

Minot Forest Elementary School's
November, 2019 Newsletter

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Join us on the Minot Forest Elementary School Facebook group
Our latest Staff Owl Winners were: Mr. Houdlette, Mrs. Martins, Ms. Smith,
Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. Andrade, Mrs. Janessa DeGrace, Mr. Hart, and Ms. Byrd



Dear Families,

Welcome to November. The weather is turning cooler and students are reminded to come to school dressed appropriately as outdoor recess is held on a daily basis, weather permitting and not below 32 degrees.



Daylight Savings Time: Don't forget to turn your clocks back an hour when you go to bed Saturday night. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep.

School Attendance-It's the Law: When your child is sick, seeing the doctor and staying home is necessary to get better. A medical note will code this absence as excused. However, students are absent for reasons other than being sick which are considered unexcused. The following paragraph pertains to these cases.

Students who have chronic absences or tardies miss out on valuable classroom time. Poor attendance can negatively impact a student's academic, social, and emotional success. The Massachusetts General Laws (Chapter 76, Section 2) states that the school will have a policy that *"will notify the parent or guardian of a student who has at least 5 days in which the student has missed 2 or more periods unexcused in a school year or who has missed 5 or more school days unexcused in a school year. The notification policy shall require that the school principal or headmaster, or a designee (Supervisor of Attendance), make a reasonable effort to meet with the parent or guardian of a student who has 5 or more unexcused absences to develop action steps for student attendance."* After the initial meeting, continued action steps could include being referred to the Supervisor of Attendance for investigation and/or legal action with the courts, or if applicable, referred to the Department of Children and Families. If you are having difficulty getting your child to school for any reason and would like support, please contact our School Social Worker/Attendance Officer, Mrs. LeAnne Atwood.



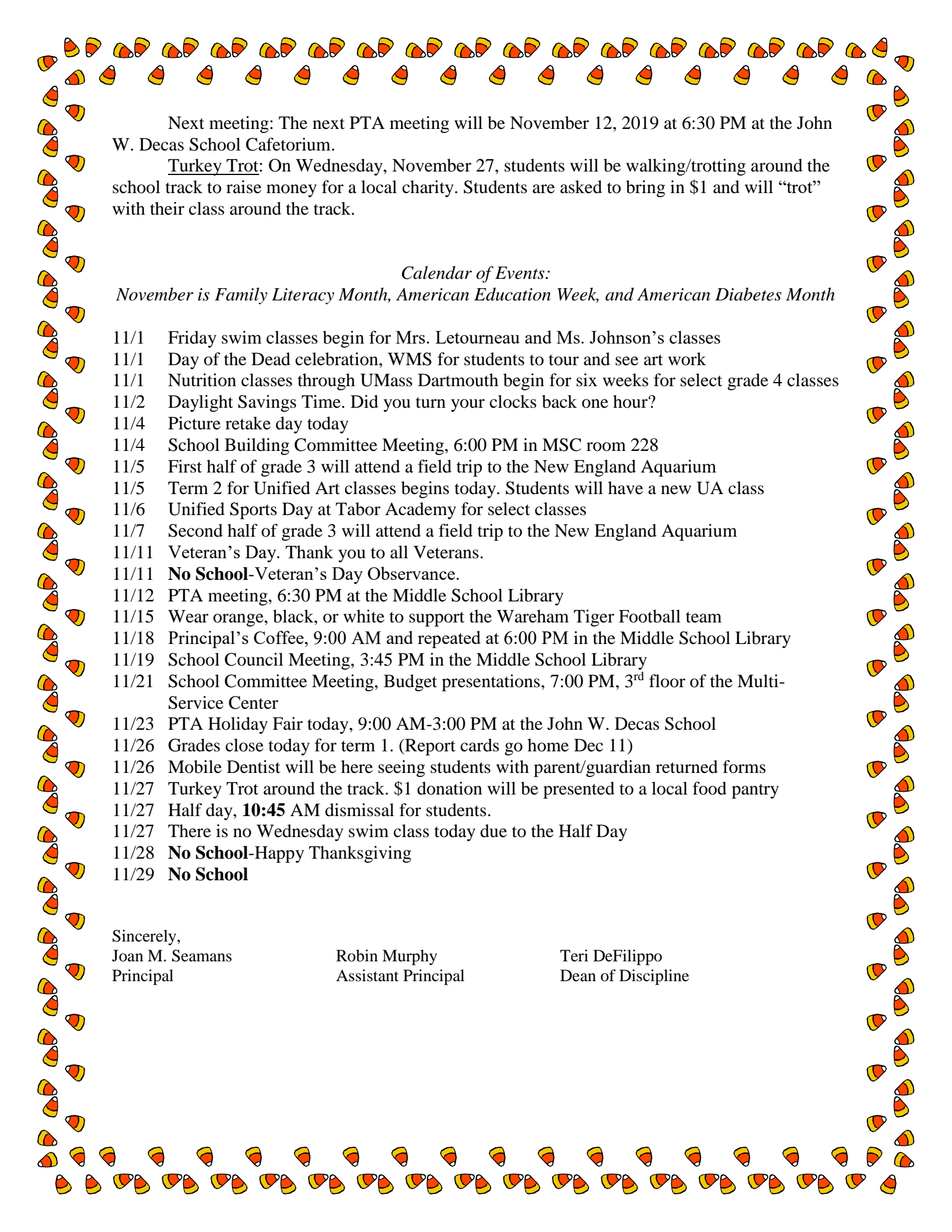
Principal's Coffee: The next Principal's Coffee will be held on November 18 at 9:00 AM in the Middle School Library. The Principal's Coffee is a time to communicate information to families or for parents/guardians to ask questions about topics of interest.



