

# Lura Libby School

## September Newsletter



### A Note From the Principal

We are off and running with learning and fun this school year. Classrooms are busy and filled with students and teachers who are renewed and refreshed after summer break. We have many new staff, whose names are highlighted in this newsletter, as well as many new students. We welcome them all to our school community. Our focus again this year is on Kindness and students began the year with that in mind. Each morning in all classrooms, students participate in a social skills block with a focus on community building and kindness. Students who are seen being kind are given "Caught Being Kind" tickets and are recognized at the end of the day. The student who was "caught being kind" the most each month will be recognized at an assembly. Monthly Kindness Counts certificates will be given out for students in our school who exemplify kindness. Those students will also be recognized at an assembly and will be invited to a special lunch with me. We will also have school Kindness Ambassadors who will work with me to create Kindness events and activities throughout the school year. At our school we tell students to Be Safe, Be Kind, and Try Your Best. We want all of our students and staff to feel safe and happy here at school.

If you ever wish to discuss anything in regards to school, I would be happy to talk with you. You can send me an e-mail at [ariley@rsu13.org](mailto:ariley@rsu13.org) or call me at 354-6464 or 354-2312 and discuss it by phone or set up a time to meet in person.

### New Staff at LLS

- Brittany Anthony, Grade 3 Teacher
- Chelsea Cates, Grade 3 Teacher
- Nerin Moroney, Castles Teacher
- Courtney Leach, Life Skills Teacher
- Nicole Hatch, Guidance Counselor
- Matt Mazzeo, World Language
- Beverly Pacheco, Music Teacher
- Ellen Spring, Librarian/Media Specialist
- Katherine Stinson, Speech Therapist

Important Dates	
LLS Open House 5:00-5:45 p.m.	9/24
Family Movie Night 6:30 p.m. (doors open at	9/18
Lifetouch Picture Day	10/2
Teacher Workshop	10/8 &
No school for students	10/9
Columbus Day, no school	10/12

We hope you will be able to join us for Open House on September 24.

We look forward to seeing you there.

### Open House Events

- Visit your child's classroom
- Tour the school, meet special area teachers
- Have a healthy snack

A reminder that Open House is not a time for individual conferences with teachers about your student. It is an opportunity to have your student introduce his/her teacher to you, show you his/her classroom, and discuss what is going on in the classroom. The teacher will be available for questions about what is happening in the classroom, the curriculum, how they assess, etc. If you wish to talk about your individual student and his/her progress, you should set up an appointment with the teacher to do so at another time. We look forward to seeing you Open House night!

#### School Focus for 2015-2016

This year, once again, our school focus at CCS/LLS is Kindness. We will be planning many special events during the school year to support this.

#### Reminder

Students should not bring toys or trading cards with them to school.

#### Reminder—Circle Door

If you enter through the circle door in the morning, please be reminded that it will not be unlocked until 8:00, when students are permitted to arrive at school.

## Free Lunch and Breakfast

For the 2015/2016 School Year Lura Libby School will take part in the exciting program offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture called the Community Eligibility Provision. This will allow us to offer Free Lunch Meals & Free Breakfast Meals to all of the students at Lura Libby School. This program also eliminates the need to complete a Free and Reduced Meals Application for households with children that only go to Lura Libby School.

We will still need to collect similar economic information for the State of Maine, so we will send home the Household Economic Survey at the beginning of the school year, and ask that all households complete it because our state funding greatly relies on your responses.

Also, this program only allows us to offer free food as a Complete Meal. It allows for One Breakfast Meal and One Lunch Meal, per student, each school day. Students are offered the same menu as the other schools in the district, an Entrée, a Fruit, a Vegetable, and Milk at each meal. For those students who do not want a complete meal they will still need to take the minimum allowable serving for it to be free, this also is the same for all other schools in the district. For Lunch a student must take a minimum of an Entrée and a Fruit or Vegetable. For Breakfast a student must take a minimum of an Entrée and a Fruit or Fruit juice. If the minimum requirements are not met, such as a student who just takes a milk or a juice, we will have to consider that an A La Carte item and place the \$0.50 fee on the student's account.

Photos from the first two  
weeks of school at  
Lura Libby School



## Arrival/Dismissal

Students who are dropped off at school should be dropped off at the circle door. If you need to escort your student into the building, you should park in a designated spot and walk them in.

Parents picking up their child early need to report to the office first to sign out their child. His/her attendance will be marked as dismissed if they are dismissed prior to 3:00.

Your child cannot be dismissed except to people listed on his/her emergency card unless a note signed by you is given to the office.

Walkers are dismissed after bus students. Students picked up at the main entrance will also be dismissed after bus students. Parents should remain in the lobby near the main entrance door. Parents should not go to classrooms to pick students up.

Walkers and children who do not take the bus should not be on the playground before 8:00 unless arrangements have been made for paid before-school care.

Buses will pick up and drop off students at the main entrance of the building.

Students being transported in private cars should be dropped off and picked up at the circle entrance. Parents must remain in cars parked in the circle at all times. Parking is not permitted along the road. Cars that don't fit in the circle should park in the lot. Parents parked in the lot by the circle must walk up to pick up their student outside and walk them down the path to the car. Parents should not enter the building through the circle door.

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## Forms for the New School Year

Please complete and return the following forms for your child:

- Emergency Card
- Internet and Media Permission Form
- Food Service Survey
- Fluoride Varnish Permission Form (if applicable)
- Influenza Vaccine Permission Form (if applicable)
- Permission Form for Newsletters/Notices to be e-mailed

## Memo from the School Nurse: Taking Food Allergies to School

Did you know that 1 in 13 kids in the United States have a food allergy? That's about 2 kids in every classroom. For kids with food allergies, even a tiny amount of the food they are allergic to can make them very sick.

The most common food allergens are milk, egg, peanuts, tree nuts (like walnuts and almonds), soy, wheat, fish, and shellfish (like shrimp and crab). But a person can be allergic to any food! Some children at Lura Libby School are learning to "Be a PAL to Friends with Food Allergies". PAL stands for "protect a life" and is an educational program from the FARE, Food Allergy Research and Education organization.

At LLS, some classrooms are now nut-free to prevent a child with a severe food allergy from having an unintended exposure to nuts. Students are asked to wash their hands upon arrival to school in the morning to remove any traces of nut-containing food. Classroom snacks must be nut-free. There are no food restrictions in the cafeteria but there is a designated allergy-safe table. Children are asked to wash their hands after lunch again to clean off any food that might still be on their hands.

For kids with food allergies, sharing food can be very dangerous. LLS students understand that they can share jokes and laughs with their friends but not their lunch or snacks. So, in the true LLS spirit of Kindness Counts, let's all "Be a PAL to Friends with Food Allergies".

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## Parent Group

We would love to have additional members in the Friends and Family of Lura Libby School group. Parents, guardians, grandparents, and other adults in a student's life all are invited to join. This group plans events and helps to provide funds to assist with classroom needs. We greatly appreciate all that they do for our school. Please contact the school if you are interested in joining.