Weare Middle & Center Woods Upper Elementary NEWSLETTER Issue #12 / February 11, 2022

Happy 100th day of school!!!!!

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We are happy to report that positive numbers have drastically decreased in our building, and as of February 11 we have returned to optional masking for staff and students. Mask wearing is still considered a good way to protect yourself and help minimize the spread of COVID. We are also able to go back to traditional seating in the lunchrooms. We will continue to monitor positive cases and let you know if we need to add some mitigation strategies back into our building.

We unfortunately also need to communicate some concerning information. It has been brought to our attention that there are a number of social media postings that are inappropriate or negative in nature and involve students in our school. It is vital that we work as a community to help educate our students on the proper and appropriate use of social media. We are asking that you partner with us and monitor your students cell phone use including any social media postings. In particular we have been informed that there are postings on Tik Tok, Snapchat and Instagram that contain extremely inappropriate content. Please check not only your own students account, but also any groups to which they belong or messages they have accessed. Other ways to help in this area are to place restrictions on the phone, keep it at night so it is not in the child's room, or shut-off the internet at a certain time.

The Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force has an abundance of resources regarding internet safety on their website. You can access ICAC by clicking <a href="here">here</a>.

Your Admin Team,

Mrs. Hilliard, Mr. Matzke, & Mr. Morrill

## WEARE SCHOOL DISTRICT - COVID MITIGATION SURVEY

These are the results from the recent community survey which were shared at this month's school board meeting.

	Community	Parent/Guardian	Students (6-8)	Staff
	120 respondents	211 respondents	249 respondents	118 respondents
The right amount of safety measures	22% (26)	59% (124)	51% (126)	53% (62)
Too many safety measures	38% (46)	15% (32)	31% (78)	(1)
Not enough safety measures	39% (47)	26% (55)	18% (45)	47% (55)

How would you describe your state of mind in general this year		
	Student	
	249 respondents	
I have more positive feelings about school and my life this year	26% (63)	
I feel the same about school and my life as I did last year	53% (125)	
I have more negative feelings about school and my life this year	21% (50)	

How concerned are you about the social emotional well being of children right now?				
	Community	Parent/Guardian	Staff	
	120 respondents	211 respondents	118 respondents	
Not concerned	12% (14)	42% (89)	10% (12)	
Somewhat concerned	28% (34)	39% (82)	65% (76)	
Very concerned	58% (70)	19% (40)	25% (29)	
No opinion/neutral	2% (2)	-	-	

How sure are you that you can do well in school right now?		
	Student	
	249 respondents	
Extremely sure	55% (138)	
Somewhat sure	25% (63)	
Slightly sure/not sure	20% (48)	

	Community	Parent/Guardian	Staff	
	120 respondents	211 respondents	118 respondents	
Not concerned	10% (12)	33% (69)	10% (12)	
Somewhat concerned	31% (37)	43% (90)	66% (78)	
Very concerned	56% (67)	25% (52)	23% (27)	
No opinion/neutral	3% (4)	-	-	

	Community	Parent/Guardian	Staff
	120 respondents	211 respondents	118 respondents
Masks should be required when there is evidence of COVID transmission in school	10% (12)	18% (37)	10% (12)
Mask requirements should align to NH Public Health recommendations	19% (23)	27% (57)	30% (35)
Universal masking should be required	28% (34)	23% (49)	42% (49)
Masks should be optional	42% (50)	28% (60)	14% (17)
Other	1% (1)	4% (8)	5% (6)

	Community	Parent/Guardian	Students (6-8)	Staff*
	120 respondents	211 respondents	249 respondents	118 respondents
Very Easy	22% (26)	53% (111)	29% (73)	9% (11)
Somewhat Easy	15% (18)	16% (33)	29% (73)	18% (21)
Neither Easy nor Difficult	22% (26)	20% (43)	25% (61)	29% (34)
Somewhat Difficult	15% (18)	8% (17)	11% (27)	32% (38)
Very Difficult	27% (32)	3% (7)	5% (12)	12% (14)

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## 2021-2022 Yearbook orders

The online portal for yearbook orders is now open. Yearbooks are \$30 and must be ordered online through Lifetouch's portal. Click here to reserve your copy and use this code **14317222**.

