

GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

November 28, 2016

Dear Families,

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. The break was long enough for both family fun and fall projects, and I definitely took advantage of child labor to get all those leaves raked! As it happens, that work may have been as good for my children as it was a timesaver for me.

In her book *The Gift of Failure*, Jessica Lahey contends that it's vital that children are tasked with all the complexities of real work so that they can push through setbacks to learn. She also claims that letting go (versus directing from the side, simplifying or "helping") is much harder for adults than it is on children. I wasn't sure I agreed- and I asked my husband to monitor me as we raked. Even having read the book, I had to squelch my own need to direct my 16-year-old raker six times in two hours! It's a natural instinct to want to instruct children on the "best way" to save them from the agony of carelessly piled leaves scattered by the wind. Yet when parents do this, what our children hear is that we don't have faith in them to figure it out.

This is a busy season. Give the gift of confidence by giving a task over completely to your child. And consider giving the book to yourself!

Sincerely,

Amy

P.S. Speaking of tasks, please be sure to support your child as they work on Fact fluency goals. Encourage them to "go for the gold" medal by May! We have Math incentive sheets and strategies to help every child succeed.

Click here for more details:

<https://www.thinglink.com/scene/833337823309332481>

<http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/coolidge/documents/mathrecordingsheetk-4FINAL.pdf>

Important Upcoming Dates:

12/2	School Store
12/3	Kids Night Out – details below.
12/5-12/9	Gingerbread Shop (Details to come)
12/6	EARLY RELEASE DAY – Classes out at 12:15
12/16	School Store
12/16	Snowflake Festival
12/26-1/2	Winter Break

From the Office:

If you know a parent/guardian who has not been getting the Greetings or any notices via email from school, please have them contact the office at 508.841.8880.

If you are sending an email or a note about an absence or lateness, please include your child's first and last name.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBPAGE FOR IMPORTANT FORMS AND DATES:

<http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/coolidge/>

We are also on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CoolidgeElementarySchool>

If your child will be out sick, out for a vacation, or celebrating a religious holiday, please call the school before 10:00am that day to let us know.

Child Safe line (for absences): 508.841.8886

Coolidge Main Line: 508.841.8880

Cathy Cairns, Coolidge Secretary: 508.841.8884

Mark your calendars with No School Dates, Early Release Dates and Holidays.

Coolidge ASAP Classes Start in January

The After School Activities Program will resume in January with 5 great classes to choose from! The cost is only \$40 for a 6-week session, and classes start January 4th.

January offerings include “Beginning Crochet” with Ms. Betti, “Girls’ Empowerment” with Ms. Richardson, “Wacky Wednesdays” with Ms. Jarvi, “Fitness Club” with Ms. Cloyes and Ms. Rice, and “Fun with Cookie Decorating” with Ms. Forzaglia.

Registration will open Thursday December 1st at 7:00AM.

The info below gives more information about each class and provides the link for on-line registration. Classes fill quickly, so register early! If you have questions about the program, please contact Karen Isaacson, Director of Extended Learning, kisaacson@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us



Coolidge After School Activities Program (ASAP)

January 2017 Course Selections

- All courses meet on Wednesdays at Coolidge for 6 weeks from 3:30-4:30
 - Class dates: Jan 4, Jan 11, Jan 18, Jan 25, Feb 1, Feb 8
 - The cost of each course is \$40
- Space is limited, registration will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis
 - Do not send payment until you receive a confirmation email
- If accepted, payment and permission slip will be due ***Friday December 16th***
 - Financial assistance is available upon request
- Students will be dismissed to the gym at 3:15 and supervised until the start of class.

Registration opens Thursday 12/1 at 7:00AM

Click here to Register:

<https://goo.gl/forms/BTJ7Z11tBhx1Upew1>

(or cut and paste the address into your browser)

ASAP Course: *Wacky Wednesdays*

Instructor: Ms. Jarvi

Open to students in grades: 1 & 2

Number of students in class: 12

Course Description: Wacky Wednesdays are back with all new activities! If you're looking for a program with a variety of activities, then this is for you. Every week we will have something different...scrapbooking, Minute to Win it games, crafts, science, learn to draw, and a STEM class.

ASAP Course: *Fitness Club*

Instructor: Ms. Cloyes & Ms. Rice

Open to students in grades: 3 & 4

Number of students in class: 16

Course description: Do you enjoy being active and staying fit? Do you want to get stronger? Then fitness club is for you! During the six sessions, we will learn about and practice several body-weight exercises to help us stay fit! Some examples of the body-weight exercises we will practice are push-ups, sit-ups, planks, mountain climbers, jumping jacks, burpees, squats, running... The list goes on! Join fitness club to have fun while you sweat!

ASAP Course: *Girls' Empowerment*

Instructor: Ms. Richardson

Open to students in grades: 3

Number of students in class: 10

Course description: Girls will work together to gain leadership skills, build friendships, problem solve and relate to one another through a variety of crafts, discussions and games.

ASAP Course: *Beginning Crochet*

Instructor: Ms. Betti

Open to students in grades: 2, 3 & 4

Number of students in class: 8

Course description: Learn basic crochet stitches to make your own scarf or small blanket. All supplies will be provided. No crochet experience necessary!

