

Newsletter

Walpole Attendance Area

APRIL 2025
ISSUE NO. SEVEN

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WALPOLE SCHOOLS

JUSTIN CASSARINO

A Message from our Principal

I would like to start off by thanking our families and community members for passing the school budget and the support staff contract. It is always great knowing that the Walpole community continues to support our students, staff and schools. We want to continue to expose our students to a rigorous curriculum and experiences that they will never forget during their time at the Walpole Schools. You give us the opportunity to provide this for our students each and every year, so thank you!

Our Walpole Parent/Teacher Group put on an AMAZING Family Night Out Week. They provided us with an amazing animal show with Animal Adventures, Candy Bar BINGO, Staff v. Fire Dept. Basketball Game and ended the week with a Glow Dance! All of these events had close to one hundred participants who were out and having fun with their family and friends! A huge thank you to the Outdoor Ed. Committee that helped fund the animal show as well. We want to continue to provide these great opportunities for our students, families and community members to be able to get out and spend some quality time together, while having some fun.

The end of the school year is quickly approaching. Please be on the lookout for permission slips for field trips and other notices regarding exciting activities that will take place at the different Walpole schools. Our staff have planned many ways to celebrate our students' success and also provide opportunities for them to showcase their work to families and community members. We hope that you will be able to join us for these great events!

Important Dates

4/21 - 4/25 - Spring Break: No School



Contact Us
www.sau60.org

North Walpole 603-445-5450
Walpole Primary 603-756-4241
Walpole Elementary 603-756-4728

Pre-K

Mrs. Martel

March was a month all about animals! We started out the month learning about pets. We talked about what animals make good pets and what do not. We also talked about caring for pets. Then we started to learn about farm animals and things that were similar and different. We compared how they are different from the other animals we have already learned about. We ended the month learning about spring! We are happy to see the snow melting and signs of springs’ arrival all around. We also enjoyed having parents come in as guest readers for Read Across America. Everyone was very excited and worked hard on earning their stickers for Pages for Pizza! We are looking forward to spring weather and spending more time outside!

