

GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

March 14, 2016

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

Dear Families,

No doubt you've seen your child's passion for learning in action. I sincerely hope you've seen it sparked at school. No matter the location, the signs are hard to miss: a child learning doesn't want to stop. Students want to keep learning when they are engaged, and they are more likely to push through difficulty until they master the skill or reach "the next level". It's thrilling to witness. This week I was reminded that it's just as exciting when it happens to an educator. Third grade teacher Erin Kendrick recently joined middle and high school colleagues on Shrewsbury's Innovation Team, a group tasked with exploring new instructional practices. Last week they visited schools in San Diego. Back at Coolidge this morning, Mrs. Kendrick was lit up with excitement about some of the teaching and learning she'd seen.

Please come to a special evening to hear more about promising practices that might serve our students by engaging them in new models of education. The film *Most Likely to Succeed* challenges our thinking about how the current model of education may need to adapt to truly prepare students for their lives ahead. The film will be shown in the Shrewsbury High School auditorium at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, March 16, followed by a panel discussion and Q&A including representatives from business, higher education, and Shrewsbury Public Schools. Viewing and discussing this film together is part of the community approach to new initiatives that we embrace in Shrewsbury. I strongly encourage parents, community members, educators, and high school students to attend.

Sincerely,

Amy

Amy Clouter

aclouter@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Principal

Important Upcoming Dates:

March 25 School Store

April 8 Coolidge Spring Fling Fundraiser (details coming soon)

Link to some details:

<http://schools.shrewsbury.ma.gov/coolidge/calendar/21508/1620809>

April 26, 27, 28 PARCC testing Grade, 3 English Language Arts

May 2, 4, 5 PARCC testing Grade 4, English Language Arts

May 9-12 PARCC testing Grade 3, Math

May 16-19 PARCC testing Grade 4, Math

Congratulations to Coolidge's own Charlene Campbell

Congratulations to Coolidge's Food Service Manager Charlene Campbell for being awarded the School Nutrition Association of Massachusetts manager of the year award. She was selected the best out of all Massachusetts towns. Yahoo! We have the Best in the state. Of course, all of us at Coolidge know how wonderful Mrs. Campbell is – now the rest of the State knows!!



Coolidge Students Artwork to be displayed at Worcester Art Museum

Congratulations to second grader Vaishnavi Iyer ; kindergartner Quinn Santello and third grader Samhitha Bodangi whose artwork was chosen for a special exhibit at the Worcester Art Museum. All Coolidge students are in Mrs. Amy Loconsolo's art class.

This multi-media exhibit will feature student artwork from communities across central Massachusetts. It is sponsored by the Worcester Art Museum as part of the Youth Art Month, a national celebration emphasizing the value of art education.

The exhibit will be open to the public from March 4 through April 3 in the Higgins Education Wing of the Art Museum. Admission to this exhibit is free.

<http://www.worcesterart.org/>

Screening of *Most Likely To Succeed* on March 16

Just before February vacation, Dr. Sawyer sent an invitation to our school community to attend a screening of the film, *Most Likely To Succeed*. This film is being shown at 6:30 on Wednesday, March 16 at Shrewsbury High School. I encourage you to attend this screening and be part of an important discussion about what Shrewsbury might need to do differently to help our students adapt to what the world will demand of them in the future.

The film chronicles an alternative vision of American education implemented at High Tech High in San Diego. There, student work is largely project-based and collaborative, much like today's workplaces, with students focused on solving real life problems by experimenting, failing and trying again.

After the screening, there will be a discussion between the audience and a panel of experts representing business, higher education and our own school district. Again, I encourage you to come to the screening and be part of this important discussion.

For more information about this event, please go to <http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/future/index.cfm>

On March 5th, Coolidge girls participated with the “Man in their Life” dance. Below are photos from the event.



See more photos from the event here:
<https://www.facebook.com/CoolidgeElementarySchool/>

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SCHOOL STORE DONATIONS

School Store donations may be dropped off in the box in the lobby. Donations of any new school supplies, water bottles, notebooks, pens, pencils, etc. are welcome.

Pictured at right: fourth grade volunteers and parents run the School Store.



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"

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/coolidgepto/> 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. Yankee Candle Fundraiser- Thank you!
2. Easter Bunny Breakfast
3. Spring Fling
4. Reading Incentive Program
5. Labels for Education
6. Join the PTO Board
7. School Store- Thank you!

1. Yankee Candle THANK YOU! Our community raised over \$2200 for Coolidge! Thanks to everyone that placed an order or shared our fundraiser with family, friends, and coworkers! These funds help make all of our enrichment programs possible

2. Reminder about the Easter Bunny Breakfast on Sunday March 20th for those who made reservations. Your \$10 per person includes a buffet breakfast, professional picture with the Easter Bunny, a magician, egg hunt, tattoos and all the kids get a goody bag. And don't forget about the awesome raffle baskets. Tickets will be \$1 a piece, so don't forget your task. The baskets include a free birthday party at the fire station, Clay time certificate, basket filled with candy, some toys, thirty one gifts, pampered chef, etc. etc.

3. SPRING FLING

On Friday, April 8th, Coolidge will be holding it's Annual Spring Fling Ice Cream Social event. The PTO will be putting together baskets to raffle off during this event. Each classroom has been assigned a theme for their baskets. We are asking each student to bring in an item that fits the theme, or \$5, and we will shop for you. We ask that all items be sent into your classroom by Monday, March 28th, so that we'll have time to assemble the baskets.

Last year we had amazing baskets at this event that helped us to raise money for our school. We thank you for your support, without you we could not continue our efforts!!!

4. Reading Incentive Program - Our February drawing winner was Michael Hill, a fourth grader in Miss Rice's class. Michael received a \$5 gift card to Barnes & Noble and a cool bookmark. Everyone who sends in their reading sheets is entered into our monthly drawings. You too could be our next months winner, so keep passing in those sheets. Remember you need 10 to receive your medal at our ceremony in June, and even if you have passed in 10 sheets already, keep on reading and sending them in. Your progress is recorded on the chart in your classroom with all your classmates.

Keeping up with our Solar System theme - Do you know what planet is known as the blue planet? It is also the farthest planet from the sun, and can get as cold as -353 degrees Fahrenheit. Brrrrr - That's cold! (And we think our winters are cold!!) Well the answer is the planet Neptune. Keep on reading!

5. Labels for Education - I have been notified that this will be the last year that the Labels for Education program will be running. There have not been enough schools taking part in it, so they will be ending at the end of the school year. I would like to have everyone send in as many labels as you can find (there is a list of qualifying products on their website). I am hoping to be able to send in a large amount to be used to purchase some gym equipment or anything that the school needs. I have been sending them in all year and have sent in some bonus certificates too. Hopefully we can end the year with a large grand total before the program is over. Thank you for all you have already sent in.

6. Join the PTO Board: We are looking for new members to join the Coolidge PTO Board next year. If you can spare a few hours of your time you are the perfect candidate. **Everyone is eligible to become a member, share a position, or shadow someone to learn more!** Just email ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us to let us know which position interests you. Elections will be held at our PTO Meeting on April 6th at 7pm in the Media Center. Read about all of the positions here:

<https://coolidgepto.wordpress.com/2016/03/06/join-the-board/>

7. School Store - I have been receiving some donations for the school store and wanted to thank you for them. The students have loved the variety of items and just love shopping on Fridays.

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