Picture Retake Day: If your child was absent and needs his/her picture taken, please send in the picture order form with the payment. If you received your pictures but would like a retake, please send back the entire package with a note on it stating what you did not like about the photos. Picture retake day is November 4.

Grade 3 Swimming: The next set of classes to attend the Friday swim sessions at the Gleason YMCA will be Mrs. Letourneau's and Ms. Johnson's classes from November 1-December 13 (there is no class on 11/29). Students need to bring their bathing suit and a towel to school every Friday. If they bring a comb, they cannot share the comb with classmates. We are very fortunate to have this opportunity and the students enjoy these six-week swim lessons.

Upcoming PTA Events: The Holiday Fair will be held at the John W. Decas School on November 23 from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. Information on this event will be coming home. Volunteers will be needed to help before, during and after the event.



Next meeting: The next PTA meeting will be November 12, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the John W. Decas School Cafetorium.

Turkey Trot: On Wednesday, November 27, students will be walking/trotting around the school track to raise money for a local charity. Students are asked to bring in \$1 and will “trot” with their class around the track.

Calendar of Events:

November is Family Literacy Month, American Education Week, and American Diabetes Month

- 11/1 Friday swim classes begin for Mrs. Letourneau and Ms. Johnson’s classes
- 11/1 Day of the Dead celebration, WMS for students to tour and see art work
- 11/1 Nutrition classes through UMass Dartmouth begin for six weeks for select grade 4 classes
- 11/2 Daylight Savings Time. Did you turn your clocks back one hour?
- 11/4 Picture retake day today
- 11/4 School Building Committee Meeting, 6:00 PM in MSC room 228
- 11/5 First half of grade 3 will attend a field trip to the New England Aquarium
- 11/5 Term 2 for Unified Art classes begins today. Students will have a new UA class
- 11/6 Unified Sports Day at Tabor Academy for select classes
- 11/7 Second half of grade 3 will attend a field trip to the New England Aquarium
- 11/11 Veteran’s Day. Thank you to all Veterans.
- 11/11 **No School**-Veteran’s Day Observance.
- 11/12 PTA meeting, 6:30 PM at the Middle School Library
- 11/15 Wear orange, black, or white to support the Wareham Tiger Football team
- 11/18 Principal’s Coffee, 9:00 AM and repeated at 6:00 PM in the Middle School Library
- 11/19 School Council Meeting, 3:45 PM in the Middle School Library
- 11/21 School Committee Meeting, Budget presentations, 7:00 PM, 3rd floor of the Multi-Service Center
- 11/23 PTA Holiday Fair today, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM at the John W. Decas School
- 11/26 Grades close today for term 1. (Report cards go home Dec 11)
- 11/26 Mobile Dentist will be here seeing students with parent/guardian returned forms
- 11/27 Turkey Trot around the track. \$1 donation will be presented to a local food pantry
- 11/27 Half day, **10:45** AM dismissal for students.
- 11/27 There is no Wednesday swim class today due to the Half Day
- 11/28 **No School**-Happy Thanksgiving
- 11/29 **No School**

Sincerely,
Joan M. Seamans
Principal

Robin Murphy
Assistant Principal

Teri DeFilippo
Dean of Discipline