The next meeting is April 14th through a google meet.

Thank you,  
Bob LaRoche



## School Events

April 2021

April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

April 9<sup>th</sup>  
Learning Profiles go  
home

April 14<sup>th</sup>  
PTO Meeting

April

April 26<sup>th</sup> - April 30<sup>th</sup>  
Spring Break



### Snow Days:

December 17<sup>th</sup>  
February 2<sup>nd</sup>  
February 9<sup>th</sup>  
February 16<sup>th</sup>

### Delayed Opening:

February 19<sup>th</sup>



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## Nurse Notes

Happy Spring! Which means mud and allergy season is upon us! Yay! Please keep sending in a spare mask (or two) and water bottles!

Feel free to reach out to the Health Office when you have questions about illness or other ailments. Thank you again for working with us to keep FRES safe and healthy.

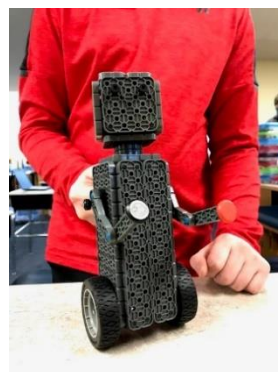


## Newsletter by Ms. Loiselle



Lots of fun and exciting things have been happening in technology and library classes this year! Grades 1-3 had the opportunity to hear books nominated for the State of New Hampshire's Ladybug Picture Book Award, and then vote for their favorite. After compiling all the votes from all the schools, the winner of this year's award was *There Are No Bears in This Bakery* by Julia Sarcone-Roach. Thank you to all of the students who voted! Please be sure to help your child check their bookcases and rooms for any library books. Overdue book notices will go out this month.

Technology has been a very busy class in all grades over the last several weeks. Fifth graders have been alternating lessons, with one class designing and building a prototype of their own toy, and the other in person class and remote class working on a passion project. The passion project is an assignment for fifth graders to take what they have learned over the years in technology and create their own project based around something they love or are interested in. So far this year has seen students creating and editing their own educational videos, slideshows, animations, and more. It's so inspiring to see these students pursuing their passion!



Fourth graders have wrapped up a thorough unit on how to be a good digital citizen. This unit focuses on how to stay safe online, how to protect private information, to understand that what they post online becomes part of their digital footprint forever, how to be kind and what to do if they or someone they know is being bullied online. Moving forward, we will be learning how computers receive and process information.

Both second and third grade students have been working on doing research, creating documents, and putting together slideshow presentations. As the year continues, both will be working to create projects using coding and animations.

Lastly, first graders are finishing up their Project Lead the Way coding project by completing animated stories in person and coding using code.org remotely. They will begin learning internet searching and safety basics this month.





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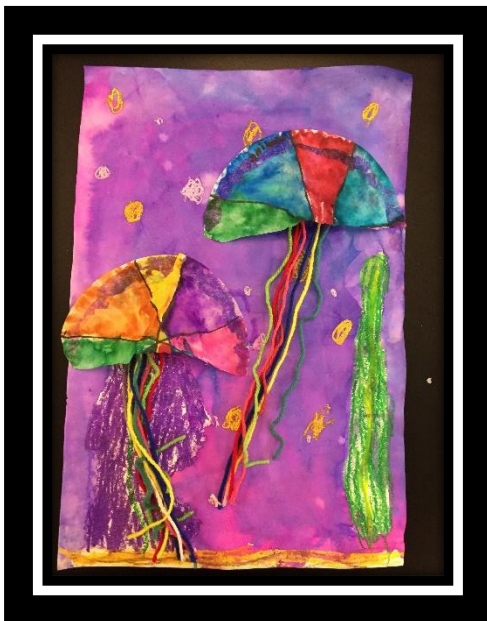


