



# GEORGE J. MITCHELL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

April 2017  
www.wtvl.k12.me.us  
(207)873-0695



## IMPORTANT DATES

- April 3 – PTO Meeting – 6:00 pm**
- April 5 – School Board Meeting – 6:00 pm**
- April 5 – Family Literacy Night – 6:00 pm**
- April 5 – Square 1 Art Fundraiser Orders Due**
- April 12 & 13– Kindergarten Registration 12:00 - 7:00 pm**
- April 17 to 21 – Spring Break – NO SCHOOL**

## Kindergarten Registration

Waterville Kindergarten Registration for the 2017-2018 school year will be held at the George J. Mitchell School on Wednesday, April 12th and Thursday, April 13th from 12:00 to 7:00 pm. Your child must be five years old by October 15, 2016 in order to register. Please bring your child, your child's official birth certificate and updated immunization record. You will not be able to register your child without both pieces of information. Please call 873-0695 for an appointment.



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Develop Your Child's Social Skills for Success in School—and Life !

Your child needs more than academic skills to succeed in school. His social skills play a big part, too. Research shows that problems with social skills can interfere with learning. Your child will have an easier time in school if he is able to get along with his classmates.

To reinforce your child's social skills:

- **Set an example.** Children watch how parents interact with others. So, introduce yourself to new people. Get together with friends. Support people you care about. Let your child see you being a good friend.
- **Read books about making and keeping friends.** Ask the librarian to help you find some kids' books about social interactions. After you read aloud, talk with your child about the story.
- **Role-play with your child.** Help him practice what to say when meeting new people. "Hi I'm Tom. Nice to meet you." Act out situations that call for cooperation, sharing and kindness, too.
- **Provide opportunities to socialize.** Invite your child's friends to play. Visit playgrounds. Sign your child up for kids' programs at libraries, community centers and museums.

If you have concerns about your child's social skills, talk with his teacher and work together on solutions.

Source: V. Vega, "Social and Emotional Learning Research Review."

## Parent/Teacher Conferences



I would like to thank all the parents who took time out of their busy schedules to attend parent/teacher conferences. We also appreciate those parents who could not make it to the assigned conference day, for making a phone conference or arranging another time for a conference date. As I've stated many times before, we can never communicate enough about how our children are doing. It is our hope that parents discussed the conference with their children so that they are made aware of their strengths and weaknesses. We need to promote the strengths of the children as well as try to work on improving the areas that are weak. Please feel free to contact the teachers if you have a concern. Please don't wait too long if you notice a problem. The staff is more than willing to work with you and solve concerns before they reach the "problem stage."

## FUNDRAISER NEWS

We are very excited to be partnering again with Square 1 Art for our Spring fundraiser. What a great way to celebrate your child's art while raising much needed funds for the school. Students created their art projects, and custom catalogs featuring your child's art were sent home last week. **Orders and payment will be due on Wednesday, April 5th.** Orders will come in the week of April 24th (just in time for Mother's Day & Father's Day)! There are even more items available for purchase online at [www.square1art.com/shop](http://www.square1art.com/shop)

**SQUARE 1 ART**  
IT STARTS WITH THE ART!

## Enhance Your Child's Eagerness to Learn

Parents can have a positive effect on their children's desire to learn. To inspire a love of learning in your child:

- **Be a learner yourself.** Let your child see you reading. Watch educational TV programs. Attend school functions. Tackle new projects. Show curiosity.
- **Share what you learn.** Talk about new ideas or scientific discoveries with your child. Discuss things you read and hear.
- **Believe your child can learn.** If you show faith in her abilities, she'll have confidence in them.
- **Show an interest** in what your child is learning. Ask questions simply to learn and have a conversation with your child—not just to quiz or check up on her.
- **Never give up on your child.** If your child struggles in school, stay calm. Help her see that problems can be solved. Figure out what your child can do to improve and how you and the teacher can help.

From: From: Helping Children Learn

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The George J. Mitchell School has a facebook page. The goal of this page is to keep communication flowing between parents, extended families, the community, and the school. Go ahead and "like" us on facebook.



Like us on  
**Facebook**

## Youth Art Month

In celebration of Youth Art Month, Common Street Arts Gallery in downtown Waterville (at "the Center"- 93 Main Street) hosted a student art show. Mrs. King had the difficult task of selecting just 21 artworks from GJMS for the multi-school show.

The artwork was on display from **March 3- April 1**, with an **opening reception** on Friday, **March 3**, from **4 - 6 p.m.** The students are very excited to have their work displayed in a professional gallery setting. I hope many of you had a chance to attend the opening or to stop in and view the work during gallery hours.

The following students had their work on display:

**Kindergarten:** Owen Lavoie, Caylie Buotte, Izabella Hatch, Caden Laplante

**First grade:** Cassidy Tunks, Connor Chabot, Gianna Duke, Minako Peck, Alanna Goss

**Second grade:** Tessa Donovan, Nevaeh Turbide, Lexi LePage

**Third grade:** Eliyah Ames, Daniel Joler, Sydney Grant, Jasmine Gogan, Rylee Dersoby, Edie Hamilton, Piper Hamilton, Grace Blaney-Davis, Brianna Cook.

