



Lura Libby School January Newsletter



A Note from the Principal . . .

These two weeks back since winter break have flown by and, surprisingly, we have yet to have a single snow day. This is very unlike last year, and is quite surprising. We have seen some low temperatures, which have been hard to adjust to because we have been spoiled by the unusual warmth. Some snow arrived this past Wednesday, which was good timing for our 4th graders as that was their first of 3 sessions at the Snow Bowl to learn to ski. Teachers have been working to complete winter assessments to check on student progress these past weeks and will continue to do so throughout this month. I hope all of you enjoy the upcoming 3-day weekend.

Winter Gear



Please be reminded to send your student with a coat, ski pants, hat, mittens or gloves, and boots. This is imperative as the temperatures become colder and because the ground is now covered with either snow or mud, and the snow will only get deeper as the winter progresses. They should bring another set of shoes to wear at school during the school day as well. They should also have an extra set of clothes with them to remain at school in case they get wet or muddy on the playground. If you do not have some of these needed items and need assistance with getting them, please call the school or contact Mrs. Riley at ariley@rsu13.org.

Important Dates	
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No school	1/18
4th Grade Skiing at Camden Snow Bowl	1/20
Great Kindness Challenge Week	1/25-1/29
Early Dismissal 12:00 p.m.	1/27
Kindness Assembly, 8:45 a.m.	1/29
4th Grade Skiing at Camden Snow Bowl	2/2
Family Movie Night Doors open at 6:10, movie at 6:30	2/5
Family Dance—time TBD	3/11

Lost and Found

We have an extensive collection of items in our lost and found. Please encourage your child to check the lost and found for any missing items. Parents are welcome to come in and check the box as well.

Focus Class—Grade 1, Melissa Howard

During the month of December we did a gingerbread man unit. We did activities around this theme. One of the activities we did was comparing and contrasting different versions of the folk tale. We used four of them in a comparison chart; The Gingerbread Man by Jim Aylesworth, The Gingerbread Baby by Jan Brett, The Gingerbread Cowboy by Janet Squires, and The Gingerbread Girl by Lisa Campbell Ernst. We compared and contrasted characters, setting, problem, solution, and ending for these books. Mrs. Riley was able to join us, and read The Gingerbread Girl to our class, a version in which a clever gingerbread girl shakes things up a bit and creates an ending different from the traditional tale. We ended the unit by making gingerbread ornament gifts for our families-featuring our own faces!





Skiing

4th grade students went skiing at the Snow Bowl on Wednesday, January 13th. They will have 2 more ski sessions after this. 4th graders from the area are able to go the Snow Bowl with their school and learn to ski for free. This is a great opportunity for our 4th graders. They learn a new skill that they can do outdoors, while having fun.



Labeling Items

Please be sure to label your student's items. These items include winter gear, extra clothing, his/her lunch box, etcetera. This helps us to return items to students rather than having to put them in lost and found where they often end up going unclaimed. Thanks for your help with this.

French Classes, by Matt Mazzeo

Third and fourth grade students at Lura Libby and Cushing Community School had French this past October as well as this month with Mr. Mazzeo. We've been learning basic phrases and questions through songs, such as *Bonjour Mes Amis* (Hello, My Friends) and *Les Jours de la Semaine* (The Days of the Week), as well as the numbers from 0-20 and classroom commands through games such as *Le Tour du Monde* (Around the World) and *Daniel Dit* (Simon Says). Students have also learned a little about the days of the week and the months of the year through various songs and games. Mr. Mazzeo will be visiting third and fourth grades at Lura Libby and Cushing one last time for the month of April.

Focus Class—Grade 1, Ms. Wotton

Our class has been working on a new Science unit called Sound. We began this unit by finding things around us that make sound and thinking about how sound travels. We experimented with cup-and-string telephones to find the best ways for the sound vibrations to travel. As we wrap up this unit, the students are getting to design musical instruments that will produce sound, change pitch, and change volume. Finally, they will actually build these instruments and refine them. They are excited to get to share these with each other!

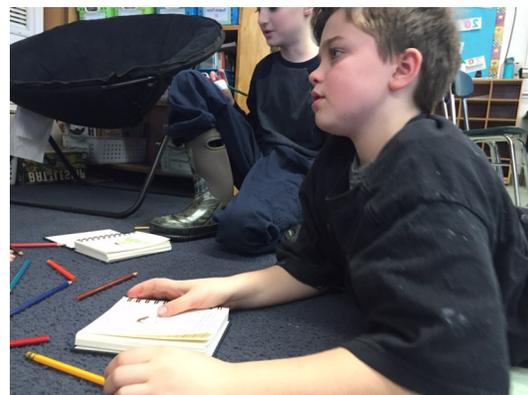


Leaps of Imagination, Written by: Nancy Harris-Frohlich

“You cannot discover new oceans unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore.”

~André Gide

On Tuesday, January 12, 2016, the LEAPS team arrived at Lura Libby in Thomaston. This winter's program will give young artists (and mentor artists) the chance to adventure into unfamiliar territory and to develop new skills and techniques. Their goal is to make a direct connection between class studies and the LEAPS of IMAGINATION's program. Introducing mapmaking, they will address ways to craft and read maps, design map keys, and create opportunities for making imaginary maps. Research is also central to fourth graders' curriculum. Starting with a “Big Picture” perspective, students will consider what is essential (or are essential features) to a map as they choose what to add to their compositions. LEAPS of IMAGINATION artists, Alexis Jamarrino, Susan Beebe, and Sarah Rogers, all of whom have worked with these students in 2014, are anticipating an invigorating and mind stretching 4 weeks with fourth graders.



CONNECTIONS Presents BOYS' NIGHT OUT FIRST SESSION in 2016

Knox County and Lincolnville boys in grades 3, 4, and 5 and their dads, step-dads, uncles or other significant men in their life are invited to attend the October sessions of the **Boys' Night Out** program. The sessions will be held at the Pen Bay YMCA on the following dates:

Thursday, January 14 @ 6:00 pm

Thursday, January 21 @ 6:00 pm

Thursday, January 28 @ 6:00 pm

Beginning our 14th year, the focus of the popular program is to have fun while enhancing the bonds between boys and men and provide information about issues such as not using tobacco or other substances, anti-bullying, increase physical activity, and good nutrition. Each evening starts with a "Getting to Know You" activity, followed by **FOOD**: a light healthy meal prepared by the chef and students at the Mid-coast School of Technology; **FACTS**: a short discussion on making healthy choices, and **FUN**: playing non-competitive games and activities that boys and men can participate in equally.

We look forward to another successful year *connecting* children and families.

The series is **FREE!** But you must register to participate. Enrollment is limited, so sign-up today!
Participants are encouraged to attend all three sessions.

To register, contact Nancy Laite 236-6313, Ext: 2 or nllaite2@myfairpoint.net

For additional information about CONNECTIONS, please contact: Hank Lunn, 236-8463 or hdlunn@midcoast.com

LAX ACADEMY

The Pitch is excited to offer a new session of LAX Academy. Our goal is to provide participants with the opportunity for skill development, practice, and game participation. Academy classes include boys and girls in Grades 2 – 12 while Little Laxers is a great introduction for Grades K – 2.

Classes begin in January 2016. Register online now at <http://www.maineitch.com/clinics/lacrosse/>

Academy Classes

Boys

Grades 2-5—Thursday 4-5 p.m.

Girls

Grades 2-5—Monday 5-6 p.m.

Little Laxers

Grades K-2—Monday 4-5 p.m.

Cost \$65 for 6 weeks or \$12 per session