



SOAR to new heights at Botelle School ~ Show self-control, Offer kindness & respect, Achieve your goals & be Ready to learn!

February 14, 2025 Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES



2/17	No School - Presidents' Day
2/20	Colebrook-Norfolk Educational Collaboration Exploratory Meeting - 7:00PM - Hall of Flags
2/21	Roaring Brook Nature Center Presentations
2/26	NWR#7 Informal Town Budget Presentation - Botelle Cafe - 6:30PM
3/3	Intermediate & Upper Intermediate Field Trip to the Norfolk Curling Club
3/11	Rainbow Picture Day
3/11	Board of Education Meeting - 5:30 PM - #211
3/14	Progress Reports go home
3/14	Roaring Brook Nature Center Presentations
3/18	2025-2026 Pre-Kindergarten Screening - 1:15PM - 2:00PM
3/19	Early Dismissal - 1:00PM - Parent/Teacher Conferences
3/20	Early Dismissal - 1:00PM - Parent/Teacher Conferences
3/21	Early Dismissal - 1:00PM - Teacher PD

JOINT NORFOLK - COLEBROOK MEETING

On Thursday 2/20 at 7pm, there will be a joint Norfolk and Colebrook Selectmen's meeting to discuss opportunities for the towns to collaborate, given decreasing enrollment at Botelle and Colebrook Schools. The public is encouraged to come and share ideas, ask questions and learn more about what's being proposed.

NEWS FROM THE NORFOLK LIBRARY

Communication Workshop

Ed Thorney, a certified Gestalt Therapist, a Wilderness Guide and a father of four will be leading a workshop for adults *Getting Kids and Parents to Talk* on Thursday, February 20 in the Great Hall from 5:30-7pm. This will be a very informative and helpful workshop for anyone interested in communication skills. Reservations are appreciated but not necessary. A poster will be sent home with every child.

After School Enrichment Program

The Merrymakers, for grades K-2, have started up again. This coming Monday, after reading **Togo to the Rescue** *How a Heroic Husky Saved the Lives of Children in Alaska*, Miss Eileen will zoom the Merrymakers to Alaska to chat with Melissa Robinson {from Norfolk} with her husky dogs.

Books & Bubbles Storytime

Miss Eileen and Bina share cozy stories, songs and snacks with the little ones who join us. Bubbles are always included in the fun! All ages are welcome. We appreciate knowing who is coming, but registration is not necessary.

Corner Club

Come join us on Wednesday, February 26th at 3:45pm for "*Science Heroes: Adventure of the Lost Treasure*" a fun and interactive "treasure hunting" adventure deep within the jungle. Experience the fusion of science and stories in this interactive STEM show. Children may take the bus from Botelle if they have a note. Children must be picked up at 4:45pm.

JANUARY'S GOLDEN SNEAKER AWARD WINNERS FROM MR. T-K

Brayden, in Mrs. Partyka's class was an excellent student and role model in January. He was always following the rules and ready to help out whenever needed. Brayden excelled in our jump rope unit quickly finding a rhythm with his practice. He also wanted his peers to share the success so I often found him helping other classmates succeed with their jump rope skills as well. Brayden is our golden sneaker winner for January. Congratulations Brayden!

Abigail, in Mrs. Ward's class was exceptional in PE throughout January. She was always ready to learn and compassionate towards everyone in her class. She was a phenomenal partner, group mate and team member throughout the entire cooperative games unit. No matter who she worked with she was kind, listened well and communicated her ideas to the group when needed. Abigail is our golden sneaker winner for January. Congratulations Abigail!

PRE-KINDERGARTEN SCREENING AT BOTELLE SCHOOL

On March 18th from 1:15 - 2:00, we will be conducting our pre-kindergarten screening for the 2025 - 2026 school year. Any Norfolk child born on or before September 1, 2021 is eligible to attend the screening. To be sure that your child is included, please call the school at (860) 542-5286, ext 200 or email laskom@botelleschool.org, to make an appointment. Thank you.

SHARED SERVICES INTEGRATED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM (SSIPP)

The SSIPP is an integrated preschool program serving the needs of children ages 3 to 5 in the towns of Barkhamsted, Colebrook, Hartland and Norfolk. The program is located at the Barkhamsted School and follows the Barkhamsted School calendar. A screening is being offered on March 20 and March 21, 2025, for parents who have concerns regarding their child's development. The screening process helps to identify children who may need intervention to perform successfully in school. Identified children will qualify to become a participant in the Shared Services Preschool Program.

Parents who are interested in having their child attend Shared Services Integrated Preschool Program as a role model must submit their child's name at this time as well. In the event that there are more role model applicants than slots, a lottery will be held. To be eligible for the program, children must live in Barkhamsted, Colebrook, Hartland, or Norfolk; be age 3 by September 1; and must have attended the screening. The lottery will be held the week following the screening and parents will be notified of lottery results. Please call the Preschool Program, before 9 a.m. or after 3 p.m. at 860-379-2729 to schedule a screening for your child.

BROOKER MEMORIAL DENTAL CARE

Parents of Botelle School students, please make sure you have your forms in to get a dental exam this month for your child. Brooker Memorial's hygienist, Deb Ravlin, will be visiting in February for two days. Don't miss out on this opportunity for dental care. All children are eligible to receive dental cleanings, fluoride, oral health screenings and sealants in grades Pre-K through eighth grade. This is funded through a grant from the Foundation for Community Health. Parents are asked to provide dental insurance information and give Brooker Memorial permission to bill the insurance to help offset the cost of this program. If anyone does not have insurance, families will not be billed for services provided at school. Please print the forms, fill them out and give them to the school nurse as soon as possible so your student can be scheduled:

<https://brookermemorial.org/resources/#school-forms>

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

The Botelle Eagles participated in the Kids Heart Challenge this week. The Kids Heart Challenge is a fun, yearly event organized by our PE teacher, Mr. Thorne-Kaunelis, where students learn about their heart while raising money for the American Heart Association. Mr. T-K planned various stations that got our students' hearts pumping including jumping rope, hula hoops and jumping off the stage onto mats! They even enjoyed a healthy snack from our PTO. Thanks Mrs. Bottum for the delicious grapes and clementines.

Students were matched with their Learning Buddies and participated together. Our older students in the intermediate and upper intermediate classes are excellent role models and friends, providing encouragement and guidance for their younger buddies. They loved seeing one another and working together.

Botelle's fundraising goal was \$1000 and thanks to your generous support, we exceeded that goal raising almost \$1400. Way to go Eagles! Another example of us working hard to Achieve Our Goals!