

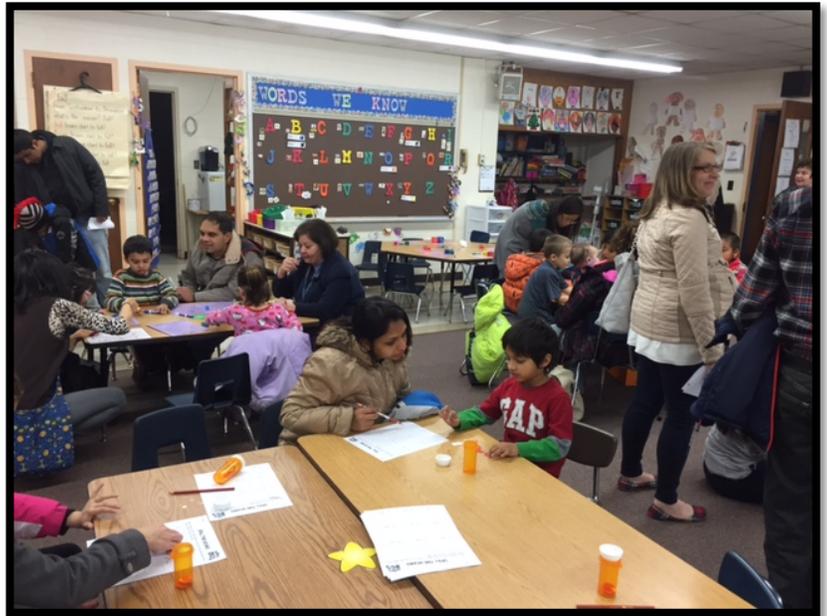
# GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

February 1, 2016

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

Dear Families,

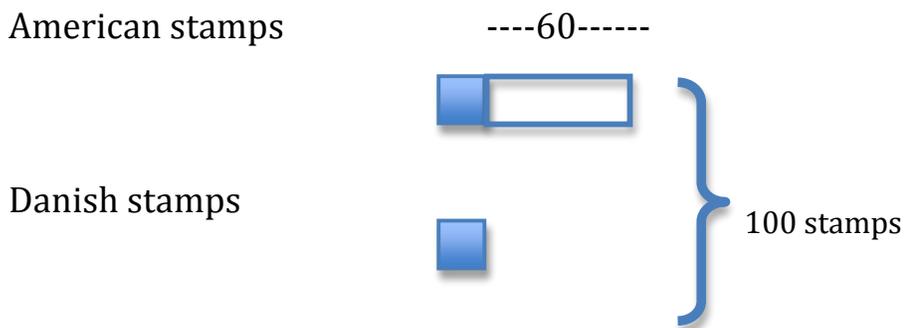
Happy February! It was a thrill to see so many people (about 240!) working together to play Math games last week. Thanks to all the families that made the time to come- and to the teachers who volunteered their time to support our students. Here in the building, Math continues to be a theme this month. Following Math Night we've looked closely at students at all levels as they engage in problem solving. Teachers have worked with grade level colleagues to administer district assessments as a way of gauging students' ability to apply their computation skills- and math practices. These tools are homegrown- and scoring the resulting student work is complex. Yet the value of these tools is easily seen: it only takes 1-2 problems to see how well children are able to represent and explain their thinking on paper.



As part of this work, Instructional Coach Susan Conley pulled a few kindergarten students from each of our classes to solve a problem about dogs. Children were given cubes as well as paper and pencil to use as tools. Although the numbers were basic, almost every child struggled with interpreting and representing the problem. Students drew dogs or made marks- but few drawings matched the question asked. Children were equally reluctant to use the cubes to check their thinking. Instead of solving the problem given, most children combined the numbers to show operations they were familiar with, even when these moves didn't match the question asked. This led to a great discussion with the Kindergarten team. Even our youngest children associate speed with skill, and we continue to work with students at all levels on "slow thinking". Let me give you a third grade problem to solve as an example. Here's one that was also a topic of grade level discussions last week:

*Kerrie has 100 American and Danish stamps.  
She has 60 more American stamps than Danish stamps.  
How many Danish stamps does Kerrie have?*

Most students initially jump to 40 as an answer- but that fast thinking is also incorrect. See if this model (Bar models are how students represent after Grade 2) helps you to interpret the problem correctly. The words '60 more than' tells us this is actually comparative problem:



With this model you can see that the 40 is actually split between two bars. I hope you can also see how important it is that our children learn to interpret and solve problems correctly!

