**VOL. 17 ISSUE # 5** 

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# **Staff Holiday Recommendation Results in \$105 Donation to Feinstein Community Fund**

The following went out in a newsletter in December: "If a student feels the need to give a teacher/staff gift, the staff is requesting that families please donate to our Ranger School Feinstein Community Fund to help the families in our community. Uses of the Feinstein Fund include: scholarships to after-school programs, Stop and Shop cards to families in need during Holiday seasons, weekly summer sessions for recreation and the arts, and other situations that arise involving families of Ranger School students."

The response was awesome as \$105.00 was donated to the Feinstein Community Fund!

Thanks to all the people who donated in accordance with the staff's wishes.

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF COMING TO SCHOOL ON TIME

The same way we, as adults, feel better able to face our workday when we arrive at work on time, children are more able to face their day when they arrive at school on time. Things happen in those first few minutes of the day that help children feel prepared, and part of their class. If they miss these minutes, they are playing "catch up" all day. In addition, the teacher needs to stop morning lessons for the rest of the class in order to accommodate the late student.

Children who are chronically late are seen as "different" by the other children in the class, and not a part of the morning routine. In fact, if they require the teacher's time away from routine tasks to help them "catch up", their fellow students may see them as less capable.

Have your child return this sentence circled to qualify to win extra recess for his/her class.

#### What happens in the first 5-15 minutes of the school day?

- Children put away their jackets and backpacks. / Children organize their school materials for the day.
- Children choose their lunches/milk and list attendance. / The teacher makes announcements for the class.
- The principal makes announcements for the school. / Children begin their morning work immediately, such as Math Message. / Children pass in their homework from the previous day.

## **Lunch Notices go Home Weekly**

Students who have accounts with a negative balance are notified in writing at least once per week by Chartwells.

Notices are sent home by Chartwells. The school generates a separate notice when balances go over \$10.00 and often makes calls home when account balances exceed **§15.00** which is equal to 6 lunches.

When accounts get to this total student(s) will only be allowed to purchase a lunch, but this continues to add to the deficit. Please be advised that you can call the Tiverton Middle School @ 624-9328 between 7:30 and 2:30 daily to question your account information. If you pay by check,

checks should be made out to Tiverton School Department Lunch Fund.

Note: Parents can apply to participate in the free and reduced program at any time during the school year if your financial situation changes.



## Ranger Giving Tree a Huge Success!!

Each year, the Ranger School PTO provides families with the opportunity to take advantage of our Giving Tree. The Giving Tree provides families who are struggling to make ends meet, the opportunity to request clothing, shoes, food, or a special gift for their child or children this holiday season.

Thanks to ALL that participated in making this a special event.

## The Grade 1 Lightbulb Lab

First graders have started a new station during daily 5 called Lightbulb Lab. Students are given materials and art supplies so they can design their own art pieces. In December, first graders created a string of lights, ornaments and Christmas trees. Art pieces are proudly displayed in the first grade hallway before being sent home.







## **January Calendar of Events**

$2^{nd}$	School Committee Meeting @ 7:00 - Budget
4 <sup>th</sup>	PTO Meeting @ 6:30pm – Café
8 <sup>th</sup>	Evaluation Team meeting @ 1:30
	Grade Level Meeting – Grade 3 – 8:50 to 3:10 - Ranger
	Lions Club Nominations due – Elementary Educator of the Year
9 <sup>th</sup>	School Committee Meeting @ 7:00
	Grade Level Meeting – Grade 4 – 8:50 to 3:10 - Ranger
$10^{th}$	Grade Level Meeting – Grade K – 8:50 to 3:10 – Fort Barton
$11^{th}$	Grade Level Meeting – Grade 1 – 8:50 to 3:10 – Pocasset
	Budget Workshop – 6PM @ THS
$12^{th}$	Grade Level Meeting – Grade 2 – 8:50 to 3:10 - Pocasset
15 <sup>th</sup>	Martin Luther King Day – No School
$17^{th}$	Aspen Gradebook Opens (Term 1 revisions)
19 <sup>th</sup>	Second Quarter Ends
$22^{\text{nd}}$	Faculty meeting @ 3:30 – Alice Training
	Mrs. Curtis – Reading Recovery - 12:30 to 3:30
$23^{rd}$	School Committee Meeting @ 7:00
	Family Fun Night – Tiverton Prevention Coalition @ 6:30
29 <sup>th</sup>	Rti Meetings

