



**February 21
through
February 25
WINTER BREAK
NO SCHOOL**

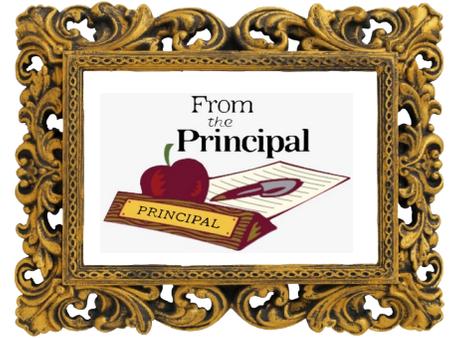
Kindergarten snowshoeing with Coach Sadie in PE!



February 9, 2022

Dear Families,

As we prepare to leave for February Break, we ask everyone to remain mindful of the safety recommendations we made prior to the Holiday Vacation, and we thank everyone for continuing to consider them best practice once more, with the shared goal of keeping our school community safe and healthy. My hope is that we will return to school on February 28 without any positive cases. As we've requested previously, we ask that if your family's plans include travel or hosting guests, you please provide negative COVID-19 test results for your students upon their return to school.



With the snow banks piling up and our driveway narrowing with each storm, it is especially important to make sure we are driving through slowly and watching out for people. Please keep in mind that three cars can pull in after the buses have entered the yard. We still ask that the rest of the cars continue to wait on the road. Please use the fence as a guide for where to line up. Having the line of cars start a little further back gives the buses more room to pull out, and for them to make sure no cars are pulling around the waiting cars and heading in their direction. Also, please be aware that during arrival and dismissal times, there are students exiting and entering both sides of their vehicles. Unless you have been directed to proceed past a parked vehicle by a staff member, please do not ever pass a vehicle parked in the driveway. Thank you for your patience as we work to ensure safety for our students.

When we return from February Break, storyteller and returning guest, Motoko, will be re-joining us to lead our students in Origami Adventures! We are so grateful to Motoko, and to our art teacher, Ms. Neal, for co-writing a Massachusetts Cultural Council grant this fall that made it possible to bring this project to Swift River. And, we are so excited to start this collaboration! Motoko will be here during the month of March and we will hold a culminating event at the end of this series.

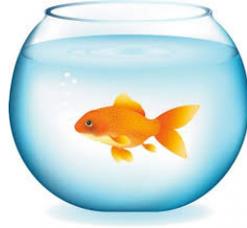
Fondly,

Kelley



On January 19th we enjoyed a visit from **Winston** the comfort dog. Winston works with the Amherst Police Department and went into classrooms today with Officer Laramie to meet and connect with our students. These pictures were taken in first grade, where Winston received a warm welcome!





HAPPY FEBRUARY!

from “**INSIDE THE FISH BOWL**”!!

I wanted to take a moment and let you know that there are still **PLENTY** of access codes available for anyone who would like to take advantage of the **FREE EBOOK LIBRARY APP** called **OPEN eBooks**! This **APP** contains thousands of popular, award-winning eBook titles you and your child can access at home or on-the-go from an Apple(iOS) or Android mobile phone or tablet. We have received this resource thanks to First Book, a non-profit organization who supports equity in education by providing books and resources to schools and programs across the country.

Remember, in order to access these amazing titles, contact Mrs Newman at school via email, phone or text, and receive a personal code and PIN # to receive your **FREE access**! This is an amazing opportunity to continue to put the joy of reading into your child's hands no matter where you go!! (NO STRINGS ATTACHED! It's totally FREE!)

Get in touch with me today!!
newman@swiftriverschool.org
978-544-6926 (call)
978-633-5505 (text)

I look forward to hearing from you!

Happily yours,
Tina Newman





Meet Your Bus Drivers

**Sue Rosewarne
Wendell 2**

I live in Erving with my husband, kiddo, and dogs. My favorite activities are spoiling my grandkids, baking, crafting, and camping.

I work full-time for F. M. Kuzmeskus, splitting my time driving the Wendell 2 Route and working in the office.

I started driving the school bus 30 years ago, it was the perfect part-time job for a mom with young kids (I had 3). They let us bring our kids to work. The best part was not having to pay for daycare!

**Chris Chase
Wendell 1**

I live in Orange with my two cats, Aries and Mr. Buttons. I grew up in the Berkshires and moved over to Franklin County twenty-five years ago. Not only do I drive in Wendell, but also work in the office full-time.

I have been driving a bus for twenty years starting at UMASS before graduating from UMASS with a degree in Natural Resources. Driving for the Wendell School System has been a lot of fun and I enjoy the students.



**Rosemary (Rose) Lyman
New Salem 1**

I live in New Salem with my husband and two horses. I have been driving bus for 42 years. I started back when my children were students at Swift River School. Over the years I have had many students and families pass through my life.

My hobbies are horseback riding and gymkhanna's. I also enjoy knitting and crafts in general.

**Lonnie Smith
New Salem 2**

Hi! I'm Lonnie Smith, and I just started driving bus for Swift River this year. I really love it, and I love my kids. Also, the staff at the school are really nice!

WENDELL SCHOLARSHIPS

Help Minds Grow!

It's time to apply for scholarships from Dollars for Wendell Scholars! All students who live in Wendell and will be pursuing any kind of accredited post secondary education next year can apply by completing the short and easy application. Applications for the scholarship are available at local high schools, at the Wendell Free Library, at the WRATS and through the contacts listed below. They must be returned to the address below by April 15th.

Our eighth annual fundraiser was initiated with a mailing to all Wendell residents in February. Donations are now tax deductible! Donations may be made to

Dollars for Wendell Scholars,
P.O. Box 232,
Wendell, MA 01379

with checks payable to Dollars for Wendell Scholars. Please help us support Wendell residents seeking post-secondary education (college/university/technical school).

For more information call or email:

Carolyn Manley at 978-544-7028 (
dollarsforwendellscholars@gmail.com)

or Christine Heard at 978-544-2282 (cheard59c@aol.com).