

Dr. Charles Barnum Elementary School
November 20, 2020



From the principal...

Thanksgiving is next week! That means there will be no school next Wednesday, Thursday or Friday in honor of the Thanksgiving Holiday. If you will be traveling, be safe. We also ask that, since COVID is still on the rise, you keep in mind the CT travel restrictions.

In an effort to help mitigate the transmission of COVID within the school community after the Thanksgiving holiday, the entire district will be full virtual/distance learning from November 30th through December 11th. Remember, attendance counts - even on virtual days!

Happy Thanksgiving and don't eat too much turkey! As always, reach out if you have any questions.



Seth Danner, Principal
sdanner@groton.k12.ct.us



Principal of the Day

Alexis Dubbs
~
'Courage'

*Lexi loves chinese food, the book Henry and Mudge and the game Sorry. In school, she feels that she does her best in both math and reading but really enjoys recess.. When Lexi is not in school, she helps at home by cleaning her room and doing her school work. Lexi also enjoys playing soccer and would love to travel to Michigan. Lexi said her dad is her hero because he is in the navy and he helps people. Lexi's message to the school on Monday was -
"We get extra recess!"*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ★ **Nov. 25-27: No school!**
Happy Thanksgiving!
- ★ **Nov. 30-Dec. 11: Full Virtual/Distance Learning**
Attendance counts each day!



Barnum's Super Power for November: **Simplicity**

Three Ways to Simplify Your Life:

- **Matter Up!** - Who is most important to you? Make sure you tell them often.
- **Unplug** - Take the time to step away from electronics and connect with people face to face.
- **Take It Outside** - Get outside and play regularly. Go explore the outdoors and have fun.

IT'S SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR TIME!

Virtual Book Fair

Click the link below and start shopping!! All purchases will be shipped directly to your house!!

Dates: Nov. 20th - Dec. 3rd

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/charlesbarnumelemschool2>

PTO NEWS

SchoolStore

The School Store fundraiser was sent home last week. If you did not get one, here's what you need to know!

Go to: www.schoolstore.net

School ID: 12459

Step 1: Register your child/children

Step 2: Send out 6 emails inviting friends and family to participate

Step 3: Email the prize code to the PTO at cbpto@outlook.com

(Deadline to submit prize code is Dec. 16th)

We are still looking to fill the position of vice President. If you are interest, please contact the school.

Board Members:

President: Julie Worden

Vice President: OPEN

Treasurer: Sujeen Vasant

Secretary: Meghan Malone

Ideas, comments or questions? Share them with the PTO at: cbpto@outlook.com

COVID Mitigation Strategies

Please continue to practice these strategies when you leave your house. We want all of our CB families to remain safe and healthy.

Wear a mask when you are not able to social distance!



Wash your hands often and for 20 seconds. You can even sing the alphabet song while you wash!

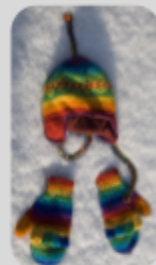
Social distance - that means stay 6 feet away from the people around you.



If you are not feeling well, stay home!

Cold Weather!!

Please be sure your children are dressed appropriately for the cold weather!



As long as the temperature is 15 degrees or higher, we will go outside for both morning arrival and recess, even if there is snow on the ground. Hats, gloves, scarves, and shoes/boots all help in keeping the students warm.

Thank you!



GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

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November 16, 2020

Dear Elementary Parents and Guardians:

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well during these challenging times as we continue to endure the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you for the support and assistance you've given your children with remote learning; we understand the great effort that goes into this partnership. More than ever before, we realize the positive effects of in-person teaching and learning in brick and mortar schools that bring our students and adults together. As a school community, we also see how improved blended synchronous (in real time) and asynchronous (at any time) teaching and learning engages our students. [Digital Education](#)

Teachers, school psychologists, social workers, and administrators have been identifying students who have been disengaged or disconnected to remote learning. The school staff has been making numerous calls and some visits to homes to identify the challenges, while encouraging students and families to engage in learning. Unfortunately, those students who are not showing up for their lessons (in person or remotely) or who are not doing their work, are at risk of missing valuable learning opportunities. In partnership with families, the school staff will work to re-engage students in their learning so that they can make measured growth this year. We encourage families that are full remote to switch to the hybrid model if they are able to, in order to receive some in-person instruction. While some of our schools have had to shift to full remote learning at different times this fall due to the number of contacts to a few COVID-19 cases, we have not seen the transmission in the schools.

Elementary report cards will be available on PowerSchool on December 18, 2020. Last year, Groton shifted to on-line report cards that are more closely Aligned to Connecticut Core Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, as well as the district's curriculum. We use a scoring system of (1) needs more time, (2) progressing towards, (3) meets standard, and (4) exceeds "grade level expectations", for core areas in Reading, Writing, Math, Science, and Social Studies. You will see a different scoring system for electives, participation, and citizenship with the use of (C) for consistent, (I) for inconsistent and (N) needs improvement. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your child's teacher to assist you.

You have given us great insight to the successes and challenges you have noticed this fall through the parent survey and focus groups. All schools have analyzed the information and have created action plans as we move forward. We have learned a lot with regard to online learning and with the many resources that have been used this fall, and plan to carry with us valuable lessons about what works best in engaging our students through this school year. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and please stay safe and well during this time.

Sincerely,

Susan Austin

Susan Austin
Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Groton Public Schools