



## Elmer Thienes – Mary Hall Elementary School

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Happy Thursday! On Monday, February 10, 2020 we were 100 days smarter – as noted by the hats that our kindergarteners fashioned from construction paper, lots of glue, and one hundred stickers. From one hundred Smarties to one hundred foam dinosaurs, many of our youngest children were wearing shirts and/or jewelry that they had created for the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of school.

The PTO has earned \$129 from the Big Y Community Bag Program. Thank you to everyone who purchased a reusable bag!

While we hope that all of our children can attend school all 183 days, we know that there are times when our children miss some school. Notification to the office allows us to know everyone is safe. As a reminder with the extended weekend coming up and April vacation right around the corner, teachers will prioritize and share work missed upon the return to school. This way we can ensure that the material that was covered during the absence is included. It's not really possible or practical to provide all of the work ahead of time to students that are going to be out for an extended time.

We continue to work with the Town of Marlborough as they move forward with two different road/bridge projects. We've met a number of times with Town officials and our DATCO Bus Company representatives to try and make changes that are the least impactful as possible to the bus routes. The Jones Hollow Road project will begin on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Starting Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bus #5 will start its route approximately 10 minutes earlier than usual. On Tuesday, 2/18, the MES Office Staff will be making phone calls to all Bus #5 families to explain the impact and any changes to pick-up and/or drop-off times. We'll follow a similar procedure in March as the April 1<sup>st</sup> South Main Street project gets underway. It's our understanding that both of these projects will be completed in the fall.

Friday is Valentine's Day. Tomorrow, our youngest children will come to school armed with adorable cards with sweet sentiments sharing words of kindness to their classmates. Kindness is a topic we talk about often with our children. We remind them that kindness can be found in many actions – sitting with someone at lunch, offering an opportunity to play together, picking up a fallen pencil or a quick smile. We also remind them that, even in moments of frustration, being unkind is not an effective strategy. Learning to successfully navigate social situations is tricky. While our youngest students are learning to share their feelings face to face, our oldest students are learning to navigate the social world in an on-line venue. Texts, pictures, and videos are an integral part of the on-line social world. At school, as we know is happening at home, discussion is had on how others may 'feel' about what is shared. In the end, tomorrow is about kindness, empathy and ultimately caring about each other - the most important parts of life.

We wish everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and a nice long weekend with their families and friends. A reminder that there is no school on Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>.

*Dan & Kim*

### **Upcoming Events:**

2/17 & 2/18 – No School – Presidents' Day Break  
2/19 – Grade 2 Field Trip – Historical Society  
2/21 – Yearbook Group Photos

### **New Fliers:**

[RHAM Youth Lacrosse](#)  
[10<sup>th</sup> Annual Roadway Safety Poster Contest](#)  
[MCC – Excursions in Learning – Youth Program](#)  
[Girl Scout Troop Father-Daughter Buckaroo Ball](#)  
Park & Rec:

[Grade 6 Dance](#)  
[Basketball Skills Competition](#)  
[American Red Cross Babysitting Course](#)  
[Moroccan Basket Weaving](#)  
[Just Dance – Ballet, Jazz & Tumbling](#)  
[Hip Hop Dance Program](#)