

## GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

April 13, 2015

[www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/coolidge](http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/coolidge)



Dear Families,

Teachers and students alike continue to reflect on and analyze writing work. Although encouraging regular independent reading is always important, this coming week I'd like to encourage you to use the vacation break to watch your child as a writer. I think you'll be pleasantly surprised by your child's ability to organize an "essay" - and to express an opinion with evidence.

One way to get a good piece of writing started is to invite a debate. Our second graders, for example, are currently considering whether it's okay for schools to hatch chickens, and what we need to consider when we take responsibility for raising an animal.

Watching your child as they write is also a good way to gauge two important elements of future academic success: fluency and stamina. Look closely at your child's ability to hold a pencil, and the way s/he forms letters. Taking a few minutes to reinforce the basics of good penmanship and letter formation now help your child to write for extended periods later. Similarly, drafting a plan and following through on it helps students to sustain their focus, another key area for growth over time.

Finally, elementary school is a good place to learn and to grow. Please support your child's overall efforts and join the conversation about how to engage your child in demonstrating a positive mindset. Reflection and goal lead to self-direction.

Sincerely,

*Amy*

### **Important Upcoming Dates:**

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>April 16, PTO Meeting, 7 pm in the Media Center</b>
<b>Friday</b>	April 17 Bookfair ends
<b>Monday</b>	<b>April 20-24 Spring Vacation</b>
	Town Election
<b>Friday</b>	<b>May 8 School Store</b>
<b>Monday</b>	May 11 GR 3 PARCC ELA End of Year
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>May 12 GR 4 PARCC ELA End of Year</b>
<b>Wednesday, Thursday</b>	May 13 & 14 GR 3 PARCC Math End of Year
<b>Monday, Tuesday</b>	<b>May 18 &amp; 19, GR 4 PARCC Math End of Year</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	May 21 PTO 7 pm in the media Center

**Friday**  
Monday

**May 22 last School Store**  
May 25 Memorial Day NO SCHOOL

FYI

**1. Bus Registration Open with New Incentive:** The annual bus privilege registration opened yesterday, and we already have over 400 registrations! New this year, families who register online and pay (if owed) by the June 1 deadline will be eligible for [rebate and prize drawings](#), including a possible FULL REFUND. Click [here](#) for information or to register.

**2. Warm Weather Clothing**

The type of clothing students wear contributes to our school's atmosphere. We want students to be comfortable in class; however, clothing that is designed for very hot weather (e.g. short shorts, flip flops, crop shirts, spaghetti straps, "jelly" shoes, halters, mesh tank tops with over-sized arm holes, and/or tube tops) often make children uncomfortable and thus disrupt learning. Please save beachwear for the weekends or summer time fun. **DO** remember to apply sunscreen and send water from now on.

**3. Young Rembrandts Cartooning Class**

Young Rembrandts is returning to Coolidge this spring! As it is springtime, that means it is time for our Cartooning curriculum. Students will learn the essential skills they need to create exciting cartoon characters with expressive faces and dynamic poses. They will develop their visual storytelling skills as they draw sequential images and jokes. Students will learn to create fun, off-the-wall characters based on people, animals, and even food. All this and more await our students. This session will be held on WEDNESDAY afternoons, after school 3:30 - 4:30, beginning May 6 and running for 6 weeks until June 10. Tuition is \$69 for the 6 week session. You can register online at <https://www.youngrembrandts.com/class-enroll.aspx?id=69711> or return registration form (coming home with students today) to the school office with payment. Contact Young Rembrandts directly with any questions: (508) 393-8033, or [elizabeth.leitko@youngrembrandts.com](mailto:elizabeth.leitko@youngrembrandts.com). Enroll your student today!

**4. Mark your calendars!**

Field Day June 5th

4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents, please note: Completion Ceremony will be held on  
Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at 9:30