

Minot Forest School's Newsletter

February, 2020

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

[jseamans@wareham.k12.ma.us](mailto:jseamans@wareham.k12.ma.us)

[www.facebook.com/Minot Forest Elementary School](https://www.facebook.com/Minot-Forest-Elementary-School)

Congratulations to the following staff who received the weekly Owl Award for demonstrating our theme of being Respectful, Responsible, and Kind: Mr. Medeiros, Mrs. Maloney, Mrs. Bergamini, Mrs. Jacqui DeGrace, Mrs. Letourneau, and Ms. Conlon

Dear Families:

Welcome February. February 6th brings our 100<sup>th</sup> day of school. We have started the second half of this year.



If your child is sick and will be absent, please remember to call Minot Forest in the morning to report his/her absence. Each day, our automated phone system will call the home of each absent child whose parent/guardian has not reported their child's absence. Upon your child's return, please send in a note to explain the absence. Please remember that students need to be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine (Tylenol/Advil) in order to return. Absences without doctor's notes are unexcused. Once a child is absent for 7 days, a letter will be sent home. This letter is required by law, regardless of the type of absence (excused/unexcused) or notes on file and is helpful to families to keep track of the number of days absent. If you sent in a note/doctor's note for previous absences, they are kept on file.

**Minot Dismissal Time:** Minot buses arrive for dismissal in front of the Middle School from 2:35-3:00. This is an active time for our buses rolling in, loading students, and leaving. If you arrive at this time, you will have to park in a visitor spot (if available) and wait until the buses have finished loading before you can leave the driveway. By law, no vehicle can pass a school bus with red flashing lights. It would be easier if cars parked across the street in the parking lot and parents/guardians walk across the street and into the office.

**Morning Drop Off Time:** As a reminder, we allow families to drop off their children starting at 8:15 AM. If you arrive before 8:15, please park in a parking space until staff comes out for duty. We need to avoid cars lining up in the oval ahead of time and blocking access to the parking lot.

**Afterschool Opportunity:** The Art Lab in Mattapoisett will be coming to Minot Forest after school for the first four Fridays in March (6, 13, 20, 27) from 2:45 PM-4:00 PM. If you are interested in having your child participate, you can complete the attached registration form or contact Mrs. Atwood for sign-up information at [iratwood@wareham.k12.ma.us](mailto:iratwood@wareham.k12.ma.us). Students will create, explore and make amazing art by drawing, painting, working with clay, and making cool stuff out of pomp oms and popsicle sticks.

**PTA:** The next PTA meeting will be February 11 at 6:30 PM at the John W. Decas School.

**Principal's Coffee:** The next monthly Principal's Coffee will be held on February 24 at 9:00 AM in the WMS Library. This is an informal time to meet, ask questions, hear any updates that need to be shared, etc. Information about the Minot Forest Building project is always shared at this meeting.

**Kindergarten Registration:** Kindergarten registration will be held on March 10 and 11 at the John W. Decas School. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

**Preschool Application and Screening for Peer Partners:** Applications are being accepted and screenings for peer partners will be conducted for the Integrated Preschool Program starting in September, 2020. Please see attached flyer.

**Preschool Screening:** The next monthly developmental screening for children ages 3-5 to identify children who might be at risk for a possible learning and/or developmental delay will be held by appointment on February 28, 2020. For more information, please contact Mrs. Anne Marie Fillion at [afillion@wareham.k12.ma.us](mailto:afillion@wareham.k12.ma.us) or by phone at 508-789-7994. Please note this is different than the screening for peer partners as listed above.

**New Hands-Free Cell Phone Law:** The new hands-free cell phone law goes into effect February 23, 2020. The law states: No operator of a motor vehicle shall hold a mobile electronic device. No operator of a motor vehicle shall use a mobile electronic device unless the device is being used in hands-free mode. No operator of a motor vehicle shall read or view text, images or video displayed on a mobile electronic device; provided, however, that an operator may view a map generated by a navigation system or application on a mobile electronic device that is mounted on or affixed to a vehicle's windshield, dashboard or center console in a manner that does not impede the operation of a motor vehicle. Warnings will be given to drivers from Feb 23-March 31. Fines will begin April 1.

Calendar of Events

American Heart Month, American History Month, Black History Month and  
Children's Dental Health Month

- 2/2 Groundhog Day
- 2/6 100<sup>th</sup> day of school for grades 3-4 (subject to change with any canceled school days)
- 2/6 Last day of Session 1 for CARE
- 2/10 Minot Forest School Building Committee Meeting, 6:00 PM in room 228 of the Multiservice Center
- 2/11 Wareham PTA Meeting, 6:30 PM at the John W. Decas School Cafeteria
- 2/11 School Council meeting, 3:45 PM in room D121
- 2/14 Happy Valentine's Day
- 2/14 Swimming ends for session 3 Friday classes today
- 2/17 Presidents' Day
- 2/17-2/21 Vacation Week, No School
- 2/23 New hands-free cell phone law begins today
- 2/24 Principal's Coffee, 9:00 AM at the Middle School Library
- 2/24 Second session of CARE begins
- 2/25 Boosterthon rallies begin today. Minot Forest Glow Run will be on March 5.
- 2/27 Grade 3 will have a Cape Cod Canal presentation in school
- 2/28 Swimming begins for Ms. Conlon's class today through April 3
- 2/28 We celebrate Riptides Swim Appreciation Day today. Wear the color royal blue and white.
- 2/29 Leap Year Day

