

301 Bioeducational News

Staff had been bringing in items for our annual Holiday Shop, where students pay tokens to select a couple of gifts to give to family members for Christmas. After shopping staff and students took some time in homerooms to wrap them up and address them to loved ones. Another way we thought about others was with a hat and mitten drive. Students made token donations in the AMP to go toward purchasing hats and mittens for the Wish Project in Chelmsford. A few Level 3 students signed up to see “A Christmas Carol” at the Palace Theater in Manchester, while other students of any level took part in cookie decorating. Chess Club began this month along with an Outdoor Education class where students learn how to follow maps and use a compass. The Jingle Jaunt had a big turn out with student teams taking part in relay races, and there was a luncheon for students transitioning over the winter break.

Another way to get in the mood was the annual Holiday Window Decoration Stroll. Homerooms discussed what holiday or winter theme they wanted displayed on their homeroom windows facing the parking lot, then decorated it for staff to admire and judge. Window moods ranged from funny to sincere, elaborate to simple, and, of course, naughty to nice. Students enjoyed the annual school-wide event Holiday Fest by acknowledging and learning about the different ways people celebrate the holidays around the world. The gym was decorated and had different stations where students and visiting families could choose from an array of activities; making snow cones, latke samples, various arts and crafts, all while Christmas music played in the background and some sang and danced along. Later Santa traveled throughout school to deliver a gift for each student.

And the last school day for 2018 was wrapped up with a Whole School Assembly in the gym where everyone gathered to watch the yearbook video. Those attending could hear cheers, laughter, an occasional groan, and the excited “Look, there I am!”, as staff and students recognized themselves in a video clip or photograph on the big screen. The latter statement by staff and students made the event feel like a personal Where’s Waldo for everyone in school.

302 Bioeducational News

We hope this newsletter finds you well and ready for the holidays! This month students got into the holiday spirit by participating in the Holiday fest and decorating the windows and classroom with festive pictures and decor. They also enjoyed watching the video yearbook and reminiscing on their favorite memories from the year. Students discussed faith, which is the theme of the month. Students showed that they believed they would bring joy to a loved one’s holiday by shopping at our annual Holiday Shop. Students were able to save their tokens and pick out a present for a family member or friend. Students were able to show faith in themselves and others as well as write about what it means to them, utilizing various Writer’s Workshop prompts. We also gathered together as a homeroom family for a Holiday dinner before the break. They enjoyed tacos while listening to Holiday music!

303 Bioeducational News

The month of December is always very busy here at Lighthouse School. We wrapped up our theme of the month which was faith. The students participated in holiday traditions such as the Holiday Shop. Students saved up 500 tokens and were able to shop for gifts they could give to their loved ones. The Holiday Shop was created through donations from staff at Lighthouse. Everyone enjoyed picking out just the right gift and then wrapping it in time for the holidays. The students in 303 collaborated to decorate our window in the homeroom for a school-wide holiday stroll. They worked together to create a giant -sized Santa along with his Christmas list (he checked it twice). Holiday fest is always so much fun for staff and students. Everyone got to enjoy a variety of holiday activities, allowing them to experience the holidays through various religions and cultures. On December 21st we had a homeroom family dinner together then joined the entire school in the gymnasium to view the video yearbook. Each student also received a present from Santa. All of the teachers and students in 303 hope you have an enjoyable and restful holiday and we look forward to 2019!

304 Bioeducational News

Along with the chilly weather, December has been filled with deepening our understanding of faith and the role it plays in our students' lives. Many of our students described faith as believing that things can get better even when they are struggling, while other students felt that it was important to have faith in yourself and in the people you care about. We also discussed as a homeroom the importance of respecting other peoples' beliefs during the holiday season. In Writers Workshop, students were asked to reflect upon a time when they had lost faith in someone or something and how it made them feel. Students in 304 had the opportunity to save tokens to purchase gifts at the Holiday Shop for friends and family members, which helped many of our students recognize that they hold positive qualities such as kindness and generosity. Students and staff had a wonderful time partaking in the annual Holiday Fest, where we all came together as a homeroom to play games and eat a homeroom dinner together. We look forward to a very happy and healthy New Year in homeroom 304!

305 Bioeducational News

Happy Winter! The snow has already made an appearance, and the Holiday season is upon us. We have had so many exciting events and quality time together as a classroom this month. In Writer's Workshop students have worked on the monthly theme of *faith*. One of our writing prompts was to write a holiday card to someone in the service who will be spending the holidays on active duty. As a homeroom, we worked on creating a window creation for the annual Holiday Stroll. Using the overhead projector and some amazing student participation, both windows are painted and festive. The students enjoyed an annual Holiday Fest enjoying various traditional holiday activities and treats. To pair with the Holidays, Lighthouse participated in a student gift shop where they could use their motivational tokens towards purchasing gifts for others. This hugely successful event helped students participate in the giving of the season. Wrapping up the month here at school, we enjoyed a whole school event watching the video yearbook, and reminiscing on great moments of the previous year. As a homeroom we will be finishing up with a macaroni and cheese bar, and eating all together as a homeroom family. We hope you and your family enjoy the vacation, and have a safe and happy holiday season.

306 Bioeducational News

The holidays are here! Throughout the month of December, the students have focused on the Bioeducational theme of Faith. Students worked together to generate a list of things, people, and beliefs that they have faith in. They used these ideas to create a bulletin board showing all of the trust and faith the students in 306 possess. The month also brought a handful of traditional events at Lighthouse School. The students had the opportunity to spend 500 tokens to purchase gifts from the holiday shop to bring home for loved ones. The holiday shop was created through donations from Lighthouse staff, which has always been a great tradition. Holiday Fest happened this month and the students got to enjoy a variety of activities that allowed them to experience the traditions of various religions and cultures. Each student also received a present from Santa. On December 21st, the entire school traveled to the gymnasium to view the video yearbook. All of us in 306 hope you have an enjoyable and restful holiday and we look forward to 2019!