

## **GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL**

*January 11, 2016*

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

Dear Families,

This weekend my brother Zach and I brought back an old family tradition- Sunday supper. We ate a little earlier than usual, and we aimed for preparing and sharing a meal together. Best of all we committed to slowing the pace a little. Over dessert Zach got the chance to try out his new coffee maker, and my niece took the opportunity to share her latest narratives. [What she actually said was, “I’m not sure you know, Auntie A, but ‘narrative’ is a fancy word for a small moment story. This is all the work I decided not to publish”.]

The coffee was pretty good, but the sharing was better. My niece shared four short stories. As she read aloud she pointed out nuances in her drawings and just beamed. I was reminded of the pride I saw in our second graders on Friday when Ms. Hurley’s students and Ms. Cloyes’ children presented their Nocturnal Animal projects. Learning is a powerful thing to witness. Just as the child prepares to share, it’s important to prepare for our role as audience.

For young children, both process and product are important. Students need to write more than you can keep up with as a reader. Just like us, children need to tell some boring stories to discern the good stuff. Just as importantly, young writers need to reread, revise and publish one piece from a collection to make it perfect. By attending to both quantity and quality, students develop both voice *and* audience. These two aspects of writing motivate young children to persevere though temporary spelling, research difficulties, and frustrations with vocabulary and illustrations. In short, the power to choose where to invest your time and the satisfaction from a job well done makes the hard work of the process worthwhile. If you have not already done so, I hope you enjoy reading your child’s writing soon!

Sincerely,

*Amy*

Amy Clouter

*Principal*

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**Parents, please mark your calendars:**

## **PARCC Testing Dates for Grades 3 and 4**

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will be participating in PARCC testing on the following dates:

April 26, 27, 28-Grade, 3 English Language Arts

May 2, 4, 5-Grade 4, English Language Arts

May 9-12-Grade 3, Math

May 16-19-Grade 4, Math

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## **Important Upcoming Dates:**

1/18 No School: Martin Luther King Day

1/20 PTO Meeting in Media Center

1/22 School Store

1/23 Breakfast with a Buddy at Coolidge

1/26 Math Night: 6:30 pm – Details to come

2/2 EARLY RELEASE DAY

2/15-2/19 Winter Vacation

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## Coolidge After School Activities Program (ASAP) January 2016 Course Selections

- All courses meet at Coolidge from 3:30-4:30 for 5 weeks
- Classes start the week of January 11<sup>th</sup> – see course description for specific dates.
  - The cost of each course is \$30
- 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 Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Financial assistance is available upon request

Click here to pre-register: <http://goo.gl/forms/SQeI0gVt4k>

**ASAP Course:** “Escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s Library” Book Club - *Only a few spots left!*

**Instructor:** Miss Burnap

**Dates:** Thursdays, January 14, 21, 28, Feb 4 & 11

**Open to students in grades:** 2, 3 & 4 - *Now open to second graders!*

**Course Description:** Calling all book and puzzle lovers! Miss Burnap is looking for brave souls to take on Chris Grabenstein's book, *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*. We will work together to solve the puzzles in this book and share our thoughts and ideas about the story. You will be required to read this book independently at home, as well as within our book club, to stay on target! Our final session will be to participate in "Mr. Lemoncello's Great Library Escape Game" in our school library!

Feel free to bring your own copy of *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*, or you may borrow one from Miss Burnap. This club is open to kids who enjoy books! It doesn't matter if you're reading this one for the first time or the fifth time, I welcome you!

**ASAP course:** 4<sup>th</sup> grade Fitness Club - *Only a few spots left!*

**Instructor:** Ms. Rice

**Dates:** Thursdays, January 14, 21, 28, Feb 4 & 11

**Open to students in grades:** 4

**Course Description:** Do you enjoy being active and staying fit? Do you want to get stronger? Then fitness club may be for you! During the five sessions, we will learn about 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... The list goes on! Join fitness club to have fun while you sweat!

- **Please direct all questions to: Karen Isaacson, Director of Extended Learning, 508-841-8727 [kisaacson@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:kisaacson@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us)**
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## **Breakfast with a Buddy at Coolidge**

Come join us for a pancake breakfast served with sausage and hash browns in the Coolidge cafeteria on **Saturday, January 23rd, 9:30am**. There will also be coffee and juice. Try your luck in our raffles too!

Tickets must be purchased before the event. Adults are \$6 each and children are \$5 with a \$25 family maximum. Checks are made payable to Coolidge PTO. Here is a link to the form:



[https://coolidgepto.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/2016\\_coolidge\\_breakfast.pdf](https://coolidgepto.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/2016_coolidge_breakfast.pdf)

**Please return the form to the school by Wednesday, January 20th.**

All food is purchased prior to the event, so no tickets will be sold at the door.

For ticket info or if you would like to volunteer contact Diane Betti at [ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us).

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**Shrewsbury Performing Arts Dept. Invites 4<sup>th</sup> Graders...**

Shrewsbury Performing Arts Dept. invites 4<sup>th</sup> Grade students who play a string instrument (violin, viola or cello) to participate in a combined orchestra ensemble. Students will meet for one hour per week to prepare for a brief concert presentation.

Read the flyer for complete details. Flyer can be found at the link below:



[http://schools.shrewsbury.ma.gov/coolidge/documents/2016\\_4th\\_grade\\_orchestra.pdf](http://schools.shrewsbury.ma.gov/coolidge/documents/2016_4th_grade_orchestra.pdf)

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## **Magic Show at Shrewsbury High on January 31 at 2:00 pm**

The Class Of 2019 is teaming together with Mr. Magic to have a fun, family-friendly **magic show!** On **January 31 at 2 o'clock in the Shrewsbury High School Auditorium** join us for raffles, food, games, crafts, and magic led by students of the class of 2019. Go through the main entrance of the high school, where tickets will be sold at the door. **The admission is \$7 per person.** This is our only fundraiser of the year so we need as much participation as possible (and don't forget to spread the word!). The **snow date is March 13.** See you there!

Any questions: [ggray@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:ggray@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us).

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## **PTO NEWSFLASH**

**Email:** [ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto: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.

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PTO News- next meeting January 20th

1. School Store- Friday January 8<sup>th</sup>
2. Annual Breakfast with a Buddy coming up

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**1. Mark your calendars for our next meeting PTO on Wednesday January 20th.** Please join us at 7pm in the Media Center of the school. All parents are encouraged to come! We will hear updates on our fundraisers and events, the enrichment program plans, and more. Please contact President Rachel Reeve ([ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us)) with anything you want to discuss so it can be added to the agenda.

**2. Our next School Store is Friday, January 8th.** There is a variety of items, but we are always looking for donations. The students are always excited when they see new and fun items for sale. They are able to use tickets towards the purchase of items, if they are in grades 2 through 4. They receive a ticket worth 25 cents for each reading sheet that they pass in to their teachers. There is a donation box in the front lobby at the school for items. Thank you.

**3. Watch for a form being sent home Monday for our Annual Breakfast with a Buddy** which is open to all family members, extended family and friends. It will be held on January 23rd. Its always lots of fun for all with raffles, good food and fun with friends.

*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](mailto:kbiando74@gmail.com)*