**Save the Dates-**

**For planning purposes, Spring MCAS dates are as listed:**

**Grade 3**

**ELA-April 27 and 28. Makeups for absent students will be April 29 and 30.  
Math-May 7 and 8. Makeups for absent students will be May 13 and 14.**

**Grade 4**

**ELA-April 15 and 16. Makeups for absent students will be April 17 and 20.  
Math-May 11 and 12. Makeups for absent students will be May 14 and 15.  
Volunteers and visitors are not allowed in the building on testing days, per the Dept. of Education policy.**

**Other upcoming events:**

**The Boosterthon Glow Run fundraiser will be held on March 5. Pledge information will be sent home February 25.**

**Our annual International Night will be held on March 19**

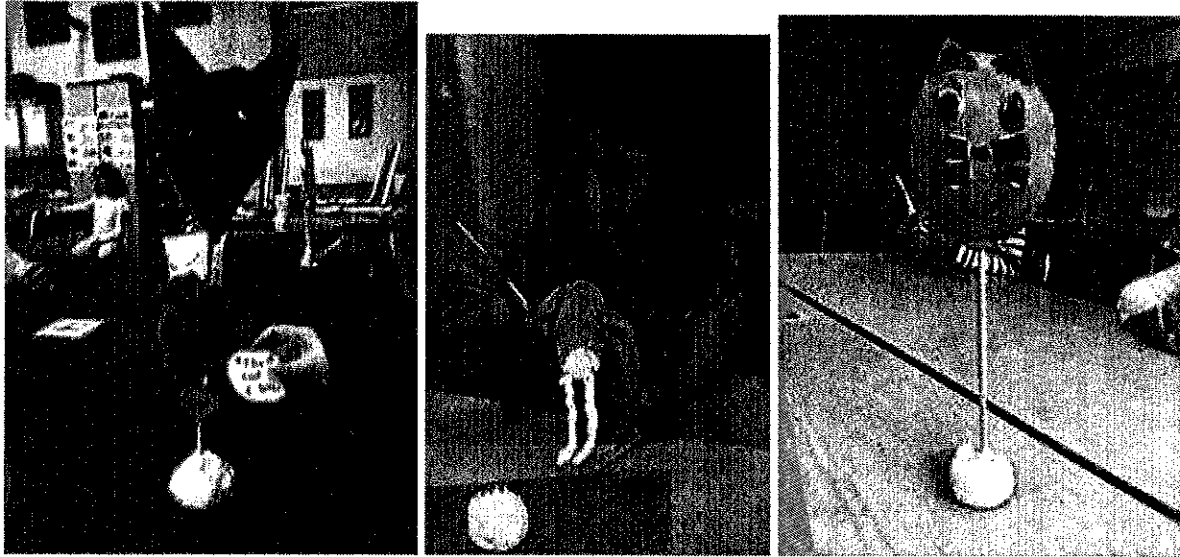
**Spring pictures will be held on April 17**

*Sincerely,*

*Joan M. Seamans  
Principal*

*Robin Murphy  
Assistant Principal*

*Teri DeFilippo  
Dean of Students*



## CHILDREN'S ART LAB @ MINOT

Back by popular demand! The Office of Beyond School Time is pleased to provide a fourth session for Minot Forest Elementary students beginning on:

**FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH 2:45-4:00 PM**

**4 WEEKS → \$50 PER STUDENT**

The Owner & Art Instructor of the Children's Art Lab returns to Minot Forest Elementary with 'Art is Amazing!'

Do you love to draw, paint, work with clay and make cool stuff out of pom poms and popsicle sticks? Join us for an after-school class where we'll create and explore and make amazing art!

**Classes held on March 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th**

On the above dates, please remind your child that they will be dismissed with Beyond School Time students to the Cafeteria for a 15 minute break & snack before class begins at 3:00pm in the art room.

Transportation is the responsibility of the parent/guardian or their designee. Pick up is promptly at 4:00pm at the Front Office.

**Registration Deadline → Friday, February 21st**

Program dependent on enrollment. Registration is on a first come first served basis. If there is a cancellation for any reason there will be makeup days.

