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**Florence Rideout Elementary School**

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- To reinforce concepts in our comprehensive guidance curriculum the entire school was treated to a viewing of *Toy Story* at the iconic Wilton Town Hall Theater on **Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**. This movie is rich with content that reinforced student learning about emotions, friendship, and problem solving. This event was coordinated by School Counselor, **Joann Dufour**. Our host, theater owner Dennis Markoverich, generously provided the use of the theater free of charge.
- The annual winter holiday concert directed by music teacher **Kristi Levick** was held on Thursday **December 15<sup>th</sup>**, the Florence Rideout Elementary School students in first grade through third grade. The students put on fabulous performances much to the delight of family and friends.
- January is when we conduct our mid-year assessments. The winter NWEA Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) will be administered to our second through fifth graders during the period of **January 19<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>**. Students are assessed in both reading and math with the MAP test in the fall, winter, and spring. The MAP assessment gives us information about each student's instructional level and also measures academic growth throughout the year. Teachers use the information from the MAP test to assess student progress, make adjustments to their instruction, and implement strategies that best meet each student's individual needs.
- The second reporting period come to an end on **January 13<sup>th</sup>**. Learning Profiles will be sent home with students on **January 20<sup>th</sup>**. Our second quarterly student recognition assembly the "C.A.R.E.S." Olympiad of Character is planned in the Florence Rideout Gymnasium will also be held on January 20<sup>th</sup> Several students will receive recognition for demonstrating our Habits of Learning: Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy and Self Control.
- Over the past 8 weeks, classroom teachers and administration have met as Professional Learning Teams (PLT's). A PLT is group of educators with a shared investment or goal for students. The team meets on a weekly basis. Competencies and grade level outcomes for science and social studies have been identified. On **January 24<sup>th</sup>** members from each grade level will convene to analyze the vertical alignment of these grade level competencies and "I can" statements.
- Our first annual Florence Rideout Scripps Spelling Bee will be held on **January 27<sup>th</sup>** in the gymnasium. The purpose of the bee is to help students improve their spelling, increase their vocabulary and develop correct English usage that will help them all their lives. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms will hold a classroom bee to

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determine a class champion and class runner-up. These students will then compete in the school wide bee to determine a school champion to compete at the New Hampshire state bee in February. Kathi Nahass, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, is coordinating this event.

- Our next staff development day is scheduled for **Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>**. To achieve a high quality education, teachers require time beyond the classroom. Teachers need the time as individuals, schools, and district to reflect, to collaborate, and to learn new skills. Several members of the district technology committee have worked hard to organize another "Get Plugged In" event to provide colleagues with quality professional development in the area of technology integration. We are looking forward to this productive day of learning.
- Congratulations to Eila O'Toole, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student from Mrs. Heather Desmarais class and Daxtin Richards from Mrs. Rebecca Hawkes 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class. They have been named the "Students of the Month" for January.

Respectfully,

Tim O'Connell  
Principal