

# Holland Hill Update

Molly Farrell, Principal

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## Happy 2018!

Dear Holland Hill Families,

Well it is certainly winter now! Thank you all for bearing with me as I continue to remind everyone about safety at drop off now that the cold temperatures and icy sidewalks have increased the number of cars coming through in the morning. As you know, it is imperative that when children are dropped off, they do so via the flagpole- and NOT in the parking lot. I know the line gets very long, but Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Stafstrom do an amazing job moving everyone through fast. Having your child completely ready to get out of the car will make a huge difference in getting all of the children in the door on time! Most importantly, thank you for attending to everyone's safety.

Speaking of safety, please plan to attend the **PTA Meeting on Thursday, February 1 at 7 pm.** Sgt. Ed Kovac from the Fairfield PD

will be presenting the topic of Internet Safety. This could not be more important to our students as they get older, but it is important even now!

More and more, they are exposed to digital opportunities that can be dangerous. Fairfield's curriculum will continue to address **Digital Citizenship** as they get older, but there is a lot that you need to know to keep them safe as well. Please plan to attend this important evening.

As an added incentive, the grade with the most parents in attendance will win an extra recess on a day picked by their teachers! I hope to see you there!

Warmly,

Molly Farrell

## Upcoming Events

Monday 1/22	Seeds of Enrichment begins
Wednesday 1/24	100 <sup>th</sup> Day Food Drive Begins
Thursday 1/25	School Store
Friday 1/26	STAR reports published on IC
Tuesday 1/30	Early Dismissal- Professional Development
Wednesday 1/31	Holland Hill Heroes after school
Thursday 2/1	PTA Meeting~ Internet Safety 7 pm (rescheduled from 1/4)
Friday 2/2	Grade 5 to Discovery Museum
Thursday 2/8	Strings Concert 7 pm
Week of 2/12	Kindness Week at Holland Hill
Tuesday 2/13	Soundtigers Game~ Fifth Grade Fundraiser
Wednesday 2/14	Town Meeting 9:30 & School Spirit Day
Thursday 2/15	Early Dismissal - Staff Development
Friday 2/16	No School~ Staff Development
Monday 2/19	No School~ Presidents' Day



## Staff News

Congratulations to **Paulette White** on the birth of her beautiful daughter, Sophia Cay! We are excited to welcome her to the Holland Hill family! 3W is now in the capable hands of Joanne Belko, who has just completed serving as Kayla O'Donnell's replacement.

We are also excited to welcome **Bernadette Falletta** to our staff of talented paraprofessionals! She had been serving as a lunch monitor, but she has now taken over for Brian O'Donnell who left Holland Hill this month for a new position outside of the school system!

Finally, we also welcome **Sue O'Neill** to Holland Hill as our new lunch aide!

## Holland Hill Kindness Week~ 2/12-2/15



Thanks to the leadership of our Social Worker, **Christine Olson**, Holland Hill will be participating in Kindness Week during the week of February 12. A committee of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be spearheading the planning of this week, along with Mrs. Olson. There will be a focus on "Random Acts of Kindness," with

special read alouds, morning announcements and a special "Kindness Chain" which each class will create. Kindness week will also be the focus of our Town Meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>!

We have been talking a lot about respect this year, and kindness toward others is a very important way to impart respect. I am so grateful for all that you do at home to model respect and kindness as well. It shows every day in the behaviors of your children!

## Flu Awareness & Prevention

You may have seen some of the communication from the Superintendent about the flu. I would like to thank our custodians, **Bob McMaster and Chris Sideris**, for stepping up efforts to keep Holland Hill clean. They have doubled their attention to high traffic places like doorknobs and sink handles etc. If your child is ill, please keep them at home and let us know the reason for their absence on the absence line (**203-255-8412**). These messages are always communicated to Nurse Vipond so that she is aware and can keep track of illnesses across the school.



Finally, don't forget to follow me on Twitter for lots of school photos, videos and updates!

**Mrs. Farrell @HollandHillElem**