

# Vine Street School

November, 2017

## November

- 9 Veterans Day  
Assembly, 2:00
- 13 PTO, 6:00
- 17 School Pride Day  
Wear Red
- 20 Parent Teacher  
Conferences  
4:30-7:00
- 21 Parent Teacher  
Conferences  
NO SCHOOL
- 27 Book Fair Begins
- 30 PTO Cookie  
Decorating and Toy  
Car Race

Focus Country: Egypt



*Thankful for  
Reading*

November Theme: Native Americas  
Suggested Titles:  
*Pocahontas: Peacemaker and a friend to  
the Colonists*  
*The First Feud Between the Mountain and  
the Sea*  
*How Many Days to America?*

## Principal's Message

As hard as it is to believe, the holidays are almost upon us. As you begin preparing for family get-togethers and the gift giving season, I would ask you to consider purchasing board games to play together as a family. Research shows that playing games has benefits for both children and adults. There are many obvious benefits to playing games. It helps children learn to take turns and to practice losing (and winning) gracefully. Playing games also helps to increase a child's memory capacity, helps with fast strategic thinking and problem solving, develops hand-eye coordination, and builds specific skills. There is also value in online games (in

moderation). While parents have to be cautious of age-appropriate content, computer games help children develop familiarity with technology. Children can learn to use a mouse and keypad, understand how browsers and passwords work and develop eye hand coordination.

While I was researching this article, I was surprised to find out that there are many benefits for adults when they play games with children. These benefits include lowering blood pressure, reducing stress, growing the immune system and keeping cognitive skills sharp. I have included some game suggestions as well as my sources for this article on the next page. I hope all of you have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

## Veterans Day



Veterans Day is always celebrated on November 11<sup>th</sup>. On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918, the Allied Nations and Germany signed an armistice ending World War I. The staff of the Vine Street School want to thank all members of our armed services, both those who are currently serving and those who served in the past. Your service to our country is appreciated! On November 9, the Vine Street School will have a short assembly in honor of Veterans Day.

*Academic Excellence for All*

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## Parent-Teacher Conferences

### Parent Teacher Conferences

On November 20-21, staff will hold parent-teacher conferences. Conferences will run from 4:00pm until 7:00 pm on Monday and from 8:00am until 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm on Tuesday. Your child's teacher has sent a letter to you asking you to sign up for a conference. You will receive a confirmation from your child's teacher letting you know when your conference is scheduled. Teachers meet parents in their classrooms. It is important to arrive on time because the schedule to meet with every child's parents is sometimes very tight. If you are unable to meet during these conference times, or if you have more items to discuss with your child's teacher, please be reminded that you can schedule a meeting with your child's teacher at any time during the school year.

The Bangor School Department is committed to maintaining strong relationships with families. Parent-teacher conferences are a great way for teachers and parents to work together to help students be successful. Before the conference, talk to your child to see if he/she has any questions or concerns. It may be helpful to write a list of questions before the conference. Please see the attached sheet for more information.



### Passport to Reading

The first month of our Passport to Reading Challenge has gone very well. Several children have met one or more challenges and have already had their passports stamped! Here are the challenges for November.

Mr. Whitney-Read a book about the Environment  
Mrs. Lee-ABC Books  
Vine Street Staff-Books about Egypt

Mrs. Silk-Books About the United States  
Mrs. Clark-Mysteries & Kevin Henkes books  
Mrs. Curtis-Wordless Picture Books

### Fun Family Board Games

Sorry  
Chutes and Ladders  
Jenga  
Connect 4  
Candy Land  
Operation  
Guess Who?  
Apples to Apples Jr.  
Hoot Hoot Owl  
Twister  
Uno

Sources:

<https://www.teachthought.com/technology/6-basic-benefits-of-game-based-learning/>  
<http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/creativity-play/benefits-board-games>  
<http://www.healthfitnessrevolution.com/top-10-health-benefits-board-games/>

### What We Will Learn This Month

PreK-Our Community

K-Reading: Understanding Then and Now; *The Little House, Four Seasons Make a Year*. Math: Compare Numbers to Ten and Classify and Count Data.

1-Reading: Becoming a Classroom Citizen; *A Fine, Fine School, The Recess Queen*. Math: Subtraction Facts to 20-Use Strategies.

2-Reading: Making Decisions: *Alexander Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday, A Chair for My Mother*. Math: Add and Subtract within 100.

3-Reading: Observing the World Around Us: *Treasure in the Trees, The Moons Seems to Change*. Math: Fluently Multiply and Divide within 100.

