

MAY 2021

ACADEMY OF EARLY LEARNING

GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Principal News

Welcome to May everyone,

This week, May 3-7, is Teacher Appreciation Week. This year, more than ever, our teachers have stepped up to provide care, opportunity, and service for your children so that they are able to be with friends in person and can continue to grow as learners. Teachers have been asked to do things differently: teach remotely and outside, keep students (and themselves) masked and distanced, navigate the district and state guidelines, while also providing a sense of normalcy for children. I am so proud of the work everyone at AEL is doing this year, and appreciate their flexibility, effort, can-do attitude, and concern for each child. Please join us this week in celebrating our staff by reaching out with a word of appreciation to your child's teachers.

Just a reminder, when dropping off, please wait in your car for one of the staff to come and welcome your child. I have seen some people parking their cars and walking children to their teachers. Thank you.

On behalf of the entire AEL staff, I want to thank you all for your patience, and support as we continue to make school life more normal in these not so normal times.

As always, if there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at nanput1@gpsk12.org or 413-772-1390.

Get out and enjoy the warmer weather!



Happy Mothers Day to all our mothers

- Nancy Putnam, Principal

Last Day of School is June 17th

Dates to Remember

May 3rd-7th—Teacher Appreciation Week

Tuesday, May 11—PTO Meeting, 4PM

Friday May 28—No pre-k

Monday, May 31—No School, Memorial Day

Thursday, June 17—Last Day for Pre-k

Kindergarten Registration



If your child is moving on to Kindergarten in the fall, be sure to register them! Contact Sierra in the Registrar's office.



Tuition

As a reminder, all June tuition payments will be due **on or before June 1st**. A timely final payment is crucial as we must close the books. PLEASE plan accordingly.

We appreciate your cooperation!

1 Place Terrace
Greenfield, MA 01301
413-772-1390 (Office)
413-772-1337 (Fax)
www.gpsk12.org



Nurse Notes

As warm weather arrives, we have already started to encounter TICKS! This is a good reminder to take simple preventative steps to look for ticks. If not removed promptly from the skin, ticks can transmit Lyme disease, a serious but treatable illness. Check yourself, your children and pets for ticks after coming inside. Pay special attention to areas between the toes, back of the knees, groin, armpits, neck, along the hairline and behind or inside the ears. If you find a tick attached to your skin, use a pair of fine point tweezers to grip the tick as close to the skin as possible and pull straight out with steady pressure. Talk to your doctor if you develop a rash where you were bitten, or experience symptoms such as fever, headache, fatigue or sore and aching muscles after a tick bite.



Protect your feet and toes:

Students should wear sturdy shoes safe for outdoor play. Footwear must fit securely to the foot for safety on the playground and stairs. High heels, flip flops and other backless sandals are not permitted. Slick-soled dress-up shoes are not safe on the playground. Sneakers are ideal and required on days when students have physical education.

Covid-19 Pooled Testing:

If you have not signed your child up for pooled testing and would like to do so, please visit the Greenfield Public Schools website. There is a link found on the home page in the Interim Superintendent's Update that will bring you directly to a google form to register your child for this testing.



Fall NEW Student Enrollment Openings

We currently have a few fall openings for new student enrollment. These openings will not last long. If you know anyone who might be looking to enroll their preschool aged child in the fall, please send them in our direction!



Drop Off/Pick Up

Reminder: It is important that during drop off and pick up you remain in your vehicle until a teacher approaches. We have noticed some families exiting their vehicles and walking up to the entry/exit doors. Remaining in your vehicle until a teacher approaches your to retrieve or dismiss your child is important for the safety of our families and staff at this very unusual time. We appreciate your patience and cooperation!

Gardening! (outside or in a pot)

Gardens can be a great place to cultivate a meaningful and fun learning experience for children. It's a natural match. Gardening can offer children an opportunity to learn the life cycle process, by which plants are grown, as well as responsibility, caretaking, independence, and environmental awareness. Introducing children to gardening is a great way to increase their awareness of where food comes from and the importance of the environment in everyday life.