Kindergarten

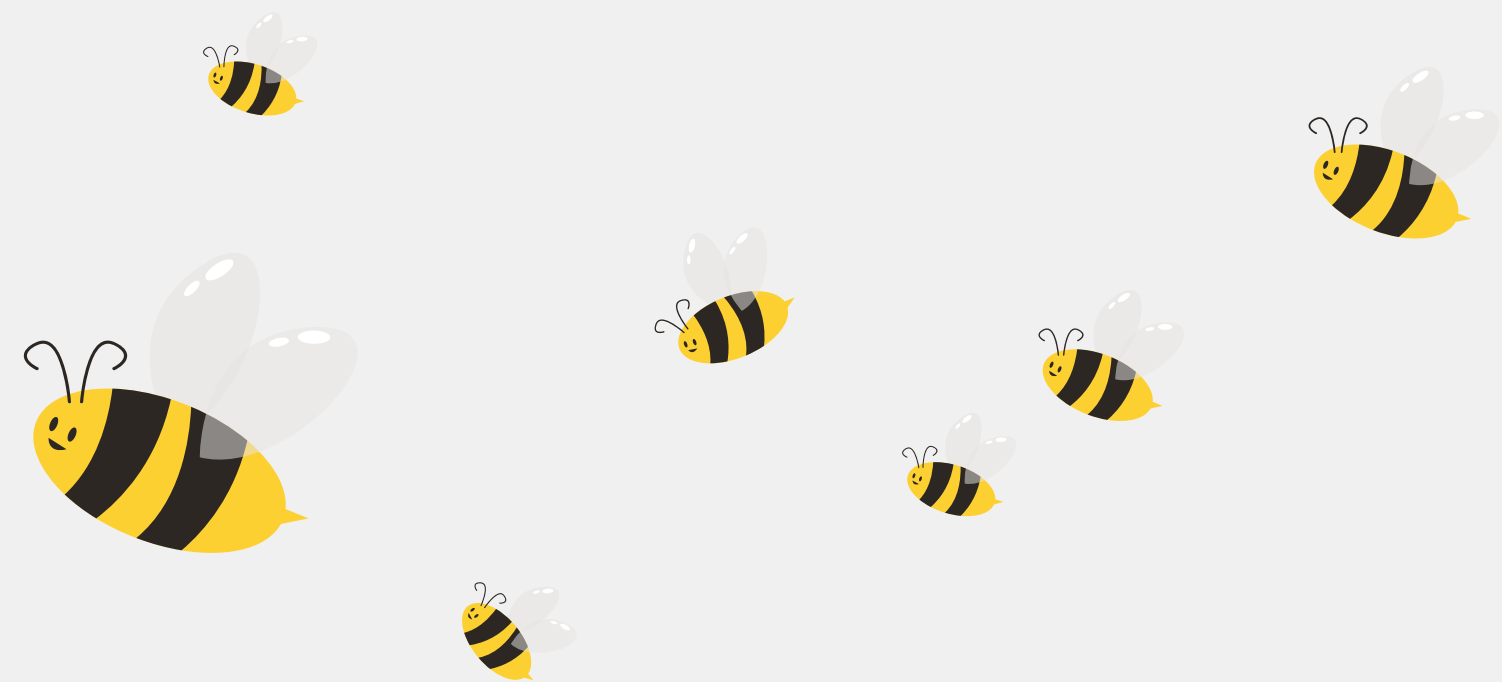
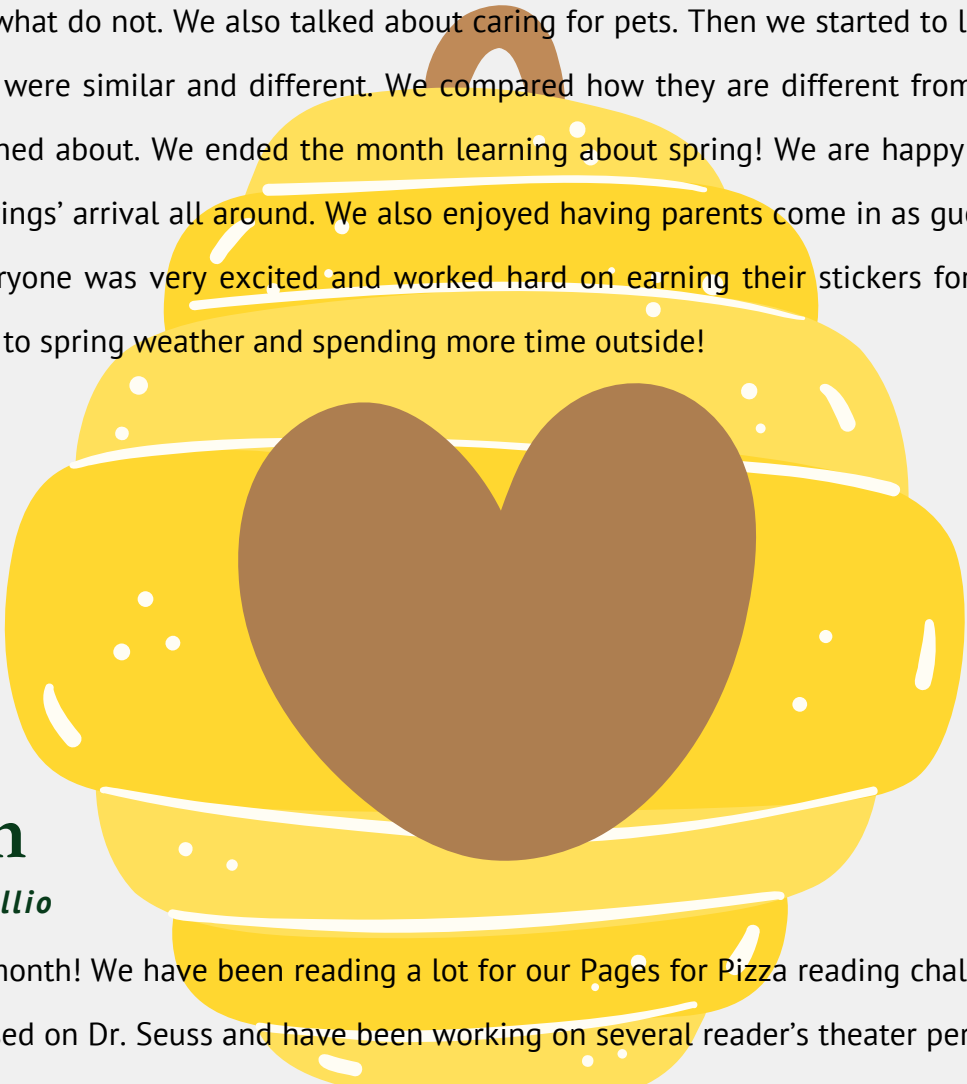
Mrs. Bisson and Mrs. DiTullio

Kindergarten has had a busy month! We have been reading a lot for our Pages for Pizza reading challenge! Mrs. DiTullio’s class has been focused on Dr. Seuss and have been working on several reader’s theater performances. They will be performing in the beginning of April for their families and school friends. Mrs. Bisson’s class made their very own leprechaun traps. We have continued learning about digraphs and reviewing all of our letters and letter sounds. We are reading and writing every day practicing our skills. In math, we have been focusing on numbers to 100. We are counting to 100 by 1’s, 5’s and 10’s and practicing writing all of our numerals as well. We have also started learning about place value. We are very happy to welcome spring and get outside more as we head into our third trimester!

