



Lura Libby School

December Newsletter



A Note from the Principal . . .

What a busy two weeks it has been at Cushing Community School and Lura Libby School. It is hard to believe that December has already arrived. However, there have been no major snow events yet which I, for one, am happy about. Though I do look forward to the first snowfall of the year, the impact on the school year is always a concern. The cold has definitely made its way to MidCoast Maine though. Be sure your students are dressed for this cold winter weather. If you need assistance with getting proper gear for your student so that he/she remains toasty warm even on the coldest of days, please contact the school and we are happy to help. Our winter break is just over two weeks away and the time will fly by until then. We have a variety of winter events at both schools. Please be sure to view the upcoming events section of this calendar so you don't miss out. Have a wonderful December!

School Start Time

Please be reminded that school starts at 8:30 a.m. Students should arrive in time to be in class promptly at 8:30 a.m. When students are late to school it is disruptive to their own day because they come in feeling a bit lost, and it is disruptive to the other students in the class because the teacher needs to spend time catching up the student who was late. Please do your best to assist your student to attend school regularly and on time. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Important Dates	
Report Cards issued	12/7
Winter Concert Kindergarten—12:30 p.m. Gr. 1 & 2—1:10 p.m. Gr. 3 & 4—1:50 p.m.	12/18
Friends & Family of Lura Libby School Cookies with Santa, 9:00-11:00 a.m.	12/19
Kindness Counts Assembly at 2:00 p.m.	12/21
School Vacation	12/23-1/1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No school	1/18
Early Dismissal 12:00 p.m.	1/27

Focus class – Grade 2, Mrs. Bassett

Our class has been working on a cross-curricular unit comparing life in Colonial America with present day life. We kicked off our unit with a trip to Old Fort Western in Augusta. Students learned what life was like for children of the past. They experienced daily chores and attended Dame School. In the classroom students have been reading and listening to books, visiting Internet sites, and working together to better understand what life was like for children of the past. They worked in groups comparing and contrasting school, clothing, work, and play. Students made a Venn diagram to compare/contrast the past and present. Each group presented their Venn diagram to the class. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and offer their thoughts. We will end the unit with two afternoons of hands-on activities that go along with this unit.





Focus Class - Grade 4, Mrs. Ford

Games, Games, Games

Multiplication is an important part of the 4th grade math program. What better way to learn those facts than through games? People of all ages love to play games that are fun and motivating. Games give students opportunities to explore fundamental math concepts and deepen mathematical understanding. On Fridays, the 4th graders in Mrs. Ford's classroom often play math games during their math block. November and December they are playing games to strengthen their knowledge of math facts. Memorizing facts can be daunting! Learning facts through games not only motivates students, but it's fun! The boys and girls don't realize that they are mastering those facts at a much quicker rate! So some rainy day when your family is caught in the house with nothing to do, bring out a game!



Passing of the Food

The annual Passing of the Food event took place on November 20 at Lura Libby School in Thomaston. Students and staff collected non-perishable goods for the Thomaston Food Pantry and symbolically passed the items through the hallways. The items were packed in boxes and readied to be delivered to the pantry. This service project supports Lura Libby's theme of Kindness Counts. We are thankful that we can assist members of our community at this time of year. The Thomaston Food Pantry is located in Watts Hall on Main Street. It is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00-11:00. It is closed on holidays and on school storm days. Donations of any amount are appreciated throughout the year.



Toys for Tots



Lura Libby School is collecting new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots. Please look for the collection box located in the lobby.

Turkey Trot

We held our annual Turkey Trot Wellness Walk at Lura Libby School on November 24th. We walked from the circle door, along the road to TGS, across the path to Oceanside West, and then came back in through the front doors of Lura Libby. It was a refreshing walk to take for both staff and students. It was a nice way to end the school day just before Thanksgiving break.



Focus Class - Grade K, Miss Vinal's Class

Kindergarten has been working on our 3rd math unit called What Comes Next? Patterns and Functions. In this unit, students are learning about "Data Analysis" through sorting and classifying objects. This could include finding objects that share one attribute, or comparing how objects are alike and different. Students are also learning about "Repeating Patterns" through constructing, describing, and extending repeating patterns. This could include distinguishing between patterns and non-patterns, or comparing different kinds of patterns. Lastly, students are learning about "Units of Patterns" by identifying the unit of a repeating pattern, counting the number of units in a pattern, and extending a repeating pattern by adding on units to the pattern. The students have been enjoying their abilities to construct and record different patterns such as ABB, ABCC, AB.