ASAP Course: *Fun with Cookie Decorating*

Instructor: Ms. Forzaglia

Open to students in grades: 1, 2, 3 & 4

Number of students in class: 12

Course description: Who doesn't love seeing beautifully decorated cookies in a bakery? This is your chance to become the master decorator! Learn how to use a variety of tools to make your treats into a work of art. You will bring home your creations each week to share with your family!

Please direct all questions to:
Karen Isaacson, Director of Extended Learning,
508-841-8727 kisaacson@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Gingerbread Shop 12/5-12/8

Watch for information on the Gingerbread Shop coming home today in your child's backpack. The Gingerbread Shop is a small store that is set up in the cafeteria for the students to buy gifts for their families for the holidays. The shopping is done during the school day with their teachers. (This is optional. Students and parents do not need to purchase items at the shop.)



UPDATE ON COOLIDGE CLOTHING DRIVE

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Coolidge Clothing/Material Drive to benefit the Epilepsy Foundation and Coolidge School. We collected 2816 lbs of materials, which translated into \$563.30 for Coolidge School! Thanks to Mrs. Betti for organizing this!

Kids' Night Out! Mark your Calendars for December 3rd

A fun night for kids hosted by Student Council! Part of Shrewsbury High School will be open to children ages 5-12 to play games, watch movies, do arts and crafts, grab dinner and more. SHS students are volunteering as "Big Brothers and Sisters" for the evening, running the event on December 3rd from 6-9pm. The cost is \$20 per child with discounts for multi-child families. Pizza, snacks, and drinks will also be available for purchase. Adult supervision by SHS staff members and a licensed school nurse will be provided. Pre-register at: <http://tinyurl.com/SHSkidsnightout> Maximum capacity is 200 children. Registration at the door is available pending maximum capacity has not been reached. Entrance to the event will be at the Gym entrance of Shrewsbury High School. Registration/admittance will open at 5:45pm. Funds raised at KNO support Student Council and the Excelsior. Please contact Becky Moisan (rmoisan@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us) with questions.

Shrewsbury Public Schools 2016-2017 School Year Calendar

FINAL
Approved 2-3-16*

**Note: The first day of school, holidays, and school vacations will not change.*

Professional development days and early release days could change as a result of negotiations with the teachers' association.

AUG/SEP 22 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31	1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER 19 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

NOVEMBER 17 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

DECEMBER 17 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

JANUARY 20 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

August/September
8/25 & 26 New Teachers' Orientation
8/29 Opening Program for Staff
8/30 Students Return/Full Day
9/2 Professional Development/No School
9/5 Labor Day/No School

October
10/7 Professional Development/No School
10/10 Columbus Day/No School

November
11/8 Election Day/Pre-K-8 Conference Day/No School
11/11 Veterans Day/No School
11/23 - 25 Thanksgiving Vacation

December
12/6 Professional Development/Early Release
12/26 - 12-30 December Vacation

January
1/2 New Year's Day (Observed)
1/16 M.L. King Day/No School

February
2/7 Professional Development/Early Release
2/20 Presidents Day/No School
2/21 - 2/24 Winter Vacation

March
3/7 Professional Development/Early Release

April
4/4 Professional Development/Early Release
4/17 Patriots Day/No School
4/18 - 21 Spring Vacation

May
5/2 Professional Development/Early Release
5/26 Last Day for Seniors
5/29 Memorial Day/No School

June
6/1 Graduation Day
6/12 Last Day for Kindergarten & Preschool
6/14 Last Day/Half Day for Students

February 15 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28			

MARCH 23 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

APRIL 15 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

MAY 22 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

JUNE 10 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

0 snow days = 6/14 last day
1 snow day = 6/15 last day
2 snow days = 6/16 last day
3 snow days = 6/19 last day
4 snow days = 6/20 last day
5 snow days = 6/21 last day

PTO NEWSFLASH

Email: ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Blog: <http://coolidgepto.wordpress.com/> The PTO has created a blog as an additional resource for information and notices. Come check it out!

Facebook Group: "Calvin Coolidge PTO" All parents, guardians, and staff are welcome to join our group on Facebook. It's a great place to chat with the community or ask a question.

Direct Donation: <https://npo.justgive.org/coolidgepto> There are many ways to help support the PTO, a direct donation is just one.

1. Gingerbread Shop Volunteers Needed
2. Reading Incentive Program

1. We are looking for volunteers to help without annual tradition of the gingerbread shop. Please check out this link to the sign-up genius

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AA5AE2DA0F85-gingerbread>

2. Reading Incentive Program - I am so happy to see many reading sheets being turned in and the students earning their stars and getting their tickets and prizes. There will be a drawing at the end of November and one lucky reader will win a prize. Keep up the great work and everyone of us will be Super Readers.

To include news about your committee, fundraiser or PTO event in future newsflashes, please e-mail your submissions to Kristie Biando at kbiando74@gmail.com and Rachel Reeve at rachelreeve@yahoo.com

