

WOODSDALE WEEKLY

Woodsdale School

120 Chestnut St Abington MA 02351



Principal's Message

Dear Woodsdale Families,
We had an opportunity at Monday's All-School Meeting to discuss the February's character focus: friendship. We talked about what being a good friend looked like and how we need to rely upon friends to help us communicate and to keep us responsible. We also discussed what we can do for those who may appear to have difficulty making friends or who often appear to play alone. Our students had some great strategies to promote inclusion in all settings here at school: in class, in lunch, and at recess. Please keep that conversation going at home.

Lastly, I want to remind parents & guardians that we're always here for you if you need us- just reach out. Parent phone calls or curbside conversations often start with "I know you've got a ton going on.." or "I know this might not be a big deal but...". *Please!* This is our job and our students are very important to us. We are here to hear problems that are both big and small, so don't wait. If it's a big deal to you or your student, please reach out and see how we can help.

- Mr. Hawes

Cell Phones/Devices

We have had several reports from parents, bus drivers, and students about device usage on our school buses. I spoke to our kids during announcements this afternoon but would like to reiterate for all that the school bus is an extension of the school campus. If any student has a device on their person, it is to remain in the backpack until they get home and is used in emergencies only. I'm hearing that students are using phones/devices to take pictures and videos on the bus. This action is not authorized and students will be subject to discipline.

MCAS Practice

MCAS Practice is in full-swing here at Woodsdale! Students have worked within the TestNav platform to see what the test will look like and practice sessions are being scheduled for each grade level. Check out the link below, which directs you to a bank of MCAS practice tests.

[MCAS Practice Tests](#)

Contact Us



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Save the Date

- **February 13-15:** Hoops for Heart at Woodsdale (PE Classes)
- **February 17:** Vacation begins
- **February 28:** Woodsdale Focus Group (invitation only)



Hoops For Heart

*Reminder! Hoops for Heart is kicking off the week of February 12 in Physical Education classes. Families and friends are encouraged to support their child's volunteer efforts by making donations. This is voluntary only. Students can earn thank-you gifts for donations and these donations can help us earn certificates for PE equipment. You can start by setting up a personal fundraising page online at www.heart.org/hoops. Any checks should be made payable to the American Heart Association.

Notes From The Nurse

Just a reminder if your son/ daughter is going to be absent and you have emailed the teacher directly, please cc ColleenGreenlaw@abingtonps.org (secretary) or DebraAmbrose@abingtonps.org (nurse) in the email. We now use an automated calling system if students are absent. As a result, if the office is unaware of the absence it will generate a phone call to your home. Also, if your son/daughter is having any type of surgery /procedure performed please call / email the nurse directly so the school medical record can be updated. This medical information is vital as it is passed on to the next school nurse.

We are still going outside weather permitting. Student need to be prepared for the weather conditions. With the wind chill it can get cold on the playground. A winter jacket, gloves and a hat are a must during the winter season.

Morning Meeting Corner

In Ms. Glynn's 4th grade class this week, one Morning Meeting topic was online test taking strategies. Students had to share different strategies they use to help them be successful for a math test we had. Different strategies discussed were: having confidence in their abilities, checking over work, taking their time, and showing all work. Students worked hard and showed all their work on the test that day. It is great to know that students can not only hear strategies from their peers, but also hear that all students stress about tests in different ways, but we're here to help each other be successful!

Links

[TEDtalk: why we should be reading aloud to children](#)

[Important District Forms](#)

[How to Raise a Reader \(NY Times\)](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[Woodsdale Facebook](#)

[Bedtime Math](#)

[Abington Public Schools: Food Services](#)