## Calling all 8th grade families!!

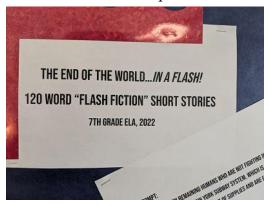
This is the last call for families to submit a baby picture of their 8th grader for the 2021-2022 yearbook.

Photos must be received no later than February 18th to be included in the layout. Photos may be sent in to the office with your student's name on it so it can be returned, or you can email a photo to <a href="mailto:melissa.boudreau@sau24.org">melissa.boudreau@sau24.org</a>

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#### **Wolves & Wildcats Walkabout**

Every morning Principal Hilliard does a walkabout through the building to check in with staff and students. Here are some photos from a recent walk through.



ELA prompt & Responses

"Push the door!" Ace yells.

"What do you think I'm doing, I'm trying my best. Maybe you could help all of us instead of bossing us around Ace."

I count up to 3 and give the door a hard push. All I can think about is how long it's been since I have left here. I can't even imagine what the rest of the world would be like at this point. I've been in this bunker I call home for almost 4 years. That's how long it's been since I've seen my real family.

I pushed the door, "What happened?"

I look outside at the world. It is So green, full of animals. "It's beautiful." We gasp at the sight.

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<sup>&</sup>quot;Where am I?" said Howard as he got out of this pod

"Oh you're awake." said a voice from behind the door. The door opens, a robot stands there in the doorway.

"Where am I?" said Howard,

"That is not relevant right now. Now if you can follow me I'll show you to the cafeteria" said the robot.

They walk down the hall as they pass rooms with pods inside like the room Howard woke up from

"What year is it?" Howard said,

"It's the year 3010." said the robot.

"I have so many questions," said Howard.

"But there is no time for questions right now," said the robot.

Howard looked out the window and his heart sank. The End.

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"I need cover on my left side! There are too many of them!" Jake yelled. Swinging his nail spiked bat at the zombies.

"I'm trying to get the hatch open over here!" Sam yelled back at Jake. As he was trying to code something into his computer. Jake kept swinging his bat at the swarm until finally he heard Sam yell "I got it!" Jake rushed over to Sam and they both climbed up. They reached the surface. They both gaze up at the city skyscrapers wordless. The buildings crumble down as a herd of zombies gaze back at them.

"Sam..." Jake said, sweat dripping off his head. "What are we going to do?"

Sam, gasping for breath. "Let's run."

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It's time to leave. This is the scariest thing that has happened so far. I take a deep breath and grab my sister's hand. As we go up the stairs it's completely silent. I look down at my red checkered dress. 7, 8, 9, 10. Soon, I begin to see light. 16, 17, 18, 19, 20. As we surface I begin to smile, but it doesn't last long. It is pulchritudinous, sunny, and the city is overgrown with plants, trees, and grass.

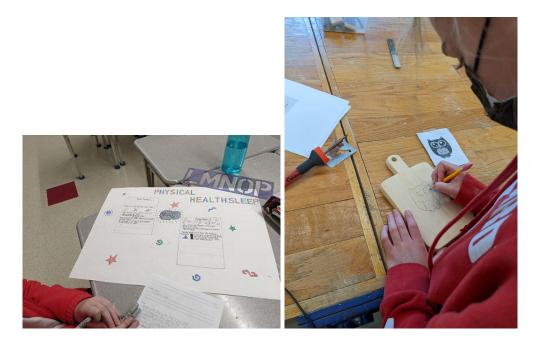
"Do you hear anything?" I asked.

"Ummm, The wind..." My sister answered.

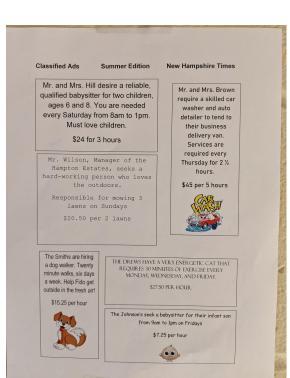
" Other than that?"

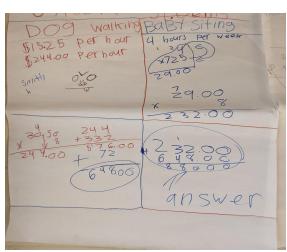
There's complete silence, but not a normal one. It's the type of silence that makes you realize that you are alone. Completely alone.