First Grade

Mrs. Loverde and Mrs. Perron

In math, first graders have been hard at work solving double digit addition and subtraction problems with no regrouping, comparing numbers within 120, and telling time to the hour and half hour. We also continue to work on our fact fluency with adding and subtracting numbers within 10! In Foundations, we are studying vowel-consonant-e syllable types. These are the words where our silent, very busy letter “e” comes at the end of the word, jumps over the consonant before it to make the vowel say its name (the long sound). An example would be the word: cape. Now we know that vowels have a short sound and a long sound. We have been working hard at recognizing if a vowel has a long or short sound, both when we are reading and when we are writing. We continue to read our Dragon Masters series in class and it is SO engaging! Ask us all about the Dragon Masters and their adventures! Woo hoo!





Walpole Primary School Word of the Month

Mrs. Etzweiler, WAA Reading Specialist

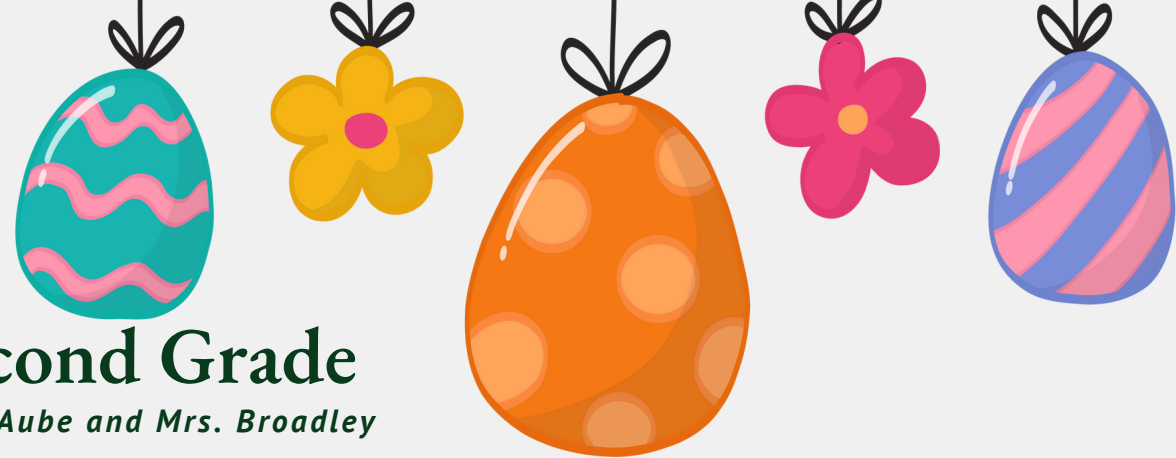
Each month during the 2024-2025 school year, we will focus on a particular vocabulary word at WPS. Each of these words will be a character trait and will be tied into books, activities, movies, and other sources of entertainment or information that your child is familiar with. At school we will use the word during morning announcements and will look at how the word relates to what we are learning in our literacy lessons. We will have guest readers who will read books related to the Word of the Month and students will be encouraged to use the word or think about times when they saw people demonstrating the word.

During the month of April, we are exploring the word **curiosity**. **Curiosity** is wanting to know about something. Perhaps you want to know about a new idea or something you have seen for the first time.

At home, my cats are very **curious** and want to know what's going on all the time. Maybe you have pets that poke their noses into your projects because they have **curiosity**.

You may have **curiosity** about things like when will the flowers bloom this spring. Or, you may be **curious** to know what a new book is about. At home, talk together about things you feel **curious** about.

APRIL 2025



Second Grade

Mrs. Aube and Mrs. Broadley

Second graders had a blast creating traps to try to catch a leprechaun this year! We would like to thank the WPTG for putting together the wonderful family night out week, the students had a wonderful time. Also, thank you to our families for fantastic attendance at the parent/teacher conferences.

In math, students have been learning about telling time to the nearest minute on an analog clock and distinguishing between AM and PM. Students have been enjoying a different type of fiction story, a legend. They are exploring this genre and using story stones to retell the main events. In addition to this, students are learning about another piece of what to add to their paragraph writing, an introduction.

Third Grade

Mrs. Kinson and Mrs. Leclair

Third grade students are examining different types of story elements like characters, setting, and plot. They are also using context clues to discover the meaning of unknown words. In writing, students are working on the opinion writing process. This learning will help them share their thoughts and feelings about a topic with evidence from research sources to support their opinion. In math, we are working on challenging math concepts. It is important that students practice their math facts on a daily basis so they can complete more challenging math problems. Students are learning to read math problems carefully so they can identify what the problem is asking and successfully calculate a solution. Students are enjoying outdoor play on our playground, and we hope they are having just as much fun playing outside at home since physical exercise is such an important part of our well-being.

NORTH WALPOLE
SCHOOL



Fourth Grade

Mrs. Dustin and Mrs. Snow

March was an exciting month for our fourth graders! In language arts, students dove into *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen, exploring themes of survival and perseverance. They also wrote their own creative survival stories, imagining how their characters would overcome challenges in the wilderness.

In math, students wrapped up their unit on fractions and took on the challenge of decimals, mastering the connections between the two. Their hard work and problem-solving skills shined through every lesson!

