

Vine Street School

September, 2016

Important Dates & Reminders

September

- 1 First Day of School
- 9 9-11 Assembly
- 12 Volunteer Training, 5:30
Title I Compact Meeting, 6:00
PTO, 6:00
- 14 School Comm. 7:00
- 28 School Comm. 7:00



Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! We have so many exciting things planned for our students and their families this year. If you have not yet received a calendar for this year's school events, you can download one from the school website or pick one up at the office.

I am so excited about the reading program we are using this year. The reading series is called *Ready Gen*. *Ready Gen* uses high quality children's literature as a foundation for implementing best reading instruction practices. The series focuses on higher level thinking, reading text closely for a variety of purposes and using evidence from text to support a position.

A special thank you to all the parents, grandparents and friends who

are picking students up from school. Safety is our number 1 priority. We appreciate everyone's patience as students learn the routines for dismissal and teachers and office staff check identifications of parents and friends they have not yet met. A reminder that students may be picked up either in the gymnasium or on the Larkin Street side playground. To ensure the safety of all students, students may not be picked up in the main lobby at dismissal time. We all appreciate your cooperation with our safety procedures.

If you have any concerns during this school year, please contact your child's teacher or me. We want every child to have a successful and positive school experience. Thank you for entrusting us with your children. We are looking forward to a great year!

Welcome New Staff

The Vine Street School would like to extend a warm welcome to our new staff members. Ms. Heidi Coghill is our special education resource room teacher. Mr. Justin Marks will share physical education teacher responsibilities with Mr. Pangburn. Mr. Marks will also work with PreK every afternoon. Miss Deidre Johnson has joined the special education team as an educational technician. Mrs. Marta Robbins is filling in as the art teacher for the first few weeks of school. Welcome to the Vine Street School team!



Academic Excellence for All

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Important Meetings

There is a lot going on at the Vine Street School on September 12th. At 6:00 the PTO will hold its first meeting of the year. This is an extremely important meeting for parents and friends to attend. The PTO is critical to the success of our students. Through their efforts, we are able to provide many enrichment opportunities for students and their families. Some of the most popular events include the Fall Festival, Family Fun Night and the Spring Fair. All of these offerings require planning so we need your help! At 5:30, Principal Silk will offer Volunteer Training. All volunteers must attend a volunteer training session before they can assist at the school. Trainings are held at all Bangor Schools, so if September 12th is not convenient, check the website for alternate dates. Volunteers can attend a training at any Bangor school. Just prior to the PTO meeting, Principal Silk will hold a short Title I Compact meeting for parents. During this meeting, Principal Silk will provide important information about Title I at the Vine Street School including how funds are managed. Please plan to attend these three important meetings.

Safety Concerns

The safety of our students is a top priority. For this reason, we have developed several procedures designed with safety in mind. It is extremely important that we have up-to-date numbers where we can reach parents in the event of an emergency. Please contact us when your numbers change—even if it is just a short term change. It is necessary to have people the school can contact if the parents are unavailable. Please be sure that these contacts are people who live locally and can come to the school if necessary. Thank you!

Please note: school staff will not release children to anyone they do not know without proper identification.



The Importance of a Good Night's Sleep

Students work hard throughout the school day, so it is important that they get a good night's sleep. Students in grades PreK – 3 need 10 to 11 hours of sleep each day. Children who do not get enough sleep can have difficulties with their school work, their behavior and their moods. Help your child to start the school year right by developing sleep routines including a regular bed time, turning off all electronics before bed and avoiding caffeine. You can find more information about how you can help your child get a good night's sleep at

<http://www.nationwidechildrens.org/sleep-in-school-aged-children>



Apples, Apples

Apples juicy, apples round
On the tree or on the ground!

Apples yellow, apples red,
Apple pie and juice and bread!

Apples crunch, apples sweet,
Apples are so good to eat!

(Sing to *Twinkle, Twinkle*)



September Themes

PreK Making Friends

K Numbers 0 to 5; "Living Together: This is Home", *Where's Home Little Pip?*

1 Addition and Subtraction, "Connecting to Our World", *Stellaluna*.

2 Addition and Subtraction, "Understanding Communities" *Trouble at the Sandbox*

3 Understanding Multiplication and Division, Observing the World Around Us, *The Case of the Gasping Garbage*