#### Some Unified Art Activities



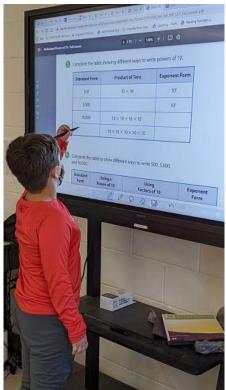
Students in Mrs. Dionne's and Mrs. Gawthorp's classes use an interactive whiteboard and good old pencil and paper to build their math skills while others work on real-life applications













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# Superintendent's office hours

On February 17 @ 6 PM, the focus will be school budgets in Henniker, Weare, and John Stark and full-day kindergarten in Weare.

Ask a question, say hello, or just listen via Zoom @https://bit.ly/2Yx51YJOfficeHours Meeting ID: 821 4229 1994 Passcode: 225191 or Join by phone @

(US) +1 240-623-0475 PIN: 538 949 965#.

SAU 24 Superintendent Jacqueline Coe hosts Zoom office hours on the third Thursday of each month at alternating times of noon or 6 PM. Join her to learn more about what is happening in the Henniker, Weare, John Stark, and Stoddard School Districts.

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## From the Special Education Department



February brings us another example of our occupational therapist (OT) providers utilizing fun and creative activities to help our students develop their fine motor skills. We have mentioned OT in some of our previous newsletters, but unless your child receives services from an OT, you might not know what an OT actually does.

The role of the OT in schools can be found in a vast array of services. The OT may help to support students with physical skills such as handwriting and self-care; consult and collaborate with teachers to give recommendations on how to support students in the classroom; help students develop self-regulation skills; help support the introduction of learning tools to students to help with written output; help students find strategies to manage sensory sensitivities in the

learning environment, etc.

This list is just a snapshot of what an OT might do throughout their day, but it covers a wide range of areas. They play an important role in helping our students develop necessary skills they will need throughout their lives, and we appreciate all the hard work they put into helping our students be successful at school

Ms. Gamache (Director of Special Education for CWUES/WMS)





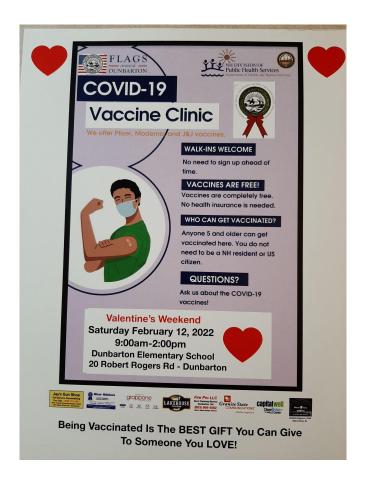
#### Notes from the Nurse

We are seeing a decrease in the number of positive Covid cases here at WMS/CWUES. This is a welcome development that we are eagerly embracing. It is still necessary to be vigilant in monitoring any symptoms and acquiring a Covid test as needed. Please notify the Health Office if

your child is not feeling well, and we will talk through symptoms and figure out how to move forward with testing and return to school. Please call with any questions or concerns. 529-8015

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## Flags Across Dunbarton to offer a COVID Vaccination clinic



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### SAU 24 is Hiring!

It takes a community to keep our schools running smoothly. <u>Visit our website</u> to see our job openings. We are always looking for paraeducators and substitutes.

The Weare Bus Terminal is also looking for drivers! On-site job interviews take place every Wednesday from 10 am - 12 pm. Stop by our location for a walk-in interview and tour! 58 Carding Mill Road, Weare 603-529-4744

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#### **PUP Default Plans**

WMS/CWUES Pickup Patrol Default Plans

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### **Upcoming Dates** - <u>full calendar can be found here</u>

February 28 to March 4 - No School - Winter Break
March 7 - Early Release - dismissal at 11:30
March 8 - Town Voting Day - This is a remote learning day for WMS/CWUES
ONLY. CWES will still be in person

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#### **Weare Public Library**

**Afterschool Gaming at the Weare Library:** Tuesdays 2:30 to 5:00 - Challenge your friends on our Nintendo Switch with games like Super Smash Bros. Ultimate and Mario Kart 8 or play one of our board or card games.

**Read with the Ruff Readers at the Weare Library**: Read with friendly dogs! Every Wednesday at 5:00. Call Ms. Karen at 603-529-2044 to sign-up.