Aspen Gradebook closes at midnight

Report Cards printed

 $31^{st}$ 

### TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?

A message from your school nurse-teacher, Carla Sweeney, R.N.

The weather is getting cooler and before you know it winter will be here. That means colds and other illnesses. You don't want your child to miss too much school, but you also don't want to expose your child's peers to a sick child. When should your child stay home from school? Here are a few guidelines you might consider:

**COLD SYMPTOMS:** such as a stuffy or runny nose, scratchy throat, and fatigue should not be a reason to stay home from school. If these symptoms persist or are associated with a frequent cough, fever, or difficulty breathing, the child should stay home and a visit to the doctor is indicated.

**FEVER:** is an important symptom if it occurs with a sore throat, earache, nausea, listlessness, or a rash. Your child may have a contagious illness and your doctor should be consulted. Most doctors advise parents to keep a child home for **24 hours** after the fever has passed.

VOMITING AND DIARRHEA: is a discomfort that should be managed at home. It is important to keep your child hydrated with fluids during this illness. These symptoms may indicate a viral illness and generally pass without medical intervention. If accompanied by a fever or rash, or symptoms persist over 24 hours, your doctor should be consulted. Please do not send your child to school until your child is symptom free for 24 hours.

STREP THROAT and SCARLET FEVER: are two contagious illnesses caused by the streptococcal bacteria. It usually starts with a sore throat and high fever. Sometimes 12-48 hours after the onset of the sore throat, a rash might appear; this is scarlet fever. A child with strep throat or scarlet fever should be kept home and treated with antibiotics. Once treated for 24-48 hours with an antibiotic, a child is usually no longer contagious, and may return to school if feeling well enough.

CHICKEN POX (Varicella): a viral disease, which is very uncomfortable and contagious. If your child develops a fever, complains of itchiness, and breaks out in a pink or red rash with fluid filled centers on the back, chest, and/ or face, it may be chicken pox. Incubation time is two to three weeks, usually 13 to 17 days. Your doctor should be consulted immediately upon onset of symptoms. Your child needs to be kept at home until all spots are scabbed over, usually at least a week or more from the onset of symptoms. Please notify the school if your child comes down with chicken pox so that we can be watchful for symptoms in other children.

CONJUNCTIVITIS (Pink eye): this is highly contagious and uncomfortable. If your child complains of eyes that are burning, itching, or draining, please visit your doctor. This problem requires a prescription eye ointment or drops. Your child may return to school after a full 24 hours of treatment.

**EAR INFECTIONS:** Often occurs with cold symptoms but not always. Unless treated promptly, permanent hearing loss may occur. Again, a child may return to school if fever free and on an antibiotic therapy for at least **24** hours.

NITS OR HEADLICE: Once brought into a home or school may quickly produce an epidemic of itching and scratching. Headlice are tiny parasites that thrive on human scalps. Nits are eggs laid by the louse. Advise your child NOT to share combs, brushes, hats, etc. If your child becomes a "host" to nits and lice, it is extremely important to notify the school. This effort will help control the spread of the problem. Your child may return to school after proof is provided to the school of treatment for the headlice/nits. Please check with your doctor or school nurse-teacher for the most effective way to treat your family and disinfect clothing, bedding, and your home environment. Please be assured this is a very common childhood problem. YOU ARE NOT ALONE! You can contact the school if you would like further information on headlice.

<sup>\*</sup> Please contact the school if you would like some more information on these or other illnesses.