

November 14, 2023

Dear Franklin Families,

I hope that all of you enjoyed the long weekend and are doing well as we move closer to the Thanksgiving Break. Whether you are staying close or traveling far, I wish you an enjoyable holiday with friends and family. We began celebrating Thanksgiving at Franklin yesterday with the help of our Fourth Graders, who led our All School Meeting with the theme of Gratitude. We will continue our celebration with the Friendship Walk next Wednesday, November 22nd, in which buddy classes will walk together, side by side, through our school's neighborhood. Our walk will start at 10:45 a.m. and proceed along the following route: *Start in the driveway between the school and field; West on Derby; Right on Parmenter; Right on Falmouth; Right on Arlington/Arbor; Right on Cherry; Right on Russell; Through the back gate into the field and back to the school.* We invite families to be spectators along the route!

We are also celebrating Native American Heritage Month by learning about the rich cultures, histories, contributions, and traditions of Native Americans. It is important to us that our students learn not only about historical figures and events but also about thriving Native American and Indigenous communities in the present. To learn more about Native American Heritage Month, click [HERE](#).

With best Thanksgiving wishes,
Mark Chitty

Vaccine Clinics: Please see the attachment below with information about November Covid-19 and Flu Vaccine Clinics for children at the Newton Free Library.

Early Release Dates: Our next early release date is on Thursday, December 7th, with a 12:10 dismissal. This will be an afternoon for professional development as we continue to learn about Culturally Responsive Instruction. Future Early Release Dates will be: February 1st, March 21st, and May 9th.

Parent Coffee/PTO Evening Meeting Dates: Throughout the year, we have a mixture of morning Parent Coffees and evening PTO Meetings through which we hope to engage all of you

in conversation about life and learning in our school community. Please join us on the following dates. Morning Coffees will be in the Cafeteria, and evening meetings will be on Zoom.

December 15th	8:20 a.m.
February 1st	7:30 p.m.
March 22nd	8:20 a.m.
May 9th	7:30 p.m.
June 7th	8:20 a.m.

Absences: If your child will be absent from school for any reason, please call the Student Absence Line at 617-559-9509 before 7:50. Also, please be sure that teachers have accurate information about dismissal routines for your child.

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