

# Botelle School Newsletter

## November 12, 2018



<b>November 14, 15, &amp; 16</b>	Scholastic Book Fair – Hall of Flags
<b>November 16</b>	First Progress Reports
<b>November 19</b>	Parent/Teacher Conferences
<b>November 20</b>	Parent/Teacher Conferences
<b>November 20</b>	Early Dismissal at 1:15PM
<b>November 21</b>	Thanksgiving
<b>November 22 &amp; 23</b>	Thanksgiving Break
<b>November 28</b>	Cultural Event – 1:30PM – Hall of Flags
<b>November 30</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Graders to Hartford

### THE PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Celebrate America! On Friday, November 9 at 10:30 we celebrated our veterans with our annual Veterans Day Assembly. For those of you who were able to attend the assembly, I'm sure you were as impressed as we were. Our students shared the history of this important day and how and when the various divisions of the military were established. We also learned about Norfolk's veterans and the memorial in town that honors them. Another special tribute was the White Table Ceremony. Students set a table with symbolic objects that represent our veterans' sacrifice for our country.

In addition to the history, patriotic songs filled the air of the gymnasium. The 5th and 6th grade band played *The Marine's Hymn* by Jacques Offenbach. Students in grades K-3, stood and faced the audience while singing traditional favorites like *You're a Grand Old Flag* and *My Country 'Tis of Thee*. The chorus added to the festivities with a mix of tunes including, *Taps*, *Singing Freedom's Song* and *A Tribute to the Armed Services*. During the last song, the veterans stood when their branch of the armed services was announced and the audience was encouraged to sing along.

To conclude the assembly, Mr. Byrne passed the microphone to the veterans and student, staff and guests heard about them- when and where they served and some even shared a story or two about their experiences. This is a special time when our students learn why we honor our veterans. Afterwards, veterans and the students who invited them to the assembly, had an opportunity to meet. One veteran, who has been coming to our assembly for years, takes a picture each year with the student who invited him and puts the photo, along with the invitation, in a scrapbook. It's reasons like these that we continue this special Botelle tradition.

Thanks to Ms. Kleisner, Ms. Bianchi, Mrs. Asselin and Mr. Snyder for all the hours of instruction and preparation dedicated to making this performance a success. Thanks to Mr. Colwell and Mrs. Lasko for the behind the scenes organization and set up. Thanks to our students who performed so beautifully and showed our veterans the respect and honor they deserve. Finally, thanks to our hard-working PTO, who prepared and served a delicious luncheon that the veterans and their guests enjoyed. Botelle School is definitely a *Small School with a BIG Heart!*