



FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE • INNOVATION • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY

Joel Jocelyn, Ed.D.
Principal

December 16, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the end this calendar year, I want to thank you for trusting us with the education and care of your children. We take this privilege seriously and commit to working with you as full partners in educating our students. We have completed a successful first half of the school year. Thank you for your support, cooperation, and commitment. Thank you to the PTO for the tremendous support they have provided to our school.

I also want to extend my public gratitude to our devoted and caring staff. As I often say, teaching and working in schools is a demanding, and nearly impossible job, at times. I also believe education is the noblest and most consequential career path one can choose. The impact that our staff members have on our children transcends time and space. I hope you will take the time during this festive holiday season to express your gratitude and appreciation to your children's teachers, aides, BTs, and other education professionals who work with them.

After half a year of hard work, our entire school community will engage in some well-deserved fun activities this week, beginning on Wednesday, December 18th. I outline below some brief information relating to the events that will occur each day:

- *Activities for Wednesday, December 18th:*
 - *Beaded Snowflakes* – The children will be making bearded snowflakes in the Gym on Wednesday, December 18th, starting at 9:00 AM. Thank you to our tireless PE teacher Nick Wong for coordinating the scheduling of the time slots for this activity, and the PTO for purchasing the materials and coordinating parent volunteers.
 - *Activities for Thursday, December 19th:*
 - *Pajama Day* – We will hold a schoolwide Pajama Day on Thursday, December 19th. Students (and staff) may wear “appropriate and presentable” pajamas to school on Thursday, December 19th.



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- *Musical Sing-Along Winter Celebration* – Our students will host a winter Sing-Along celebration for the whole school on Thursday, December 19th, at 9:00 AM in the cafeteria. They will lead us in singing along some memorable holiday songs under the direction of our musically talented teacher Deanna Mustacchio.
- *Activities for Friday, December 22nd* –
 - *Winter Games* – We will hold fun games and activities in the Gym!

Franklin is Recruiting Families to become Members of our School Site Council – We are in search of two parents or guardians so that we may achieve quorum in our January meeting. The School Site Council meets after school for approximately one hour once per month. This body plays a vital role in advancing the mission of our school and tackles projects that I assign. Last year, the School Site Council members developed the first draft of a Franklin School Family handbook. We plan to complete this family handbook once we have the additional parents needed to achieve quorum.

Kindness Rocks at Franklin - We have been spreading some Kindness at Franklin. As you may notice, our staff and students have decorated some rocks with words focused on kindness. They placed their “kindness rocks” in our kindness garden as we work to embed a culture of kindness at our school. I attached with this update our December kindness calendar that suggests one way you can show kindness every day of this month. You may also use these kindness ideas in January. I hope you will use the kindness calendar with your children as we do our part to make this world a kinder and more compassionate one.

We wish you a wonderful holiday vacation with your loved ones. Our best wishes of peace, health, and prosperity to you and yours for 2020. Thank you again for the privilege of playing such a vital role in your child’s life. As always, please feel free to contact our school at your convenience with any questions or issues surrounding your child’s progress in school.

Sincerely,

Joel Jocelyn