

GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

December 7, 2015

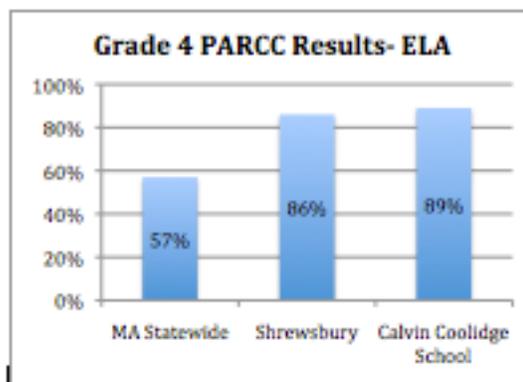
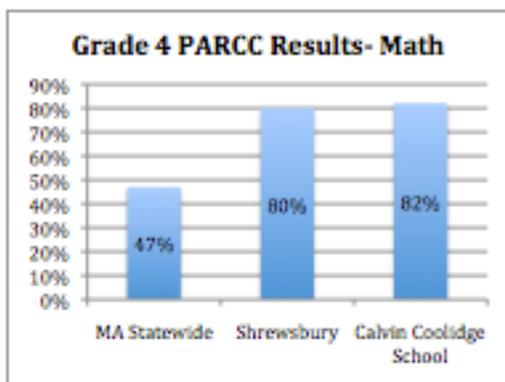
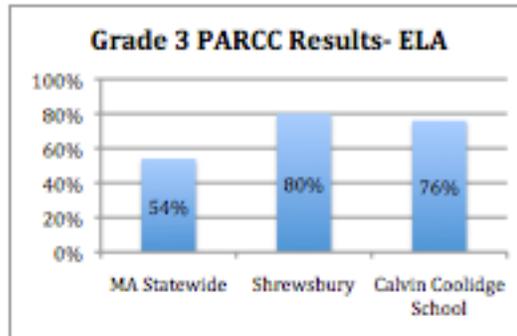
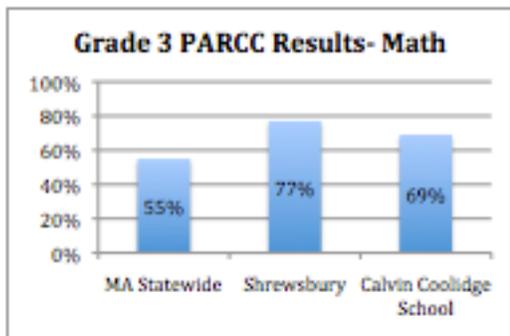
Dear Families,

Last year Shrewsbury students took part in piloting a new assessment called the PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career) assessment. Last week we were able to share the results with families, and in this week's message I want to give everyone a brief update on what we learned from looking at the data.

To begin with, I'm pleased to announce that Coolidge is considered a 'Level 1' school, which is an improvement from our previous rating. Improvement is always gratifying. Yet in Shrewsbury we are being cautious about reading too much into the PARCC results for three main reasons:

- It's important to look for lots of indicators of student achievement, and a single test of two grade levels is a small sample.
- Last year was the first year the state implemented this new, rigorous test, and that makes it hard to compare this year's data with previous assessment results
- Next year it's unlikely that students will experience the same assessment, so our best course of action is to simply prepare students to meet our state's high standards.

Parents of students that participated received a report detailing their child's performance last week. In the space below you can see the aggregate results by grade level in English and Math. The graphs depict the percentage of students whose performance level was a 4 or higher, the levels at which students are considered 'proficient'.



We are happy with our results- and we will continue to work hard until all our students consistently meet grade level benchmarks. For more information about the PARCC, please click on this link:

<http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/curriculum/Spring-2015-State-Test.cfm>

You'll see individual school results on the left side of the page.

I will continue to update you as we learn more about this year's assessment plans. In the meantime tune into PTO presentations and future newsletters for opportunities to learn more. Don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Amy

Amy Clouter

Principal

Photo above right: Students from Mrs. Jarvi's Mad Scientist After School class take a break.

Thanks to the Jolicoeurs and all of the volunteers who helped with the Gingerbread Store



Important Upcoming Dates:

12/8	PD Day-Early Release
12/18	School Store
12/24-1/1	December Break
1/4	Classes Resume

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO SEE WHAT OUR STUDENTS HAVE BEEN DOING:

<https://www.facebook.com/CoolidgeElementarySchool/>

REMINDER FROM SCHOOL NURSE MRS. ZIMMERMANN

Parents, now that the cold weather is here, remember to send your child with a winter coat, hats and mittens. The students have recess even in chilly weather, providing the wind chill is down. Also, we are asking that students **WEAR** the coats they bring. Please reinforce this message with your children.

When it snows, students must have snow pants and boots to be able to play in the snow.

DISMISSAL...

Please remember that all dismissal phone call or email requests must be made to the office prior to 2:50 PM in order to safely make arrangements for your child.

Your early communication with the office assures your child will get home in a safe manner.

Send all email communication related to dismissal, vacations, etc to our secretary in the office at: ccairns@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us and copy your child's teacher. The staff list can be found here:

http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/campusuite25/modules/faculty.cfm?grp_id=21508

PTO NEWSFLASH

Fall fundraiser orders will be ready for pick up on next Tuesday December 15th at 4:30pm.

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. Square 1 Art
2. Direct Donation in honor of someone special
3. Boxtops, Labels for Education, Coke/Kellogg Rewards
4. Six Flags Read to Succeed Program
5. December Vacation Computer Workshops

1. Square 1 Art

If you ordered items from the Square 1 Art fundraiser you should be receiving them this week. Please be sure to check your child's backpack for products on 12/10. If you have any questions please contact Melissa Pratt at mpratt@townisp.com

2. 'Tis the Season for Giving: Have you considered making a donation in someone's name as a gift this holiday season? Direct donations to the PTO are always welcome, in any amount. You can send a check in to the school made out to "Coolidge PTO" or donate online here <https://npo.justgive.org/coolidgepto>

In this way all of your donation will go directly towards funding our enrichment programs, academic materials, staff appreciation, community events, and more. You can download and print a card to present the special person you are honoring.

<http://coolidgepto.files.wordpress.com/2012/07/donationcard.jpg>

Frequently employers will match tax-deductible charitable contributions made by their employees. Contact your Human Resources Office for eligibility requirements and to obtain a matching gift form. Many area businesses, such as Fidelity Investments, offer this program, so if you are considering donating to the PTO, please give this opportunity some thought.

3. Please continue to send **Boxtops, Labels for Education, Coke Rewards codes, and Kellogg's Rewards codes** in with your child.

4. **The Six Flags Read to Succeed** program is well under way. If you would like a FREE ticket to Six Flags New England, be sure to log and initial at least 6 hours of your child's reading on the Six Flags Reading Log.

5. Computer Workshops:

As we know there are numerous benefits of introducing kids to Computer Science early. While our kids use laptop, ipads & smart phones to play games, watch vides etc, it's important to introduce them to basics of computer science. Once this foundational knowledge is in place then introducing kids to actual programming languages will be the next step.

RASA Creations is happy to announce two Computer Workshops for kids grade 1 to 6. After tremendous response to our last year's Computer workshops, we are coming up with two workshops for kids this December vacation.

1. Count on Computers - For grades 1 to 3

Date - December 28th and 29th,2015

2. Super Scratch - for grades 4 to 7

Date - December 30th and 31st,2015

Please see the flyer for more details on these workshops.

<https://coolidgepto.files.wordpress.com/2015/11/cocnsuperscratch.pdf>

10% of Enrollment fees go to School PTO

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

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