

Minot Forest Elementary School

April, 2021 Newsletter

[www.warehamps.org](http://www.warehamps.org)

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On Facebook search Minot Forest Elementary School

Keep updated with the new school building project:

<https://warehamelementaryschool.org>

Dear Families:

The elementary schools are beginning in-person learning for five full days on April 5. Student drop off is from 8:30 AM-8:40 AM by door #9. Dismissal of walkers and students being picked up by family begins at 2:30 PM. Bus dismissal begins at 2:38 PM. Buses leave Minot and travel to Decas to pick up students there, then continue on the route to bring students home. Students must wear a mask that covers their mouth and nose on the school bus and throughout the day, with the exception of mask breaks and lunch. Cloth or disposable masks can be worn but gators are not approved to wear in school.

With an increase in the amount of students in the buildings, we have to adhere to our policies to keep our staff and students safe. We cannot have items dropped off at school that a student may have forgotten at home. We will not be able to accept them. They will have to bring anything they have forgotten the next day. We will provide a lunch if they forgot it.

Appropriate footwear: Minot Forest students cannot wear flip flops, slides or shoes without a back/strap to them. There are many stairs in the building and for safety reasons, these types of shoes cannot be worn.

No School: There will be no school on Friday, April 2 due to Good Friday. School vacation is from April 19-23. Enjoy the week. Chromebooks will be disabled for student use. Hopefully the weather is nice for our students to get outside and enjoy the fresh air.



MCAS Testing Dates: MCAS ELA and Math testing has been postponed from April to May. We are still waiting for dates from the state for Middle School. Once those are released, we will be able to finalize our specific testing dates and will send those out to families. Students who are fully remote will be assigned a day for ELA and a day for Math to be brought into school to take the MCAS.

The state is requiring all students to participate regardless of which learning plan they are in.



\*\*\*Kindergarten Registration was held in March. It is important for families to register **as soon as possible**, if they have not done so, in order for Mrs.

Chandler to have an accurate enrollment number for planning purposes. This will affect the number of kindergarten programs planned for September. If you have not registered your child or know of someone who has not registered,

please call the Decas School at 508-291-3530 for registration information.

Paraprofessional's Day: April 1 is Paraprofessional Appreciation Day. We want to acknowledge and thank our paraprofessionals for all the hard work they do on a daily basis to support our teachers and students. We can't do the work without them.



Administrative Professionals' Day: April 21 is Administrative Professionals' Day. We want to thank our office staff for the great work they do on a daily basis. These hard workers are seldom given the credit they deserve for keeping the office running smoothly. On behalf of the school personnel, I'd like to thank Ms. Cassels, Ms. McGraw, Ms. Fehr, all of the Middle School administrative professionals who assist us as well, and all the administrative professionals in the district who work hard, keep things running smoothly, and are dedicated to their profession, staff, students, and families.

Preschool News: The Wareham Public Schools will be conducting developmental screenings for children ages 3-5 on April 8, 2021 to identify children who might be at risk for a possible learning and/or developmental delay. The screening offers a quick sampling of a child's skills across areas of speech and language, reasoning, gross motor, fine motor, and social development. If you have concerns about your child's development in these areas, please contact Mrs. Fillion for an appointment. A screening will offer insight into a child's strengths and weaknesses. After the screening, staff may offer recommendations, suggestions, and/or resources for you and your child. If delays are suspected, staff will discuss the process for further evaluation to determine eligibility for special education services. Appointments can be made by calling 508-789-7994 or emailing Anne Marie Fillion at [afillion@wareham.k12.ma.us](mailto:afillion@wareham.k12.ma.us). The screening appointments will be held at the John W. Decas Elementary School at 760 Main Street, Wareham, MA 02571.

### **Calendar of Events**

*April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, National Kite Month, National Poetry Month, National Youth Sports Safety Month, Autism Awareness Month, and Physical Wellness Month, National Library Week, National Volunteer Week, National TV Turnoff Week, and National Playground Safety Week,*

- 4/1 April Fool's Day
- 4/1 Happy Paraprofessional Appreciation Day!
- 4/1 Staff and students are asked to wear blue shirts in honor of Autism Awareness Month
- 4/2 **No School-Good Friday**
- 4/4 Happy Easter
- 4/5 Five full days of school begins today
- 4/8 Preschool screenings by appointment
- 4/12 School Building Committee Meeting, 6:00 PM via Zoom
- 4/13 The Wareham Elementary PTA meeting, 6:30 PM via Zoom
- 4/19-23 **No School-Spring vacation**
- 4/21 Administrative Professionals' Day (formerly known as "Secretaries Day")
- 4/22 Earth Day
- 4/27 Combined School Council Meeting, 4:15 PM via Zoom
- 4/27 Arbor Day

Sincerely,

**Joan M. Seamans**  
Principal

**Robin Murphy**  
Assistant Principal

**Teri DeFilippo**  
Dean of Students