Dear Dawe School Families and Friends,

I hope that you are all doing well and that you have had a wonderful week thus far! The warmer weather and outdoor recess is finally upon us and our Dawe Dragons are loving being outside for recess each day! Surprisingly, there is only 35 school days left this year; however, there is still a lot of work to be done and great future events to be held at the Dawe!

I wanted to use this Principal Newsletter as a way to pass along some important updates and information regarding various events occurring here at the school in the very near future!

**Caught with Character School-Wide Initiative:**

This Month’s Character Trait is **Perseverance**. Please be sure to include this in your everyday conversations with your children at home during the month of May!

Next Month’s Character Trait is **Citizenship**. As we get closer to the month of June, please begin discussing what the trait “Citizenship” means with your children at home. Citizenship is an important foundational trait that directly correlates to a student’s success both in and out of school.

**Beautification at the Dawe:**

Spring has certainly sprung at the Dawe School! Thanks to the hard work of our PTO and many student/parent volunteers this past fall, the front property of our school has beautiful flowers growing that add amazing colors to our front lawn. Additionally, with the warmer weather finally here now, many students may ask to ride their bike to school in the morning – excitedly enough, we just installed our very own bike rack by the kindergarten recess area! A big thank you to our Dawe School PTO and all of the other volunteers who helped to make our school look so great! We hope to see some bikes on the rack soon too!
Plant a Pizza at the Dawe:

The Dawe School Dragons gathered to Plant a Pizza on Tuesday, April 23rd! Families enjoyed a pizza dinner as inspiration to begin the evening. In keeping with the theme, our special guest, Children’s Librarian Mrs. Pally, read the picture book Pete’s a Pizza, and then chatted with the children about the wonderful services offered at Stoughton Public Library. Finally, families planted tomato, oregano, basil, and green peppers so they can grow some pizza sauce ingredients at home. Each family went home with their gardens, instructional packets, a sauce recipe, and journals for recording their plants’ progress. This special free event, sponsored by Stoughton Parent Engagement, incorporates science, math, fine motor skills, nutrition, cooperation, and much more. Participants learned that when it comes to gardening, P is for patience, perseverance, pride - and pizza!

John August Visits the Dawe:

Author and screenwriter John August visited with the Dawe School Fourth and Fifth Graders on April 9th. During Mr. August’s entertaining and interactive presentation, which focused on the inspirations for his middle-grade fantasy adventure trilogy, he spoke about his experiences as a Scout growing up in Colorado; square knots and how to tie them; and how to elude a bear (the answer would surprise you!). Those experiences helped him create the characters and plots of his novels. He also showed students a postcard he had received (when he was in elementary school) from author Roald Dahl, and how that seemingly small act encouraged him in his dream to be a writer. Mr. August spoke about the craft of writing and how “wants and dreams” propel a story - and a hero. The students were fully engaged and asked many questions after the presentation. The first two books in the trilogy, Arlo Finch and the Valley of Fire (2018) and Arlo Finch in the Lake of the Moon (2019), both published by Roaring Brook Press, are available at bookstores and libraries now. Many thanks to Mr. August and Kym from An Unlikely Story Bookstore and Cafe. Special Dawe Dragon thanks to Dawe Librarian Mrs. Bashein for organizing this wonderful opportunity for our students!
Family Literacy and STEM Night:

On Tuesday, April 2nd our Dawe Dragons came out in droves to attend the Stoughton Public Schools’ Family Literacy & STEM Night. This district-wide event offered families from across the district the opportunity to participate in math games, literacy activities, and curriculum explorations. The event also included a special guest reading by the famous author Josh Funk and students were given a free book, free dice, and a free deck of cards to continue their learning in a fun way at home!

Bridge Building at the Dawe Update

During the month of April, our 4th Grade Dawe Dragons continued the engineering and construction of their bridges while working in Mr. Relihan’s Makerspace. Prior to preparing the bridges for weight testing, our 4th graders had to follow the engineering and design process during their bridge strengthening and improvement. Mr. Relihan has reported to me that all of the 4th grade “companies” are still in business and have met all of the engineering goals that he has set for them! We cannot wait for testing day! Go Dragons!