Sincerely,  
*Amy*  
Amy Clouter  
Principal

---

## Important Upcoming Dates:

January 26	Math Night 6:30-7:30
January 28	Block Kids/ Lego Night (Grade 3 only)
2/2	EARLY RELEASE DAY <u>Dismissal at 12:15</u>

2/5	School Store
2/15-2/19	Winter Vacation
2/26	School Store
March 1	EARLY RELEASE DAY <u>Dismissal at 12:15</u> Primary Voting at Coolidge
March 2	PTO Meeting, 7 pm in the Media Center
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

---

## FYI: NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sincerely,

*Amy*

Amy Clouter

*Principal*

---

**REMEMBER:**

**TUESDAY, FEB. 2 is an early dismissal day – dismissal begins at 12:15**

## Important Upcoming Dates:

- 2/2 **EARLY RELEASE;** dismissal 12:15
- 2/5 School Store
- 2/11 LAST DAY for Food Drive
- 2/15-19 Winter Vacation
- 2/26 School Store
- 3/1 **EARLY RELEASE;** DISMISSAL 12:15 – primary voting
- 3/2 PTO mtg 7pm



## PARCC Testing Dates for Grades 3 and 4

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

(Photo at above: Mad Scientists After School Club (Mrs. Jarvi's Class.)

---

## From the Nurse's Office:

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

Today in your child's blue Communications Folder you will find a paper with the Worcester State University logo on it. It explains that on Friday February 26<sup>th</sup> Audiology

students from Worcester State University will be at Coolidge School to perform hearing screening with all the Kindergarten students. This paper is the permission slip that each child must have filled out and signed to participate. Please return it to your child's teacher on or before February 12, 2016. If you decide not to have your child tested by the students I will be screening both vision and hearing the week of February 29th. If you have any questions please call me at 508-841-8887.

Thank you,

Katie Zimmermann RN,BSN,NCSN

---

## Time for Kids

Dear Coolidge Families,

Teaching children to become powerful readers and writers is one of our main goals at Coolidge. To do this, we rely on a variety of print resources, one of them being informational text. I'm writing because I would like your child to continue to receive TIME For Kids, a weekly classroom news magazine written and designed for young people.

**Why TIME For Kids?** There are four good reasons:

1. Children **need exposure to a range of materials**—books, magazines, newspapers, photo stories, maps, graphs, charts—**to become powerful readers.** **TIME For Kids** contains high-interest, child-appropriate stories about our world that engage students and help them develop a real enthusiasm for reading while boosting reading skills.



of

2. Kids love to share **TIME For Kids** with family members. Research shows that when parents read with and to their children for even 15 minutes a night, they become better readers. TFK offers lots of opportunities for fun, engaging family reading and dinner-table discussions.

3. Children need strong nonfiction reading skills if they are to do well in science, social studies and math. Articles in **TIME For Kids** cover these subjects and get kids interested in learning more about them.

4. **Students love the current events coverage**, world-class TIME photography, and reporting from across the globe. TFK helps kids form opinions about current events and share their views in writing and debate. TFK explains the news to kids in ways they can understand, and takes care to avoid subjects that might alarm children. **Check out the [timeforkids.com](http://timeforkids.com)** website to learn more about TFK.

Our goal is for every student to receive this great publication. Here's how you can help:

1. **Fill out the enclosed booklet with Seven or more *different* addresses of family and friends.**
2. **Once you have your family booklet completed, please return to the school. (If you prefer to make a donation in lieu of filling out a booklet that's fine.)**

Be assured that the information that you provide will not be added to any mailing list or given to any other source. Your friends will be given the opportunity to order magazine subscriptions at up to 80% off newsstand prices, but there is no obligation or pressure for them to do so. If no one ultimately subscribes Coolidge School will still benefit.

**Our goal is for every family to participate.**

**Every 30 Completed Books returned earn us \$200.00 in Time For Kids! Last year we were able to earn \$1,800.00 in Time For Kids for our students. With your support, we hope to earn as much or more for our students again!**

**“ALL COMPLETED BOOKS DUE BACK BY FRIDAY.”**

---

## **Coolidge Canned Food Drive (ends 2/11)**

The Coolidge Food Drive is still underway. The following classes reached the highest total for their grade levels last week:



- K - Mrs. Broszeit's & Mrs. McInerny's classes - 34 food items each
- 1 - Mrs. McQuade's class brought in 30 food items
- 2 - Ms. Hurley's class brought in 47 food items
- 3 - Ms. Burnap's class brought in 41 food items
- 4 - Miss Finneran's class brought in 78 food items

Congratulations to Miss Finneran's class!!