The biggest excitement of the month? 4D winning the Penny War! Our fourth graders brought their competitive spirit and generosity to this school-wide fundraiser, coming together to make a difference.

We are so proud of our students' achievements this month and can't wait to see what they accomplish next!



Mrs. Ronning

Fifth and Sixth Grade Reading / Fifth Grade Social Studies

A reminder to families that it is still wise to send your child in layers and prepared for the weather. We also suggest boots or mud boots. The playground is quite muddy and takes a while to dry out.

5R Reading: This month we are starting our new book *A Wrinkle in Time*. This unit is called Word Play and has many fun word play jokes. We will continue to work with *Wit and Wisdom* workbook materials. Remind your child to finish 30 minutes of iReady time. Students are required to pass one module. If they don't pass there is a **second attempt allowed. Students should ask for help to improve their score on the second try.**

5R Writing: Students are working hard on *Wit and Wisdom* essays, grammar, and studying verbs in grammar. We are working on cursive capitals and writing sentences in cursive.

Hooper News: We have learned a lot about birds and their life cycles. Each student has studied a bird and completed a short project. Twice a month we practice writing skills with Hooper reflection summaries.

Social Studies: We are working on map skills and learning more about explorers. This week we are each studying our own explorer and making a 3D puppet of our explorers.



Hello Spring



Mrs. Sherrod

Fifth and Sixth Grade Math / Fifth Grade Science

5th Grade Science: We are almost finished looking at the gravitational force of Earth acting on an object near Earth's surface and how it pulls that object toward the planet's center. Next, we will begin looking at describing matter and its interaction. After this unit we will look at basic physical and chemical reactions.

5th Grade Math: Students are almost finished working on Chapter 4 "Wrapping up multiplication and Division with multi-digit numbers" Students are looking at exploring different ways of dividing three- or four-digit numbers by one- or two-digit numbers. Students will also look at finding unknown side lengths of rectangles and rectangular prisms, using their understanding of area, volume and multi-digit division. The next unit is Chapter 5: Place Value Patterns and Decimal Operations. They will use place value understanding to round, compare, order, add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals.

6th Grade Math: Students are almost finished working on Chapter 4 – Dividing Fractions. Students are exploring how to find a missing dimension from a triangle when given its area. Students will also be asked to find the volumes of cubes and prisms with fractional edge lengths. The next unit is Chapter 6: students will learn to understand and use the terms, "variable," "coefficients," "solution," "equivalent expressions," "exponent," "independent variable," and "dependent variable."

Mr. Gagnon

Sixth - Eighth Grade Writing

In sixth grade writing, students are working on a unit based on grit. Students wrote personal narratives about a time when they did or could have shown grit to overcome an obstacle. Students then chose a historical figure to research and craft a digital biography of the individual to showcase both their life and how they overcame obstacles to achieve their goals. After this unit, students will learn about various kinds of poetry and get the opportunity to create their own chapbook of poetic verse.

In seventh grade writing, students recently completed an expository and argument unit based on creatures from Greek mythology. Students had to choose a creature to research and create a project that showcased the mythology of their chosen creature, their pop culture portrayal and why they might be best adapted to survive in the modern world or why they would win in a battle against other mythical creatures. Students are working on tabloid fiction based off of both literary surrealism and *The Weekly World News* to craft their own fictional newspaper stories. Following that mini unit, students will craft an informative process essay and visual project.

In eighth grade writing, students are working on a unit to learn about cause and effect especially in relation to American history. Students got the opportunity to choose between five different moments of historical unrest to explore and write about what happened to cause the events and what happened after, in consequence of them. After this unit, students will write pop sonnets by taking a song of their choice and turning them into Shakespearean sonnets.

