

Blue News

We are pleased to announce that we are off and running! Thanks to a cadre of volunteers and staff, our school has a shiny, refinished floor, all new windows with screens, overhead insulation, and a new girls' toilet in the blue building! The white building has been rearranged with the kindergarten on the left of the foyer, thanks to Mrs. Leddy, and the multi-purpose room on the right. In the multi-purpose room is the new library. Mrs. Picknell has really made the library ready to be the heart of the school, complete with computers. Things just keep getting better and better at Blue!

- We have 23 students at school! If at all possible, please do not send lunches that need to be heated up. We'll never get finished eating on time!
- Please send in all money in an envelope, **clearly marked from whom and what for**. Snack milk cannot be charged. We cannot provide condiments for lunches brought from home.
- **Saturday, September 17 at 10:00, we have a Blue School Community Meeting** here at school. Very important topics are on the agenda that will have an effect on the future of Blue School. Please plan on attending to share your thoughts, wishes, and expectations.
- Many of the upper Apples have chosen topics to Investigate. Look for the pamphlet. All Apples will have at least one opportunity to Investigate a topic of their choice, but we can only do a few at a time. We need mentors to help with this project. So far topics include: Berthe Morisot, Jaguars, Archeology, Water Snakes, Country Music, and Tree Frogs.
- **Paint Shirts:** Please remember to send them in this week!

**Literacy:**

**Reading:** We are in the midst of baseline assessments for reading. Our Reading Teams are always in the state of flux. One of the advantages of our multi-age model at Blue!

**Writing:** Mrs. Leddy is instructing writing to grades 2 and 3, aka Red Apples! The K, aka Bananas, and grade 1, aka Green Apples, are working with Mrs. Cochrane. All of the apples are writing in their draft books as well.

**Cast-a-Spell:** The Apples have started Cast-a-Spell. They are **teachers and learners**, using their visual, auditory, and kinesthetic modalities of learning.

**Handwriting:** The Bananas are learning to write their names in manuscript using the **Program of Action** that was distributed in the first day paperwork. The Apples are being encouraged to show us their best penmanship.

**Math:**

Team 1 is reviewing writing numerals, being introduced to pattern block templates, telling one more/one less, and learning how to play Top-It.

Team 2 is working with coin combinations and reviewing addition facts. **All of the Red Apples are expected to work on their math facts at home for homework. They do Mad Minute every day.**

Team 3 is working with area, perimeter, and capacity.

**Science/S.Studies:** They are embedded right now.

**Guidance:** As a class, we talked about bullying and being a **Bucket Filler rather than a Bucket Dipper**. Ask your little one about Bucket Fillers!

**Music:** Wow! 23 voices singing in the woods! Oh, what a magical sound. Piano lessons have started as well as music technology.

**Art:** The children did the beginning-of-the-year portfolio cover during our first class. No class this week because of the holiday.

**Library:** Mrs. Picknell purged our collection and has sent home bags of books for the children. She has some fun lessons planned for this year!

**French:** Madame Chickering was very impressed with the children's retention of salutations!

**Health:** Mrs. Cartwright discussed basic anatomy and physiology and feelings.

**Up-Coming Events:**

School Board Meeting: September 13 at 6:00

Blue School Community Meeting: Sat., Sept 17 at 10:00

NECAPS; Oct. TBA

***Blue School.....a learning community constantly improving!***

