

Patriot Press Weekly

February 23, 2018

Folsom Education and Community Center

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Be a Folsom Hero!

From the Staff

Folsom students celebrated our completion of the Changing Perspectives program this week with a visit from Puppets in Education for students in kindergarten through fourth-grade, and a viewing of the movie *Wonder* based on the book by R.J. Palacio. In the movie about a boy who has a facial deformity, the principal says the boy, August, can't change the way he looks, but we can change the way we see. That's what Changing Perspectives is all about. Through education, we strive for a community that sees with its heart and embraces compassion and kindness.

Toward that end, PE teacher Andrew Riegler has been engaging students in Goalball, a Paralympic sport for people with visual impairment. It challenges players to throw a ball into an opponent's net using sound and hand coordination. Playing blindfolded, students have deepened their appreciation of those who excel at this sport.

The whole school enjoyed Spirit Week. One of our favorite activities was Morning Trivia by Mr. Silas Saxer, our special educator. Each class answered several trivia questions and at the end of the day, we learned the answers and - Surprise! Surprise! - the third grade is really good at trivia! Little things have a way of growing the heart of a community.

The staff sends a warm welcome to Mr. Matthew Brankman, who will be Folsom's interim principal after the vacation. Mr. Brankman is bringing a wealth of experience as principal of Bradford Elementary for the last six years and before that in rural Alaska. He is joining us from his home in Westport, N.Y., where he grew up and recently returned with his family to start Ledge Hill Brewing Company. We look forward to working with Mr. Brankman to finish the school year.

We encourage everyone to take a moment to read the town report and attend town meeting on Saturday, March 3, at 9 a.m. Voting for the budget is Tuesday, March 6, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the town offices.

Finally, we hope you have a restful, enjoyable vacation week. When we come back, the Middle School Science Fair will be just around the corner on Tuesday, March 13.

Warm wishes,
Julie Pidgeon

Upcoming Events

February

- 23 End of Trimester 2
- 26-3/2 NO SCHOOL Winter Recess

March

- 3 Town Meeting
- 6 Election Day
- 7 Ski Day
- 13 Grades 5-8 Science Fair
- 14 Ski Day

April

- 16-20 Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBAC's)
- 23-27 NO SCHOOL Spring Recess
- 30- May 4 Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBAC's)

May

- 4/30-5/4 Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBAC's)
- 15-17 8th Grade Science state test
- 23-25 5th Grade Science state test

Open House at The Learning Adventure March 15th

The **Learning Adventure** is hosting an open house for community members interested in learning more about our programs. We invite you and your children to visit and explore our classroom while getting a feel for the culture and what makes Learning Adventure a special place. Your children may choose among a variety of experiences such as art, block building, sensory, large and fine motor activities. If you desire personal connections, educational experiences, staff longevity, individualized attention, all with a family feel then we're the place for you and your family. The open house will be held on **Thursday March 15th, from 6-7 pm.**

We will open up early registration for full day pre-k slots during this event and keep it open through April 30th, 2018. Those who register by April 30th will have the registration fee waived, and have your name added to a drawing for weeks of free tuition in September. To be eligible for the drawing, you will need to complete the registration and provide a non-refundable deposit that will be deducted from your first month's tuition. Those interested in morning pre-k and/or after school care are also invited to this event. Registration for after school care will be open May 1, 2018 and will remain open through May 31, 2018. Complete the registration process for after school care and pay a non-refundable deposit by May 31, 2018 and we will waive the registration fee. Pre-K registration will be open from June 1 until all slots have been filled. To guarantee a morning pre-k slot you will be required to complete the registration process and pay a non-refundable \$50 registration fee. Once the registration paperwork is completed and returned along with the registration fee, your space for morning pre-k will be guaranteed.

Learning Adventure is an approved partner site for Pre-K which results in reduced childcare tuition. We are a **5-STAR State-accredited program** which is recognized on a statewide level. Along with Pre-K and Full Day for 3-5 year olds we offer After School, Vacation and Summer programming for school-age children. If you are interested, please join us to register! **R.S.V.P. to 372-3930.** For more information you can find us on Facebook at LearningAdventure,Inc. Check us out! We look forward to meeting you and your family on **Thursday, March 15th from 6-7 pm!**

Care for Kids Program Overview

Care for Kids is a sexual abuse prevention curriculum that will be implemented in the kindergarten through 2nd grade during their guidance classes. On **Tuesday, March 6th from 5-6** a trainer from Prevent Child Abuse Vermont will be presenting an overview of the program highlighting best practices for abuse prevention. Parents are critical in helping to reinforce these lessons and keep children safe. Come and learn about the program and what is most important to help keep your child safe. Please RSVP to MaryAnn Fisher at marfish@gisu.org if you plan to attend by Monday March 5th!

Request from the Resource Room

Have an old tablet kicking around that you are no longer using? The Folsom Resource Room is looking for a donation of an old or unused tablet for student use. If you have one that you are willing to repurpose, please bring in to the Folsom main office. Thank you so much!