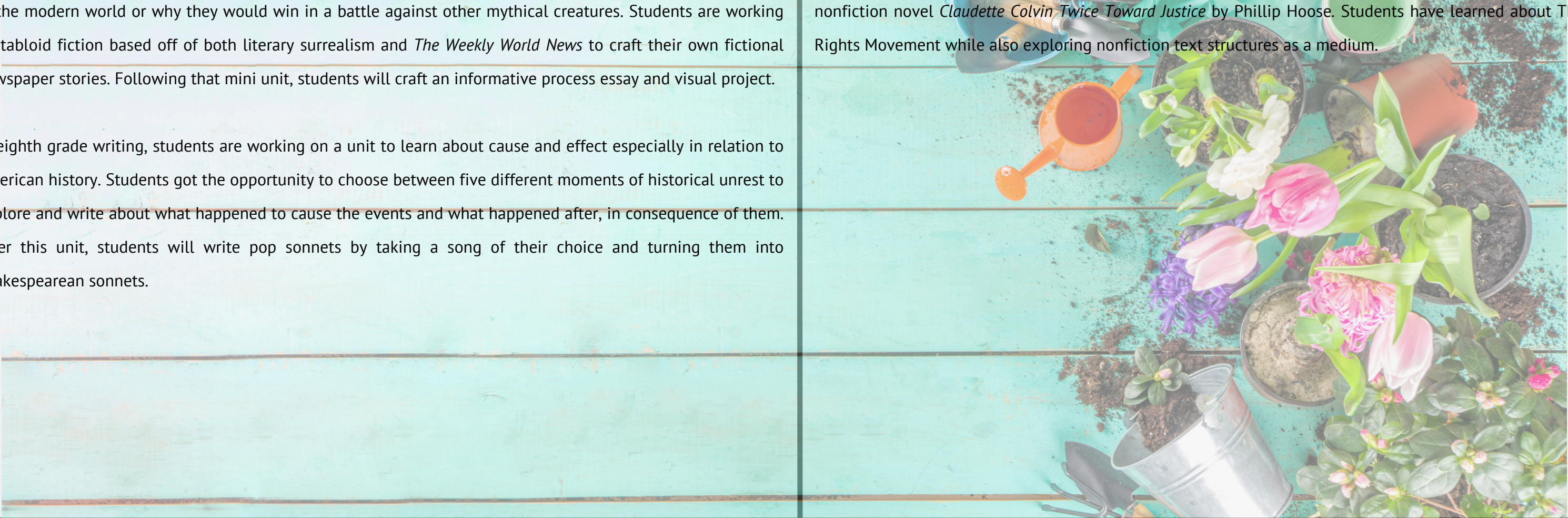
Mrs. McGuirk

Fifth - Eighth Grade Literacy / Reading

In fifth and sixth grade literacy, students have been working with vowel team patterns and syllabication to improve fluency and spelling. Students have also worked hard these last few weeks on the function of sentence structure. Students have looked at phrasing to build sentences, better understand sentences, and learn phrased reasoning to improve reading ability.

In seventh grade reading, students are learning about how World War II affected individuals. Students have started reading *Code Talker* by Josphe Bruchac and building their understanding of the Navajo culture and their role in WWII.

In eighth grade reading, students are learning about how people effect social change and reading the nonfiction novel *Claudette Colvin Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip Hoose. Students have learned about The Civil Rights Movement while also exploring nonfiction text structures as a medium.



Physical Education

Mrs. Baird-Torney

K-1st: In Physical Education we have been practicing our teamwork, circus skills, and we just finished up some Dr. Seuss Stations to match with the lessons in their classrooms!

2nd-4th: At North Walpole, third and fourth graders have been working on volleying skills; choosing a ball among a variety of different sizes to practice volleying with hands and arms. A favorite activity for our volleying unit was Shower Ball. It's a game that's similar to volleyball, but without a net and students must work together to pass or volley the ball before throwing it (or hitting it) over to the other team's side. We have been revisiting self-control, safety, and listening, while working with the volleyballs. We are starting our soccer/kicking unit this month!

5th-8th: During the last month of PE class at WES we have been practicing our circus skills. We've worked with multiple pieces of circus equipment and students created a short performance to show their classmates. We completed performing this week and it was an amazing display of creativity and collaboration!

I can't wait to get classes outside soon! Remember to have your student wear sneakers on PE days, and bring a water bottle. When we are outside we have limited access to water until we are back in the building.



The ARTicle

Mrs. Fleet

Kindergarten artists have created warm and cool color caterpillars. First, we used tempera cakes to paint a warm color paper and a cool color paper. Next, we cut circles to use as the body of the caterpillar. Finally, we used collage techniques and crayons to add details. After the caterpillars, kindergarteners used collage techniques to create butterflies using symmetry. These are part of the spring bulletin board at WPS. First graders learned about an artist named Piet Mondrian and then created animals inspired by his work. His work used black lines and squares and rectangles to create abstract art with primary colors plus black and white.

For St. Patrick's Day, North Walpole students learned about tints, tones, and shades using the color green to create little paintings. A tint is when a color is mixed with white, a tone is when a color is mixed with gray, and a shade is when a color is mixed with black. They were up for the creative challenge of a limited palette. Second graders have also drawn birds and created clay birds. They get to paint these and then create a nest for their little bird. Third graders have used primary colors and secondary colors to create a name design. Fourth graders have been practicing basic perspective drawing skills using either a road, river, train track, etc. to show distance in their work. They are learning how to draw things up close to look big and things far away to look small.

Fifth graders have been working on a project inspired by the artist Dean Russo. Russo uses bright colors and patterns to create animal paintings. Fifth grade students have been creating animals with scratch art paper. They will be cutting out their animals and attaching them to a watercolor background. Sixth grade students have created sculptures inspired by Keith Haring's paintings of people. They chose a movement pose for their person, used tin foil as the armature, added plaster on top, and then painted it bright colors. Seventh grade students have been working on animal sculptures. They had the choice of using wire, tin foil and plaster, or paper, cardboard and plaster. This project focuses on creative problem solving so students are the ones who are leading their own creative exploration. This has been a great lesson in perseverance and trying different ideas when the first idea doesn't work out. Eighth graders are working on a collaborative mural. Each student has one piece of the mural so the finished product will have a mosaic feel to it. Middle school students are also preparing for the Art Show. Be on the lookout for more information soon!

