

GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

December 5, 2016

Dear Families,

As you know, tomorrow educators all across the district will participate in professional development. This year especially this means teachers have opportunities to work with colleagues beyond their home schools. There are several themes our staff have targeted: the use of technology, mindfulness, growth mindset, and project-based learning are just a few. In every session, teachers are looking a new at what it means to 'innovate' in schools.

Here at Coolidge, we've focused on improving whole school routines. We've made Parent Pick up more efficient by using our spaces differently- and we've adjusted routines in the cafeteria by beginning each lunch period with silent observation of a calming video clip. Change is never easy, and when redesigning it's wise to expect to learn from mistakes. We've found which video clips are engaging by noticing which ones aren't. We've also tinkered with timing and worked with students to solicit from them what they like and dislike about the cafeteria. We will continue this work until we're satisfied, and right now it's a work in progress. I'm glad that as a result of our efforts the cafeteria is a calmer space. I am also pleased that students and staff continue to work together to make lunch an even better experience. If you would like to share your observations about your child's experience, please consider attending PTO this Thursday evening. I'll be talking about the cafeteria as one example of our school improvement efforts, and I welcome your perspective.

Sincerely,

Amy

P.S. Speaking of tasks, THANK YOU for supporting your children as they work on Fact fluency goals. We've designed Math incentive sheets and strategies to help every student succeed, and we're proud to see the children starting to bring them in.

Click here for more details:

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

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

Important Upcoming Dates:

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



Coolidge's First Snow of the school year.

From the Office:

Winter is here! Please send your child to school with appropriate clothing; winter jackets, hats and mittens. And snow pants and boots if there is snow on the ground.

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



There is still time to register for the After School Activities Program for January. The following classes still have openings, and the link to the registration form is at the end of this email.

ASAP Course: *Wacky Wednesdays – only 2 spots left!*

Instructor: Ms. Jarvi

Open to students in grades: 1 & 2

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

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

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 -only 2 spots left!*

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!

- 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.

Click here to Register:

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

(or cut and paste the address into your browser)

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

The Gingerbread Shop is running all this week. 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.)



SECOND UPDATE ON COOLIDGE CLOTHING DRIVE

We have an update on the poundage and money raised from the Coolidge Clothing/Material Drive to benefit the Epilepsy Foundation and Coolidge School. We collected **3078 lbs of materials**, which translated into **\$615.60** for Coolidge School!

We beat last year's total by 42 lbs!

Thanks to Mrs. Betti for organizing this!

Breakfast Available on 1/2 Days

Beginning **December 6, 2016** , Breakfast will be served on 1/2 days at Coolidge Elementary School, Oak and Sherwood Middle Schools and the High School. Lunch is not available on 1/2 days



Books for Coolidge



The holidays are quickly approaching! Our lives are soon to become even busier during the joyous, yet frenzied time of year. If you are looking for that special gift that doesn't involve dealing with mall traffic, consider making a donation to the Books for Coolidge Program!

You can choose to have your child select a book from a collection that is pre selected by the Media Specialist. A special label will be placed inside the front cover of the book showing who donated the book, who it honors or is a gift in name of.

There are many reasons to participate in our donate a book program: celebrate a child's birthday, honor a holiday, appreciate a teacher or other staff member or just because you love Coolidge. The children are proud to see their names inside the books in the media center and it is a great way to contribute to our wonderful school.

If you are interested, simply fill out the form on this letter and return it to school with a check of \$15.00 made out to Coolidge PTO.

Books for Coolidge is an ongoing program at Coolidge, so you can choose to participate at any time of the school year. If you have questions about the program please contact Marge Fox at mfox@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

Here is the form for Donate A Book:

http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/coolidge/media/documents/2016_Winter.pdf

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
2. PTO Meeting- Thursday December 12th at 7PM
3. Texas Roadhouse gift card fundraiser

1. Reminder that the gingerbread shop starts this week. Remember to send your child in with money in the provided envelopes on their shopping day. If you have any questions about this please email Jenn at jluke88@gmail.com

2. Please join us for the PTO meeting on Thursday 12/8 at 7pm. We will be discussing fundraisers and the principal would like to hear from parents about the new cafeteria procedures and the quiet time in the beginning.

3. These are the last few days to sell the Texas Roadhouse gift cards. Everything HAS to be turned in by December 8th.

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

