

# Good News from Goodwin

ISSUE 7

MARCH 2016

Dear families of Goodwin:

We have had a pretty mild winter this year, thank goodness. Hopefully March will bring us even more mild weather. Just a reminder to please make sure your children are dressed appropriately because it is still cold and flu season.

I would also like to invite you to a **Principal Coffee and Conversation on Friday, March 4th from 8:45 to 9:15 am** in the conference room. This would be a time for you to come in and chat, ask questions, or listen to what is happening in our school as well as anything else that is on your mind. Please come and join us. I look forward to meeting with you

Here is more Good News from Goodwin:

- \* Our very own 4th grader, Ethan Hanzlik is the Tolland County Poster Winner for the CT Fire Prevention Recognition Program. His poster will be used in next year's calendar. He will be recognized on March 31st at a luncheon at the Chowder Pot in Hartford. Congratulations, Ethan.
- \* Goodwin's third grader, Aram Adler-Smith, researched and created our library display case showcasing Lord of the Rings. Please take an opportunity to see his incredible work. It will make anyone want to pick up a book.
- \* Mr. Dean's third and fourth grade students have been fortunate this year to have been able go cross country skiing even though it has been mostly mild with little to no snow. The fourth grade also had the opportunity to go ice skating with the other elementary schools at Bolton Ice Rink. Thank you to Mr. Dean for planning all of this for our students.
- \* Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Pagoni, Dr. Patwa, and Mrs. Quinn are presently working with Dr. Marcus and Dr. Levine from UCONN on the Social Studies Standards adopted by the CT State Education Department. Through a grant, our teachers are able to access top scholars from within and beyond the Neag School of Education at UConn, whose faculty are organizing the work. They have also gained access to colleagues and expertise in the Mansfield and Willington Public Schools, CREC, the Connecticut Historical Society, Mystic Seaport, The Fairfield Museum, The Connecticut Geographic Alliance, and the Connecticut State Historian's Office.
- \* Mrs. Sroka's class participated in a nationwide "Hug Project" to help out a family in need in Virginia. Students created beautiful hearts for a little boy who is in the hospital due a tragic accident. It was all about a way to spread kindness to another child in need and aligned with "Random Act of Kindness day". The hearts were folded inside a piece of long construction paper with two second grade hands on either end which acted as the "hug" - hence, the hug project. Students also learned a song about kindness in music that they voted on.
- \* Mrs. Ruiz and Mrs. Hodge's classes brought in "Bedtime Bundles" which consisted of pajamas, a stuffed animal, and a book. Almost 30 bundles were donated to the a local shelter for women and children.

**Vocabulary Boosters:** A large vocabulary can turn your child into a better reader and writer. Here are a few tips for you to support your child at home. **Others vocabulary:** When you hear people use unfamiliar words to your child (like a waiter say entrée or a nurse say abrasion) encourage your child to figure out the meaning using clues. **Descriptive Words:** Let your child hear you comment on an "exciting game", "fantastic party", "athlete that sprinted", or "musician that played his heart out" and then encourage them to do the same.

Warmly, Susan

**3/4-Coffee and Conversation—8:45-9:15**

**3/14-3/18-No Screen Week**

**3/18 Sock Hop 6-8**

**3/23-Grd 3 Field Trip to Lucky Strikes Bowling Lanes**

**3/24-Professional Day for Teachers-NO SCHOOL**

**3/25-Holiday-NO SCHOOL**

**3/31-Grade 1 Annual Writing Celebration 6:30-7:30**

**Please be sure your child is ready for recess: Students must wear snow pants, coats, hats, boots and gloves to enjoy sledding or be able to play in the snow during recess.**