Mrs. Cassarino

WPS / NWS School Counselor

Happy April! SEL classes are winding down and will be finished the week before April break. Walpole Primary students have been learning about healthy habits and stranger safety. North Walpole students have been learning about healthy habits and cyber safety (video games, mobile apps, internet, etc).

NH STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT: Students in grades 3 & 4 will be participating in the NH Statewide Assessment on May 20 (Math), 21 (ELA), and 22 (Writing). Please avoid scheduling outside appointments and trips during those three days, if possible. Please ensure that your child gets adequate sleep, eats a healthy breakfast, and drinks plenty of water during that week. If your child has headphones at home that they can bring in for testing, please send them in that week.

GRADE ONE STEP UP DAY: First graders will participate in Step Up Day on Wednesday, May 7. They will be traveling to the North Walpole School via bus during the school day and will return for lunch. More information will be sent home to parents at a later date.

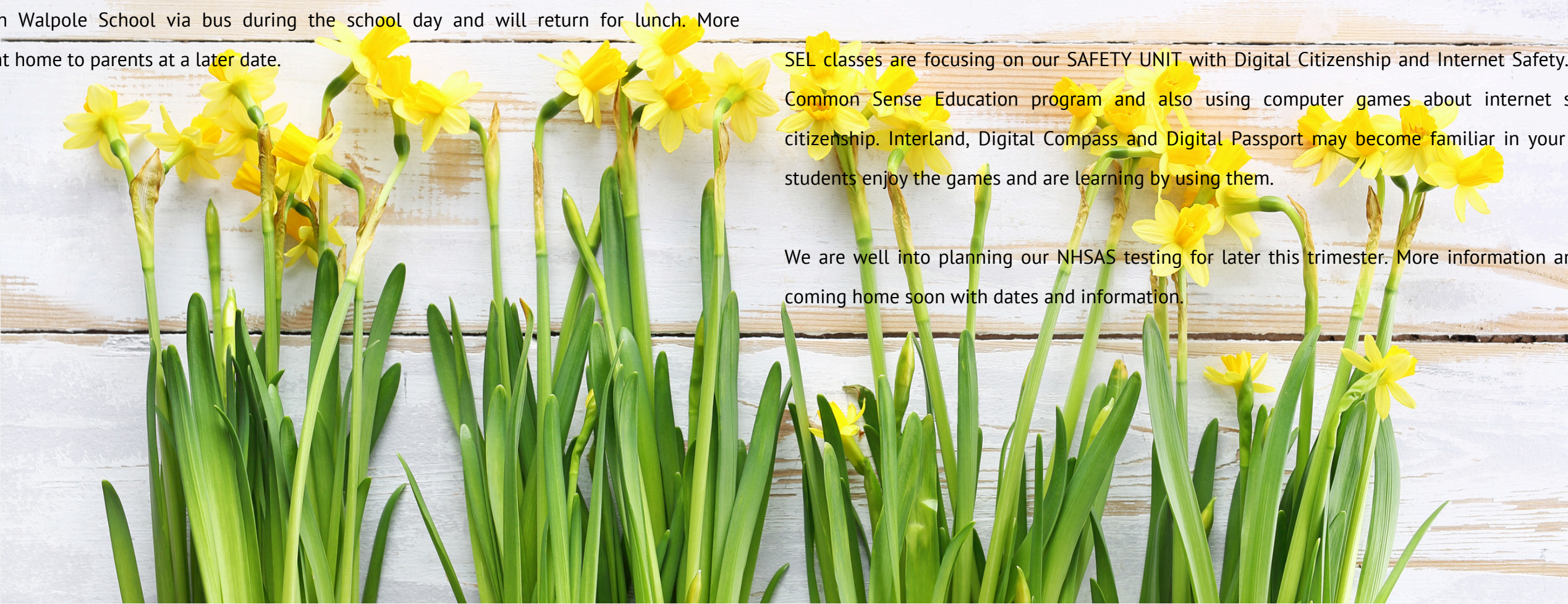
Mrs. Treat

WES School Counselor

As I type this, Beatrice and I have just returned from the NELMS Conference (New England League of Middle Schools). We had a blast! The NELMS Conference is one of my favorite events of the year because it specifically covers middle school and all it's glory! This year Walpole School was represented by two presentations, 6 - Middle School Advisory - How to Design a Whole-School SEL Program - presented by myself with the help of Mrs. Mulhearn. Beatrice and I also presented: 19 - Therapy Dogs in Schools, Amy Treat and Beatrice Treat, Walpole Schools, Walpole, NH. It was really fun to present about the wonderful things we are doing in Walpole. We had a lot of really positive feedback and a lot of requests to share our presentations. Beatrice was even given her own presenter name tag that she wore on her Therapy Dog vest! It was so cute! It was also really validating to know that we are doing a lot of the things that the experts recommend and that all this hard work we put in for our students is recognized and appreciated! We look forward to returning to this great conference again!

