From the Principal: We wish you a fabulous, safe and healthy February vacation!

Save the Date: The District Showcase will be held at Mohawk Trail Regional Middle/High School on Tuesday, March 3rd from 5:00 - 7:00. It is a great way to see all the wonderful things that are happening at all the Mohawk Trail schools. A flyer will be sent home after vacation with more details.

Upcoming Events:
All School Meetings are held at 9:00 on Fridays.
Friday, February 14: Winter Enrichment Day
February 17 - 21: February Vacation
Wednesday, February 26: 1:50 Release
Tuesday, March 3: PTO at 5:30
Tuesday, March 3: District Showcase at Mohawk Trail 5:00 - 7:00

A note from the PTO: The PTO has cancelled the Garden Cinema movie Sonic the Hedgehog on Feb 15. The next PTO meeting is March 3 from 5:30-6:30pm at Sanderson. Kids welcome & pizza provided. Agenda includes local goods 2020 plan, end of year activity, and teacher appreciation week. Please bring your ideas and join us! Have a wonderful winter vacation!

Preschool News from Mrs. Freeman: Preschoolers are excited about Valentine’s Day! We plan on having a busy Art Center, making mailboxes, cutting out hearts, and painting heart shaped coffee filters with liquid watercolors. We also look forward to sharing valentines with our friends!

Kindergarten News from Ms. Sarah: For our Valentine’s Day celebration tomorrow, students will work in centers to deliver Valentines to each other’s bags, pick a classmates’ name out of a bag and decorate a cupcake for them, and make a heart craft for decorating our classroom. Students will also deliver the staff Valentine’s cards that they made. And we will do a special whole group yoga session with Miss Sue (we usually do half the class at a time for yoga). We are looking forward to spending special time together celebrating our classroom community!
First Grade News from Ms. Pedersen: First graders learned to write thank you letters. Each child wrote a personal letter to firefighter Mike Purcell. He visited our class for a lesson on fire safety. The first grade did a great job thanking him for the fire safety materials we received. We are looking forward to celebrating Valentine’s day on Friday. In math we played a fun game called, Guess my Number. Children used a chart of numbers to 50 and used the chart determined the hidden number. We also introduced a new work place called Cats and Mice. This game involves dice, graphing and using the signs less than and greater than. We celebrated the 100th day of school. We look forward to a visit from a first grader’s great grandmother who is 100 years old!

Second Grade News from Ms. Robertson: As a bridge between our social studies unit on mapping and a science unit we will be starting soon on habitats, we are building our knowledge of different landforms and bodies of water found on the surface of the earth. Our introductory lessons find us learning the differences between landforms, such as mountains and hills and islands and peninsulas, and bodies of water, such as lakes and ponds, by reading aloud books on-line through the Epic website and by watching short video clips.

This week in math we did a quick images activity called “Stick Flash”, where different quantities of bundles of popsicle sticks (tens) and individual sticks (ones) were shown for two to three seconds and then hidden. We then reported the total number of sticks we saw. This activity helps us to quickly recognize the benchmark amounts of 5 and 10. We are also learning a new work place called “Five in a Row”. Players solve two-digit addition problems, such as 42+36 and 54+36, and then look for the total on the game board and put a marker on it. They try to get five in a row, just like on a Bingo card. The game has an added twist, which is that a spot on the game board can be “captured”. If one player has already solved a problem and placed his marker on the total, a second player can capture this spot and put her marker on it by solving a different problem with the same total.

This Friday will be the last Friday our class hosts the all-school meeting. We invite you to join us if you can!

Second Grade News from Ms. Wyckoff: Happy 100th day of school Sanderson! To celebrate the 100th day we have taken part in a wide variety of activities, such as writing, reading, singing, moving our body and of course math! We were excited to add the 100th day on to our number line in our number corner. Since the first day of school we have been counting by tens up to the 100th day, which means our number line now has the number 1,000 on it. During a recent math lesson we took a collection of popsicle sticks, bundled 10 sticks into a rubber band and decided once we bundled 10 groups of ten we should make a big bundle of 100. In ELA each second grader made a list of all the reasons they love Sanderson and our second grade classroom. We then wrote these ideas on colorful hearts and made the most beautiful display outside our classroom (we are still adding to it!) Come check it out sometime soon! In ELA we also thought about what it would be like to celebrate a 100th birthday and what kind of items they would wish for on their big day! To move our bodies we found 10 moves to do ten times as we made our way out to our outdoor classroom. While we were in our outdoor classroom we looked around to see what we could find 100 of, such as trees, sticks and rocks from the stone wall. We ended our day by reading a story called 100th Day Worries by Margery Cuyler and sang a song from our number corner called Let’s Celebrate One Thousand (to the tune of head, shoulders,
kneels and toes!) What a fabulous 100th day we’ve had! From our classroom to yours, Happy Valentine’s day and have a happy, safe and enjoyable February vacation!!

