

# **Hanlon School Newsletters**

February 2017

# From the Desk of Mrs. Cronin:

February 17, 2017

Dear Hanlon Families,

On Tuesday, Jesse P and Sarah G emceed our **February All School Meeting**. Hanlon School is focusing on the theme of Perseverance. KP students taught us several nursery rhymes and led the entire school in reciting them. It takes courage to perform in front of the entire school. They did a great job! Second graders had us nodding our heads and tapping our feet as they sang Bruno Mars' song: Don't Give Up. They reminded students to keep on trying, no matter how challenging a task is.

Given that the Meeting took place after Monday's snow day, we also reviewed the **school rules for snow**.

- Boots and snow pants must be worn to play in the snow.
- For safety reasons, students must stay off the snow banks.
- Snow can be played with, but must stay on the ground (as opposed to flying through the air in the form of snowballs).

The weather looks quite spring-like next week! I'd like to wish you all a restful and relaxing February Break.

## **Valentines for Veterans**

Many thanks to those students and families who created Valentines for Veterans. Jesse P and Vic G helped to deliver them to the VA Hospital where they brought joy to many patients staying there.

# **Math Professional Development**

On Wednesday, the teachers wrapped up a two year math cohort cycle studying Algebraic Thinking in the Elementary Classroom. During the past two years, teachers have spent 8-10 Wednesday Professional Development afternoons working in small, district-wide, mixed grade level groups collaborating on highlighting and extending algebra in the math curriculum (yes- even in kindergarten!), implementing model lessons for teacher observation and feedback sessions, and designing games and workshop stations for classroom use with their students. The math coaches, including our very own Jen Gillis, have done an amazing job leading the cohorts. There is much evidence in the student work that children are learning to explain and show what they know and are working on multiple ways

to explain their math thinking and reasoning. Thanks to the teachers and coaches for their hard work!

# **News from our Technology Department**

Are you the parent of a student in Grades 2-5? Have you heard about Google Classroom, or seen your child working in it at home? Do you wish you knew more about how you can navigate Google to help your child, or even just to help yourself?

# Then you should TECH Us Out!

Members of the Westwood Public School Technology Department invite elementary parents/guardians to come TECH Us Out. Enjoy an engaging workshop where you will experience how technology is used to support learning in the elementary classroom. Attendees will participate in interactive lessons by navigating the Google Platform in a way that mirrors your child's classroom experience. The goals of this evening are to understand the vision of technology in the Westwood Public Schools and learn how you can best support your children at home.

Thursday, March 30, 2017 from 7 - 8 PM at Martha Jones School Questions: please contact souellette@westwood.k12.ma.us Click here to see the flyer and a great picture of Ms. Rizzi and Amelia! Click here to RSVP.

## News from Ms. Silverstein- Hanlon Librarian

The Hanlon Gift Book Program, sponsored by the Hanlon PTO, has added many wonderful books to the school library. The **Hanlon Gift Book Program** is a great way to honor your child's birthday. We also welcome donations for other family celebrations, to honor teachers, or to remember someone special. The gift book program is an exciting way for your child to make a contribution to the school community. Your child will have the opportunity to choose a book from a special collection with Ms. Silverstein. His/her name will be permanently placed on a colorful label on the inside cover of the book, and your child will be the first one to check out the book. The book will then be added to the library's collection for the entire school to use. Click here for the flyer and order form.

## Save the Date for Science Fair

The 3rd Annual Hanlon Science Fair is scheduled for Thursday, April 6. Information will be coming soon!

## **School Committee**

Did you know that Tony Mullin is Hanlon's School Committee Representative? If you have questions about the Superintendent Search, the Proposed Budget, or anything else regarding Westwood Public Schools, contact Tony at tonymmullin@gmail.com.

Hanlon Elementary School, 790 Gay Street, Westwood, MA 02090 781-325-7500 x.8424 Sarah Cronin, Principal

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