Mrs. Perry’s Art Update:

Hi Everyone! Well, this is it! Art Show month! Please join us here at the Dawe for our annual Fine Arts Festival on May 23rd at 6pm. Student artwork will be on display from 6-7 with the concert starting promptly afterwards.

This is our second year of our TAB or Teaching for Artistic Behavior art program. Students have blossomed this year in our choice-based room. While this type of program is still a work in progress, I am able to see a giant leap in the progress that many of our students have made. Students are continuing to learn how to take care of the centers and how to generate personal ideas, but as year two comes to a close, it is evident that this way of creating art is what makes them excited to come to art every week!

I can’t wait for you to see all of the great examples of student thinking and creativity that will be on display at our show!
In other news, if you haven’t done so already, please find us on the following social media sites. Here you will be able to find great examples of what is happening in the Dawe School art room!

Follow us at………..

Twitter: @dawearists
Facebook: Dawe School Artists
Instagram: dawe.school.artists

More information about Teaching for Artistic Behavior can be found at:
https://teachingforartisticbehavior.org

REMINDERS:

1. **School Hours:** Students are marked tardy if they are not in the front doors of the school when the 8:30 bell rings. Students arriving after the 8:30 bell must be signed in at the office by an adult.

2. **Parking Lot Etiquette:** As you enter and exit the school parking lot, please drive at a slow rate of speed and be attentive to the crosswalk to ensure the safety of our students. Additionally, please be aware of and do not utilize the designated parking spaces that are intended for the school vans. Furthermore, do not attempt to pass the school buses when they are parked and have their STOP signs out.

3. **School Snacks:** Please be sure to provide your child with a snack to be eaten during snack time each day. Due to allergy and school wellness policies, we are not able to provide students with snacks and we do not allow them to share with one another.

4. **Popcorn Fridays and School Store:** The school store will be open in the school lobby every Friday morning beginning at 8:00 a.m. There is a wide variety of items for sale! Additionally, popcorn will be sold every Friday for 50 cents a bag! Thank you to our PTO!

**Upcoming Important Events:**

- May 2nd – 2nd Grade Field Trip to Wheelock Theater
- May 3rd – 1st Grade Field Trip to the Big Apple Circus
- May 6th – “Protecting All Smiles” Dental Program @ the Dawe
- May 6th – May 10th – Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 7th – School Council @ 3:00
- May 9th – Early Dismissal Day – Dismissal @ 12:20
- May 13th & May 14th – Mathematics MCAS for Grades 3, 4, and 5
- May 16th – PTO Meeting @ 6:30
- May 17th – TLC Field Trip to the Ecotarium Museum of Science & Nature
- May 20th – May 24th – Scholastic Book Fair
- May 21st & May 22nd – Science & Technology MCAS for Grade 5
- May 22nd – 5th Grade Showcase Night @ the OMS at 6:30
- May 23rd – Stoughton High School Seniors Visit their Alma Mater *(the Dawe)*
- May 23rd – Dawe School Fine Arts Night from 6:00 – 7:00
- May 24th – 3rd Grade Field Trip to Plymouth Plantation
- May 27th – No School – Memorial Day
- May 30th – 5th Grade Field Trip to the Freedom Trail
- May 30th – Kindergarten Field Trip to Capron Park Zoo
MCAS Dates:

- Mathematics (Grades 3, 4, and 5)
  - Session # 1: May 13th
  - Session # 2: May 14th

- Science & Technology (Grade 5)
  - Session # 1: May 21st
  - Session # 2: May 22nd

Have a fantastic rest of your week and weekend! All of us here at the Dawe truly appreciate all of your support from home! A strong partnership between the school and home makes every student’s educational experience that much more meaningful and successful!

Sincerely,

Mr. Cancellieri
Principal

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.