*Turn over to complete registration*

**Registration Deadline → Friday, February 21st**  
**PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM AND**  
**\$50- REGISTRATION FEE TO:**

Mrs. Atwood, Minot Forest Elementary or mail to:  
Office of Beyond School Time  
Attention: Jennifer Scully  
48 Marion Road, Wareham, MA. 02571

**Checks or Money Order made payable to Wareham Public Schools**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ PO Box Number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: Please state the contact name, phone number(s) and relationship to your child. \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child have any allergies, medical conditions or disabilities which we should be aware? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the people (including parents/guardians) we may release your child to.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Program dependent on enrollment. Registration is on a first come first served basis. If there is a cancellation for any reason there will be makeup days.**

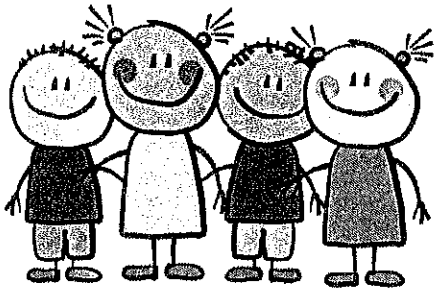
Please contact Mrs. Atwood, Minot Forest Elementary [iratwood@wareham.k12.ma.us](mailto:iratwood@wareham.k12.ma.us) 508-291-3555 x 5173 with any program questions or Jennifer Scully Office of BST [jscully@wareham.k12.ma.us](mailto:jscully@wareham.k12.ma.us) 508-291-3500 x 3556.

# WAREHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Preschool Application and Screening for Peer Partners

Entering September 2020

At John W. Decas Elementary School  
760 Main St., Wareham, MA 02571



The Wareham Public Schools are accepting applications and will be conducting screenings for the **Integrated Preschool Program** for September 2020. Our program is designed to provide a high quality learning environment for students with and without disabilities to learn together. It is staffed by highly qualified certified teachers. Children attend either 5 mornings or 4 afternoon sessions. Full day options are also available.

### Please bring with you:

- **Your child's birth certificate** (with a raised seal)  
Eligible children must be three or four years of age and toilet trained.
- **An up-to-date physical and immunization record**
- **Current financial income verification**(one)
  - Page 1 & 2 of the household 2019 Federal 1040 income tax return
  - 2019 Tax Transcript (download on IRS.gov)
- **Proof of residency:** (one of the following)
  - Valid photo ID (license, passport)
  - Copy of deed or most recent property tax bill and record of most recent mortgage statement
  - Copy of lease or rental agreement stating the beginning date of residency and duration of the lease/rental agreement
  - Copy of an executed Purchase and Sale Agreement stating the closing date
  - Copy of a utility bill
  - Voter's registration card
  - Copy of Section 8 agreement

**March 6, 13, and 20<sup>th</sup> 2020**

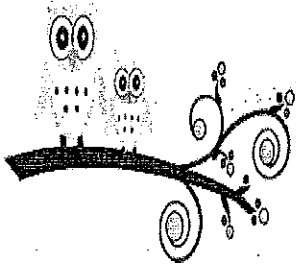
**9:00 -3:00 PM**

\* Please contact Anne Marie Fillion, Preschool Department Chairperson, at 508-789-7994 to make an appointment.

\*Applications may be obtained at the John W. Decas Elementary School and will be available at the screenings. You can also print one off the Warehamps.org website under student registrations.

The cost of the program is based on family income. Parents/Guardians of accepted students will receive an acceptance letter and will be asked to make a non-refundable deposit of \$50 to secure their spot for the 2020/2021 school year. Based on the financial information provided, your tuition for the half day program will be either \$10.00 per day, \$5.00 per day, or you may be eligible for free tuition. Full day tuition is either \$20.00 per day, \$10.00 per day or you may be eligible for free tuition.

In the event that the number of applications exceeds the number of available openings, a waiting list will be developed. Priority is given to children who are 4 years old and will be entering kindergarten the following year or if you had another child in the program previously. Applications will remain on file should an opening become available.



# WAREHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Entering September of 2020

DISTRICT-WIDE

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

*at the John W. Decas Elementary School*

*located at 760 Main Street, Wareham, MA 02571*

**March 10<sup>th</sup>**

**(Tuesday)**

**9:00 - 11:30 am**

**12:30 - 2:00 pm**

\*\*\*\*\*

**March 11<sup>th</sup>**

**(Wednesday)**

**9:00 - 11:30 am**

**12:30 - 2:00 pm**

**4:00 - 7:00 pm**

For further questions please contact the  
Decas School at (508)291-3530.

In the event of snow, or school closing, the registration  
would be postponed.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR

## KINDERGARTEN ENTRANCE

PLEASE BRING.....

- **A birth certificate**  
Child must be five years of age on or before  
October 1, 2020
- **Photo ID**
- **Proof of Residence**
- **Proof of up-to-date immunizations**  
Under Chapter 76, Section 15, of the General  
Laws of Massachusetts, the minimum  
requirements are:
  - Five (5) immunizations of Diphtheria, Tetanus  
and Pertussis (DPT).
  - Four doses of Polio vaccine (OPV or IPV).
  - Two (2) combined immunizations of Measles,  
Mumps, and Rubella (MMR).
  - Three (3) doses of Hepatitis B.
  - Two (2) doses of Varicella.
  - One (1) Lead Test Result (must be from  
physician).

Complete physical examination within one year prior to  
entrance to school or within 30 days after school entry.  
(Chapter 71, section 57, General Laws of Massachusetts).