SEL classes are focusing on our SAFETY UNIT with Digital Citizenship and Internet Safety. We are using the Common Sense Education program and also using computer games about internet safety and digital citizenship. Interland, Digital Compass and Digital Passport may become familiar in your household as the students enjoy the games and are learning by using them.

We are well into planning our NHSAS testing for later this trimester. More information and a letter will be coming home soon with dates and information.



Upcoming Events

04/18 - Mrs. Bisson's Class Royal Tea Party, 1:30-2:15pm
 04/21 - 4/25 - Spring Break: No School
 05/02 - 4th Grade to Fort #4
 05/07 - Grade 1 Step Up Day, 10-11:30am
 05/07 - Walpole Site-Base Meeting, 6pm
 05/08 - Kindergarten Spa Day, 1:15pm
 05/09 - Early Release: PreK Not in Session
 05/13 - WPS Spring Concert, 6pm
 05/14 - NWS Spring Concert, 6pm
 05/15 - WES Spring Concert, 6pm
 followed by Project Showcase, 6:30pm
 05/16 - PreK to Grafton Nature Museum

05/19 - NWS to Lebanon Opera House
 05/23 - Early Release Day: PreK Not in Session
 05/26 - Memorial Day: No School
 05/29 - Animal Showcase / Family Picnic, 10:45
 05/30 - WES Drama Club presents "Knock, Knock"
 06/02 - 06/06 - NHD Dance Residency
 06/06 - Step Up Day for 4th Grade Students
 06/09 - Grade 1 to Montshire Museum
 06/10 - 4th Grade State Expo
 06/10 - 3rd Grade Wax Museum
 06/13 - 8th Grade Graduation
 06/16 - Last day of school

School Library News

Mrs. Corey

We've had an exciting month of March with the students learning about Arctic animals and listening to various fairy tales. Kindergarten finished their Arctic animals unit and they made some adorable Snowy Owls made out of paper plates, a Walrus bag puppet, a 3D Polar Bear and a book about Arctic animals. First grade finished their Goldilocks and the Three Bears comparison unit with a "Teddy Bear Picnic" and some yummy treats. Grades 2 & 3 enjoyed listening to many different fairy tales including Hansel & Gretel, The Frog Prince, Tim O'Toole and the Wee Folk and Endlessly Ever After where they got to choose how the story ended. April is poetry month and April 10th is Poem in Your Pocket Day so find a favorite poem that you can carry around and share with your family and friends.

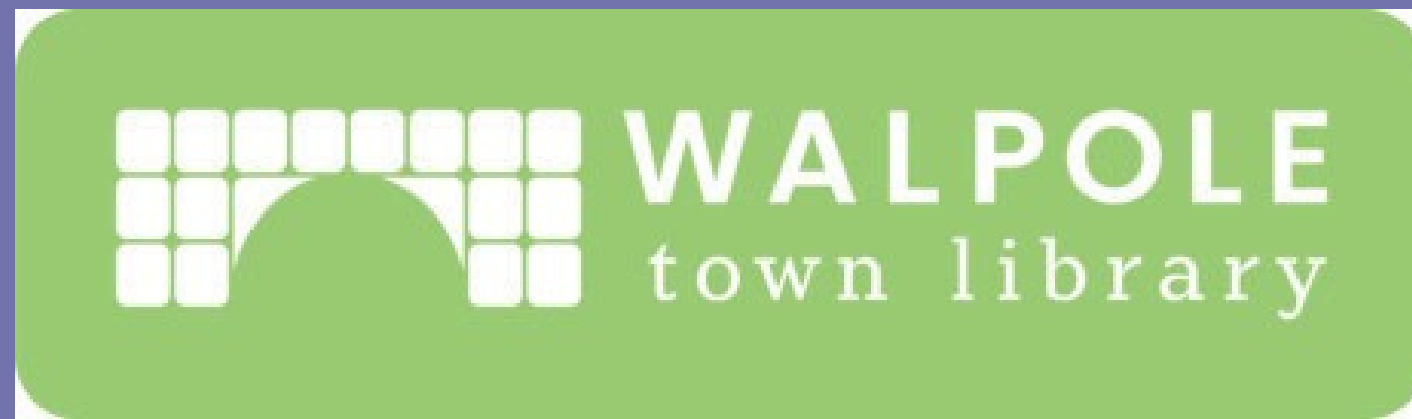
WALPOLE
SCHOOL
COMMITTS
TO
INCLUSION!

Check This Out ...

Amanda Chamberlain, CTRS/L and one of our Special Educators, Stacie Gay, presented to grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 about disability and inclusion. The students wrote statements of ways they plan to be inclusive and we created a giant paper chain! It is now displayed in the main hallway of Walpole Elementary School with 97 links!

#SONHSchools





You Can Help Improve the Library!

