

# Watson Times

I READ. I THINK. I COMPREHEND. I SHARE.

## December 2016



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 12/1: Early Release Day - 11:30
- 12/2: Trimester 1 ends - report cards will be sent home on 12/13
- 12/3: Holiday Parade
- 12/14: Enrichment Showcase
- 12/19 -12/23 - Spirit Week
- 12/26 - 1/2- Christmas break - return on 1/3.

### The Nurse's Office

Happy Holidays!

As the winter months approach so does the flu season unfortunately. To help stop the spread, please remind your children to wash their hands frequently, cover their nose and mouths when they cough or sneeze, and speak with your pediatrician about receiving the flu shot.

Wishing everyone a safe and peaceful holiday season.

### Mrs. Couto

Happy Holidays!! Our spot in the Fall River's Holiday Parade has been secured, and we are looking forward to walking with all of our friends and families! Our theme is the Polar Express, so please come dressed in your best holiday pajamas! Invitation will be sent home with more information. December is a month filled with fun activities for all. Information will be sent home timely. Thank you to all the families that participated in our cookie and smencil fundraisers - we continue to have smencils for sale, so keep sending your money in! We are fundraising for our students' field trips in the spring! It's our hope that all field trips are free for our students!

### Message From Principal Carvalho

*The first trimester is just about over! Two more to go and we our school year is complete! With the trimester end date of the 2nd, please expect to see your child's **report card** on **12/13** - "Take Home Tuesday". Please **sign and return by the 15th.***

*We have many fun events planned for December and hope to see great family participation.*

*The first event is our **Holiday Parade.** Watson will be marching again this year. We are **unit 20.** Families are to **gather there by noon for a start time of 1:00.** Our theme this year is Polar Express and are asking all participants to come in their **holiday PJ's and a holiday hat.** We will have some hats and bells available for the first few dozen that arrive. We will also need folks to carry the sign. The most important thing to remember is that all children must be accompanied by an adult for the entire parade. Children cannot march on their own. We hope to see a great turnout...let's hope for nice weather!*

*PTO will be sending info home regarding the parade, the Spirit Week calendar of events and some ideas they have for fundraising. We hope to have more parents involved to help with the many activities they are planning. Remember, all of the profits are used to send your child on a free field trip at the end of the year!*

*It's been a great 1st term and we are looking forward to watching your children continue to learn and thrive.*

*Mrs. Carvalho*

**ATTENDANCE** We have had a good three months! For the month of November we had **95.21%** whole school attendance. The best grade level was grade 1 with **96.01%**, way to go **grade 1!** The homeroom with the best attendance for the month was **Ms. Hubbard's with 99%**. Now that's amazing! We finished the month of November with 70 students having perfect attendance! Remember everyday counts, even our half days! Keep coming to school everyday on time, with no dismissals so you can earn a free dress down day as well...

# What is Going on In...

<p><b>Kindergarten</b></p> <p>We are starting unit two in Reading Street that focuses on how animals and plants are unique.</p> <p>In math, we are continuing our work in early numeracy skills.</p> <p>We encourage independency with tying shoes, zipping coats, and putting hats and gloves on. Please practice these skills at home with your child.</p>	<p><b>Grade 1</b></p> <p>We have just started Unit 2 in reading. We will be discussing different types of communities including our families, our school, our neighborhoods, and animal communities. We will start working on a community helper report this month.</p> <p>In math, we are comparing numbers using greater than, less than, and equal to. We have started exploring whether number sentences are true or false.</p> <p>Very exciting month in science as Southwick is coming to visit the first graders in their ZooMobile complete with animals.</p>	<p><b>Grade 2</b></p> <p>In reading, we are starting unit two from Reading Street. We will be exploring how we can work together through many different types of stories. We also begin writing a recount as newspaper reporters.</p> <p>In math, we are working on adding and subtracting on the open number line. Ask your student how to write a number in expanded form or practice counting forward and backward by ten from any number! As always, read for 20 minutes every night! The cold weather is upon us so please don't forget to send your child in with a jacket as we go outside for recess.</p>
<p><b>Grade 3</b></p> <p>3rd grade just took their first ELA benchmark. The students worked very hard and grew their brains! We will be starting Unit 2 which will focus on smart ways to solve problems. Be sure your child is reading 20 minutes every night!</p> <p>In math, we are continuing to use place value strategies to add and subtract within 1,000. Students are rounding to the nearest 10 or 100, using the open number line, and partial sums/difference to solve equations.</p> <p>Your young scientists finished learning all about the local climate and we are preparing to begin our next science unit in December on force and motion.</p>	<p><b>Grade 4</b></p> <p>4th graders just took their first math Cumulative term test on everything that they have learned so far. They all tried very hard and put in great effort! Our next block of learning is on multiplication and place value. This is very different than how many parents learned to multiply, so keep your eyes out for homework helpers! Please encourage your student to practice their math facts- it is very important for this block of math!</p> <p>In ELA, students are beginning novel studies. Our first novel is <u>Because of Winn Dixie</u>. We will be practicing strategies in various ways during this book study. They are excited to begin and we hope to have a showcase at the end to show off our work. As always, please make sure they read 20-30 mins daily.</p>	<p><b>Grade 5</b></p> <p>5th grade is working very hard and picking up the pace in ELA! We recently just started Unit 2 which is reading a novel about facing challenges and how they change as a person during the journey. Help us help your child by making sure they are completing their reading logs every night and reading for 25 minutes!</p> <p>In math, students are going to be starting fractions! The data shows that they did really well on this topic last year, so I can't wait to see what they can do!! Please keep practicing multiplication math facts at home! Mrs. Borkman's students finished a benchmark recently and I saw students applying CUBES, problem solving, and strategically crossing out answers that don't make sense. Way to go fifth graders!</p>
<p><b>P.E./STEM</b></p> <p>In Physical Education, we are finishing up with soccer in third-fifth grade. The weather has been a little too chilly to go outside, so we are crossing our fingers that we can get our soccer game in next week! Kindergarten-second grade has been doing a wonderful job dribbling with both their feet and their hands! December is dance month!</p> <p>-----</p> <p>In science the fifth grade has finished up learning about the Solar System. Fourth grade has finished up with Energy. Third grade has finished up weather. Second grade is moving on to properties of Matter. First grade is in the middle of learning about life cycles. Finally, Kindergarten is learning about life and plants! Everyone is doing a great job and all of our young scientists are</p>	<p><b>Art</b></p> <p>Students in all grades have been creating beautiful fall artwork. Some art vocabulary used this month: symmetry, line of symmetry, background, pop art, warm colors, and cool colors to name a few! Students are looking forward to creating some winter artwork!</p>	<p><b>Miss Amaral</b></p> <p>We finished our unit on "What happens when two ways of life come together?" and students will start a project on cultures. Please check DoJo and student backpacks for information on the project. In ELA, we will be starting a new unit on Freedom and students will learn about American symbols and history. In math, we started our geometry unit and have been learning about polygons, nonpolygons, and quadrilaterals. Help your students grow their brains by identifying shapes around your home and in the community! Please continue encouraging students to read each night for 20 minutes.</p>

questioning the world around them and learning what makes the world work!		
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