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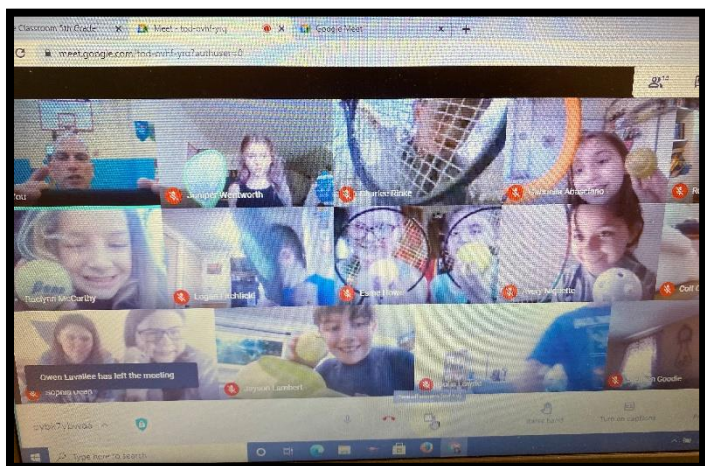
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## Music Newsletter by Ms. Kudlich

In music this year, we are learning to adjust to this new world we are living in. Instead of band and chorus, we are learning ukulele and percussion in the fifth grade! In place of in-person concerts, we are working on a virtual performance video. In every music class, we try to link our activities to the four National Arts Standards: perform, respond, create, and connect. We discuss how music connects to the rest of the world and our communities, and we identify how music impacts us in small and large ways.

In 5th grade we are working on our singing skills; specifically we are trying to sing a song in two parts, which is not something that most students have done. In 4th grade we are learning about found sound, and how to create music from the world around us. In 3rd grade we are covering the four instrument families and learning about the common instruments found in bands and orchestras. In 2nd grade we are working on our xylophone skills, and in 1st grade we are writing our own lyrics and talking about how music moves. Finally, in kindergarten we are moving, grooving, and singing up a storm!

As a music educator, I strongly believe that music is a crucial part of every person's life, regardless of age, background, or any other factors. It can help us to process emotions, bring us together, or even inspire us to try something new. The world that we live in today can feel very scary sometimes, and my hope is that students can come to my room knowing that they can express themselves and create something beautiful no matter their abilities.



## Physical Education Newsletter by Mr. Shenk

### P.E. News

Students at FRES attend physical education class once a week for 45min, and 30min for Kindergarteners at LCS. The goal of each class is to enjoy movement, practice FUNdamental skills, and become physically fit. A typical physical education class consists of half the time on physical fitness practice, and the other half on manipulative skill practice. The physical fitness portion includes a warm up, an aerobic activity, locomotor skills, strength building, and running/ sprinting. Students get a water/ bathroom break then transition to skill practice time. They are learning how to practice juggling, throwing/ catching, tennis, soccer, hockey, jump rope, and flying disk. Unfortunately, there has been no gymnastics this year due to Covid restrictions. All activities are set to music that inspires, and keeps time for each activity similar to how a fitness class is organized. Remote classes are identical to live classes except for the obvious difference. The skills, activities, and music are largely the same. More details, and "how to" videos can be found on the Google Classroom page for your child's class. You will find videos including: how to tie your shoes, what to wear to class, how to juggle three balls, jump rope skills, my amazing game video, and more.... We just kicked off our 20th year participating in the American Heart Association's, KIDS HEART CHALLENGE (formally Jump Rope for Heart). Please join our team for a great cause. Go to [www.heart.org/kidsheartchallenge](http://www.heart.org/kidsheartchallenge) to sign up. Students can help raise money, be a heart hero, and earn cool thank you gifts.

### Health News

Students in 4<sup>th</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grade have health class once a week for 45 min. They have been learning all year how to take care of their own health. The last few months students have been working in small groups to create a presentation using Google Slides about the systems of the body. Each group picked a topic, and used the internet to do research. They were given a criteria of important questions to answer in their presentation. Groups made a quiz using Google Forms that is shared with the class after their presentation. They also created a poster to go along with their presentation. It has been impressive to see students how well they work with each other, and the technology.



