



Upcoming Dates:

Fri., 2/1 - Kindergarten registration opens for 2008
Wed., 2/6 - - Geography Bee in the gym at 2:00PM
Mon., 2/11 - 2/15 - Random Acts of Kindness Week
Tues., 2/12 - School board mtg. at CASS at 7:00PM
Wed., 2/13 - Spring School Pictures
Mon., 2/18 - Fri., 2/22 - Winter vacation
Mon., 2/25 - School resumes
Mon., 2/25 - Fri., 2/29 - School book fair
Tues., 2/26 - School board mtg. at CASS at 7:00PM
Wed., 2/27 - Literacy Night 5:30PM - 7:00PM - Book fair open
Thurs., 2/28 - Early release for 4 year olds and grades K-5
Mon., 3/3 - Fri., 3/21 MEA's grades 3-5
Tues., 3/11 - School board mtg. at BAHS at 7:00PM

Principal's Message:

. **Outside Time @ CASS** - we all know the value of fresh air and the opportunity to play outside. We thank you for helping your child prepare for outside play with the proper gear for snow and cold weather. We do ask parents, particularly those with children in grades K-2 to please pack extra clothes for when needed. Thank you again for your support!

Aspirations - For the month of January, I would like to highlight the condition of *Curiosity and Creativity*. *Curiosity and Creativity takes a look at: inquisitiveness, eagerness, a strong desire to learn new or interesting things and a longing to satisfy the mind with new discoveries*. This condition and two others (*Fun and Excitement and Spirit of Adventure*) are called Active Engagement Conditions. Our student surveys and those of students across the country continue to say that students want to be engaged and make relative connections with what they are learning in classrooms and their world outside of school. I am proud of our staff for taking time to explore and discuss with their colleagues how they strive each day to make their classrooms a place for these conditions. Check out the Aspirations newsletter from the Quaglia Institute. It is posted on our website.

Student recognition - Hats off to the following students.... **Leander Andrews, grade 4**. Leander designed and submitted his entry to the Recycle Maine calendar. His design won the month of May slot.

Leander and his family will be recognized at the Blaine House on Jan. 30. A special thank you to Jessica Porter, our art teacher, for encouraging students to participate in this event.

Also, hats off to **Raven Wright in grade 5 and Phillip Wich in grade 4**. They will represent CASS at the Geography Bee for the district. This event will be held here at CASS on February 6, at 2:00PM.

Dismissal changes and reminders: Thank you for your efforts in abiding by dismissal procedures. This supports all students being safe. As of Monday, January 28, the dismissal of busses will occur at 3:10. By dismissing busses first, we believe that the safety concerns regarding bus fumes as well as other concerns will be addressed. Please stop in the office or call if you have any questions. I thank you in advance for being patient with us as we adjust to this new procedure!

~Also, a reminder: due to safety concerns with traffic back-up we would request that when dropping children off in the circle, that it be done in a timely fashion.

Wellness and Nutrition policies-The school board has revised the wellness and nutrition policies. Its emphasis is to ensure that children learn and practice a healthy lifestyle, a belief that all of us hold close to our hearts. When special occasions occur at school, we will put the emphasis on fun activities and if needed, healthy snacks. If you would like a copy of these policies, please contact the office. We would be glad to share them with you.

MEAs(Maine Educational Assessment) -As many of you know, the MEAs are given each year to students in grades 3-8. During the month of March time is allocated for these tests at school. At the end of February, I will send home the schedule for these tests. A few ways to support your child:

- Ensure that they are in school each day
- Ensure that they have a good night's rest
- Ensure that they eat a good breakfast
- Ensure that they have a positive attitude towards the test.

Donations: Thank you to those of you who have donated many items over the past month. check in with office staff if you have other clothing items you would like to donate. We greatly appreciate your generosity!

~ **Attached/enclosed** is an update from our school counselor, Cynthia Martell, and others. Thank you for taking the time to read this information.

Accessing this newsletter - Reminder, you can access this newsletter at our school website, www.sad34.net - once you have reached the district site, click on schools and find CASS. Our home page does have a link for our newsletter.

As you know, with your support and active involvement, your child's academic and social goals can be attained. My staff and I thank you in advance for working with us to form a team for your child. Please contact my staff and I with any question, need or idea. We welcome your active participation in your child's journey.

Take care,

Susan Inman

Shop and benefit your school!

There is a way to make your everyday purchase count toward a school fundraiser with Schoolpop's Shop & earn program. Browse hundreds of national merchants for name-brand products and all of our household needs. As you shop online, in stores or through catalogs, you'll earn up to 36% on every purchase you make for your school fundraising program!

<http://www.schoolpop.com/>

Simply click on 'register' to sign up. Captain Albert Stevens School will be one of the schools to choose from. Our id# is 109630.

From now on, when you are shopping online, just go to the SchoolPop website first and then choose the online merchant at which you want to shop. A percentage of your sale will automatically be sent to our school!



Random Acts of Kindness Week - February 11-15th

Please feel free to join the 4th and 5th Grade to celebrate Random Acts of Kindness Week with a non-perishable food drive to benefit the Stone Soup Kitchen.

Linda Marie, Director of the Stone Soup Kitchen, will visit to inform us about the Soup Kitchen on February 7th. Non-perishable items may be placed on a table by the main doorway or on a table in the 4th and 5th grade hallway.

4th and 5th Graders will also be posting additional Random Acts of Kindness that they do during the first two weeks of February. Take a stroll down the blue hall and check it out!

Cynthia Martell
School Counselor