Third Grade News from Ms. Fisher: In math third graders have been using number lines to solve three-digit subtraction problems. This week we have been sorting out whether to use a “Removal” technique, which involves taking away the amount, or a “Difference” technique, which involves finding the distance between the two numbers. If two numbers are relatively close to each other, such as 435 and 397, then the “Difference” technique makes the most sense to use. If the numbers are farther apart, such as 783 and 112, then using the “Removal” technique will be more efficient and accurate. Feel free to ask your third grader to solve a three-digit subtraction problem at home and see what he or she does!

Fourth Grade News from Mrs. Lagoy: We have reached the turning point in Shiloh. The turning point is where the plot makes a dramatic change and where the author reveals her message. Students will use their evidence collection boxes to consider what the turning point might be. Our line of thinking in this book is that it is right to protect animals, but lying and keeping secrets is wrong. In our next lessons, students will write a short response that asks them to identify the turning point and consider how this event changes the plot. In addition, they will be using the turning point as evidence of the author’s message. Once students finish their turning point writing, we will read the fourth quadrant without interruption. This is called our “Read-In Day.”

Fifth Grade News from Ms. Johnson: We, in fifth grade, are starting a research based argument writing unit. As a class, we are reading articles about the pros and cons of chocolate milk being served in schools. We are taking notes for both sides. Then students will each pick a side and use an outline/template to write a
thesis and a five paragraph paper. After that, they’ll each select their own topic and go through the process again, but individually with an area of their own interest.

**Sixth Grade News from Ms. Schreiber:** Sixth grade has begun looking at artifacts as evidence of antient civilizations. We are beginning to look at the differences and similarities between the neolithic and paleolithic time periods as well as the rise of civilizations. In math we are looking at the different operations with fractions.

**Math News from Mrs. Prew:** For students accessing the Title I Math program, please be on the lookout for mid-year progress reports. The report briefly compares the beginning of the year skills to the skills our students are showing now that we are at our mid-year point. It is so exciting to see the incredible learning happening for Sanderson students! If you have any questions or comments about the report - please send me an email at aprew@mtrsd.org. Keep up the hard work, everyone!

**Art News from Mrs. McMillan:** Session 1 for Art club is full! I have limited space available for session 2. Since we had a snow day on Monday, we will try to make up for the first Art Club meeting at some other time. I will be in contact with families who are enrolled in session one about a make up day. Thanks for showing so much enthusiasm for this club!

**Mindful Movement with Ms. Sue:** Hello & Happy Valentine’s Day...thinking about all the hearts around us, we have been focusing on Heart Opener yoga poses. There are many! The ones we have been focusing on are: Cobra Pose, Bow Pose, Bridge Pose, Triangle Pose, and Standing Backbend (also known as Waterfall) These poses stretch our bodies, mind and get our blood moving through the chambers of our hearts! We have had so much fun building Heart Mandalas, so many different ways to create and so relaxing! MANY thanks to the Mary Lyon Foundation for the grant that we received!!!
**Ashfield Baseball**: Baseball season is ALMOST here!! Register your kids now!

HOW: Use the Link Below and fill out the form [https://forms.gle/DFg4bgwnQEXCj8MTA](https://forms.gle/DFg4bgwnQEXCj8MTA) or like us on Facebook at Ashfield Baseball and fill out the form there! Or Meet us at Sanderson on Friday 2/28 from 3-6pm to sign up in person!

COST: $15 per player Pay via: Check (Ashfield Baseball) or Venmo Tina-Miller-7

Things to know:

• Cost includes uniform (to be returned) and hat.
• Parents are responsible for glove and cleats or shoes of choice.
• Coaches will be in contact about practice and game dates and times.
• We need you!! Volunteer coaches needed!!

**Can You Help With Ashfield Ride Sharing?** There are many Ashfielders who are unable to drive to work or appointments and there are many Ashfielders who regularly commute or occasionally drive to Shelburne Falls, Greenfield, Northampton, Amherst and elsewhere in the valley. Wouldn’t it be nice if our Ashfield community could work together to share rides down and up the mountain?

A group of interested riders and drivers is forming to discuss whether there are workable solutions. Help those with mobility restrictions. Save money on gas. And share a conversation with a neighbor.

No commitment is required, just an expression of interest. Email me, David Kulp, at david.c.kulp@gmail.com or call 628.1045 to be added to a list of possible participants. If there is sufficient interest we can build it together!