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## Art Newsletter by Mr. Lamers

### First Grade Art

The children have been having fun exploring proportion (how one part of your body relates to another) and how it is used in portraiture. Students used mirrors to create a Bubblegum Self Portrait which allowed them to look carefully at all of their features in order to draw them in proportion. A balloon was added to the portrait to give the illusion of a bubblegum bubble! First graders also just completed a Jellyfish relief sculpture using coffee filters for a body, yarn for tentacles and oil pastels/watercolor paints for an underwater background. Students learned that jellyfish are over 700 million years old, survived all five mass extinctions, and humans don't eat them so this species is still going (way too) strong!

### Second Grade Art

Second graders learned about the life of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo and how she lived in physical pain most of her life but created art to make herself happy. Most of Frida's work are self portraits. Each child carefully observed themselves in a mirror and created a self portrait in the style of Frida Kahlo using correct facial proportions and mixed watercolor paints to create their skin tones. They cut paper for plants and added their choice of animal images to imitate Frida Kahlo's portrait style. She had beautiful gardens at her house in Mexico and a lot of pets like a monkey, cats, and birds. Prior to the portrait, the students explored animal life in Antarctica. They created large murals depicting animal life that is dependent on the sea like penguins, seals, whales, sea birds, etc. Everyone contributed and there was always something interesting or new to look at in the beautiful murals.

### Third Grade Art

Third graders explored the element of form and created a soft sculpture out of large sheets of paper. They chose an underwater animal or being, drew it large on a folded piece of paper, and used oil pastels and watercolor paints to make a resist painting. The sculpture was stuffed with snowball size wads of newspaper and stapled together. They can be hung by a string from the ceiling or tacked on a wall for display. Recently, third graders also created Imaginary Places where the ordinary world does not exist. Students learned about absurdities. For example, a place where trees and houses can talk to each other, candy volcanoes, vehicles look like animals, and an upside down world. Many children's books and movies have imaginary qualities and are fun to think about and draw.

### Fourth Grade Art

The fourth graders have been busy creating relief prints in a printmaking unit we have just finished. Students drew their choice of a house and transferred the image to a thin styrofoam block which became their template. Using a brayer (rubber roller) and ink they created single prints from their templates and also contributed to a mural by using their styrofoam block as a stamp which gives the illusion of a neighborhood. The concept of creating multiples from one image was a success and it is always fun to see how your print will turn out! We are currently working on our third grade plaster masks that were left unfinished due to the pandemic last year. I saved them and students are adding features with recyclables and plaster strips, painting and embellishing with beads, feathers, sequins, etc. All new students will make a mask too!

### Fifth Grade Art

Fifth graders had just completed a Mask Making project using plastic mask forms and plaster strips. Every project was personally expressive, successful and interesting to look at. The students' ideas were influenced by world cultures, media, dreams and their wonderful imaginations! They will come home soon but are currently on display in one of the glass cases in our hallway for everyone to enjoy. Previously, students had been very successful in their exploration of landscapes! Using limited colors they painted a Winter Tonal Landscape with only white, blue, turquoise and green paint. They each have a figure representing a winter sport, snow is melting and these will be coming down off the walls this week!

### Remote Art

The remote art class students have been very busy with their seasonal projects, holiday projects and projects related to the elements and principles of design! The remote students have had more projects available to them than students in school since I post a new instructional video every week. In school it typically takes two to four weeks to complete a project. Remote students have a little more time at home to finish and the projects are usually not as involved but definitely still engaging and fun! A few examples of recent past projects include: Winter Cardinal Paintings, collage using Paper Mosaics, Watercolor Seascape, homemade Sketchbook for drawing, exploring Warm and Cool colors and a Torn Paper Landscape collage. The remote students are doing a great job considering they haven't been in the art room all year. Thank you parents for working with your children and guiding them through the video's and written directions!



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