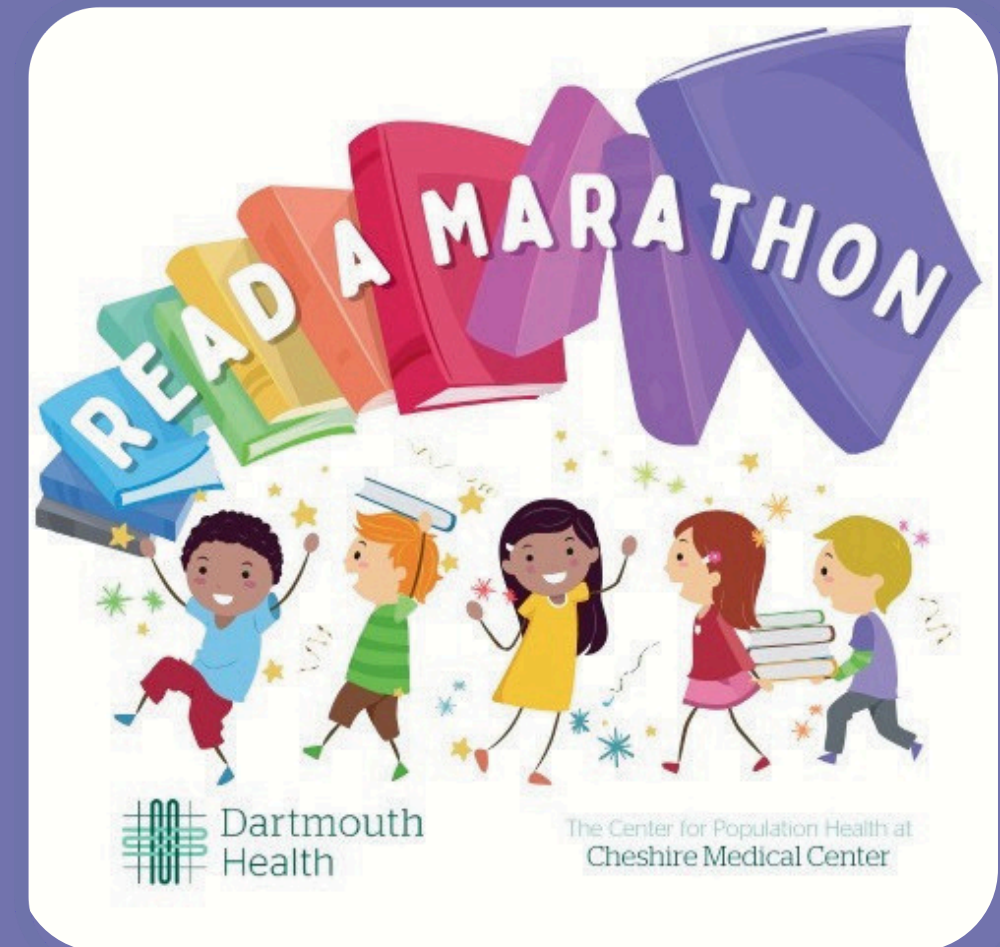
The Walpole Town Library is seeking feedback from the community we serve, to help inform our services, programs, and long-range planning. Please follow the link below to take the library's brief survey. Thank you in advance for sharing your thoughts! <https://forms.gle/GrZM7Tz5ME2AKVmJA>

**BE A
KID
LIBRARIAN
FOR A WEEK**

What is a "Kid Librarian?"
Hey there book lovers! Ever wondered what it's like to be a librarian? Well, as a Kid Librarian, you get to create a super cool display of books on any theme you choose. You can include graphic novels, audiobooks, DVDs, games, or anything else that people can check out at the library. Your awesome display will be up for everyone to see for two whole weeks!

How do I become a Kid Librarian?
It's easy! Just ask for an application at the library. Once you fill it out, you'll have a fun interview with the director to talk about your theme. Then, for one amazing week, you'll be the Kid Librarian, and your display will be the star of the kids' room! So get ready to share your favorite books and ideas with everyone!

The poster features a central graphic of a row of colorful books (red, green, yellow, blue, and white) standing upright. Above the books, the words "BE A KID LIBRARIAN" are written in a large, stylized, yellow font with a 3D effect. Below the books, the words "FOR A WEEK" are written in a smaller, blue, outlined font. At the bottom of the poster is the Walpole town library logo, which consists of a red rounded rectangle containing a white graphic of a building facade and the text "WALPOLE town library" in white.



Run and Read Marathon

Join kids from all over the Monadnock area for the Annual Run and Read Marathon no running required! Each participant will receive a free book, a reading tracker, and fun milestone stickers to celebrate their reading achievements. You have the flexibility to track your reading in a way that suits you—finishing a page equals one mile, reading for 20 minutes equals a mile, or any other creative way YOU decide! This event is all about enjoying your reading journey. When you've completed your Marathon come back to the library for a special certificate to celebrate your efforts! Let's come together to have fun and inspire a love of reading!