We ask that your child work with their homeroom to bring in non-perishable food items that will be donated to the Worcester County Food Bank.

Let's try to reach our goal of 100 cans per classroom in honor of our 100th day of school (slated to be February 10th barring any snow days!)

We can do it!!

---

## **NEEDED: Milk Jugs for Kindergarten**

The Kindergarten classes need CLEAN gallon milk jugs with the CAPS for a building project. Please deliver them to Mrs. McInerny's Kindergarten class. Thanks!



---

## **From Mrs. Cairns**

If your child will be absent, tardy, on vacation or dismissed early, it is important that you notify the school. 508.841.8880.

If you prefer email, **please email your child's teacher as well as the office:**  
[ccairns@shrewbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:ccairns@shrewbury.k12.ma.us)

The list of teacher's email can be found on the left menu under Faculty & Staff:  
<http://schools.shrewsbury.ma.gov/coolidge/>

If your teacher happens to be out sick that day, the substitute does not have access to the teacher's email.

---

# 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.

1. PTO Meeting Dates
2. Sports Outing Volunteer Needed
3. Amazon Smile
4. Man of your Life Dance
5. January Boxtop Winner
6. Six Flags Read to Success Program
7. Breakfast with a Buddy Update
8. School Store this Friday
9. Reading Incentive Program
10. RASA Creation Computer Workshops during February vacation
- 11.

\*\*\*\*\*

**1. Save the dates!** Our spring PTO meetings have been scheduled for March 2nd, April 6th, and May 25th at 7pm in the Media Center. It is never too late to join us for the first time. We are always happy to welcome new people.

**2. Volunteer needed:** We are still in need of a coordinator for our sports outings. The Boston Red Sox and Providence Bruins have been contacting the PTO to remind us of their available events. We've always had a great time at our Worcester Bravehearts in the spring with over 100 people from Coolidge attending. Please [emailptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:emailptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us) if you are interested in coordinating an event to any sporting event for Coolidge.

**3. AmazonSmile Donates!** The PTO is now registered with AmazonSmile. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the PTO. Same

products, same prices, same service as Amazon. Support us by starting your shopping at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-3072106>.

**4. March 5th "Man of your life Dance "** . Girls of Coolidge are asked to invite the special man in their life or Dad, step dad, uncle , grandfather ect . For a fun night of dressing up and dancing the night away. Invitations and tickets will be going home soon!

**5. Congratulations to our January BOXTOPS winner, Maya Pascoal!** She has won books that have been generously donated by the Biando family. Please continue to send in those Boxtops for your chance to win.

**6. This is the last month that we will be collecting the Six Flags Read to Succeed reading logs.** If your child has not completed the log yet, this is the time to do so to earn a FREE ticket to Six Flags. All forms must be turned in by February 26th. Can't find yours? There are extra copies outside the nurse's office that your child can pick up. Happy reading!

**7. Just a note of thanks to all who helped with the Breakfast with a Buddy on Saturday the 23rd.** Mrs. Clouter and Mrs. Campbell in the kitchen had things well under control for all our hungry guests. Mr. Anderson made sure that everything was all set up and ready for us. Mrs. Jarvi lent us her voice once again to call out all our very happy raffle winners. All in all, it was a very successful day and a lot of fun. Thank you to all who helped make it possible.

**8. School Store** - Just a reminder that this Friday is another School Store. Any and all donations can be dropped off in the donation box outside the main office.

**9. Reading Incentive Program** - This week your student will be taking home a slip of paper indicating how many sheets that they have turned in towards the 10 required for the medal at June's medal ceremony. Please encourage your child to continue reading and remember to turn in the sheets. For every sheet turned in, another star is put on the classroom chart and a prize or ticket for the school store is earned. Keep up the great work!

**10. RASA Creations** is happy to announce another series of Computer Workshops this February Vacation and **\$10 of each enrollment fee is donated to the PTO.** Please see attached flyer for details of the workshops.

<https://coolidgepto.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/cocnsuperscratch.pdf>

**1. Count on Computers ( Grades 1 to 3)**

Date - February 15th and 16th 2016

Time - 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Fees - \$150 (Sibling discount \$20)

**2. Super Scratch ( Grades 4 to 6)**

Date - February 17th and 18th 2016

Time - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Fees - \$100

For Registrations - [sarita.deshpande@rasacreations.com](mailto:sarita.deshpande@rasacreations.com) OR [508 845 2575](tel:5088452575)  
[www.rasacreations.com](http://www.rasacreations.com)

*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)*