

August 2015

Dear Lynch Families,

Welcome: I hope that you have had time to enjoy your summer! After our long winter, the hot summer days didn't seem so bad, did they? This year, Lynch was lucky enough once again to host several summer programs. We love having students in our school and our custodians work their way around the busy campers. Our building is looking great! Along with our general cleaning, we were able to get some painting around campus with special love given to our art and library spaces (thanks to the DPW and parent volunteers). A huge kudos to our awesome custodial team of Mikey, John and Danny. Our inner courtyard spaces are looking great with are finished garden shed thanks to parent, Chris Burke. We also will have new outside learning furniture in our 2nd courtyard thanks to the generosity of our 2015 Fifth Grade Class. Our LPA coordinated with parent Greg Winn to get our gorgeous new rugs at each of our entrances and we couldn't be more thrilled! One exciting addition to our campus is our new MAKERSPACE! We will still putting the finishing touches on this space off the art room. Our plan is to collect (by donation) recycled and new materials so that children will have access to materials that will encourage project based learning. We will have more information in the coming weeks/months but we are so excited to add space that encourages creativity in our students to the Lynch community. Thank you to our very own scheduling guru, kindergarten teacher, Mary Bergeron who once again worked on our master schedule.

We are a busy, active school with 23 homerooms here at Lynch along with 6 preschool learning spaces. We are excited to start this year and know that it will be a great one!

Updates about Staffing: As always, we do have a few new faces around campus (and probably more to come). We would like to welcome and congratulate the following staff to our GREAT school:

-Congratulations to former grade four teacher, Mrs. Jillian Dwyer! Jillian will be moving into our Lead Interventionist position that was vacated by Kate Zieg who moved out of state. Jillian was a perfect choice to work with staff and students primarily in grades 3-5! This is new role for Jillian and we are thrilled to have her in it!

-Although not new to Lynch, we welcome Ms. Bethany Pine who will be our grade four teacher and will replace Mrs. Dwyer. Many of you may remember Bethany who served in two maternity leaves in 2013-14 and 2014-5 in grade four. We are so excited to have Bethany as a full time Lynchie! In addition, Ms. Pine will be joining along with Mr. Flaherty (special educator) and Mrs. Anna Nolty in a co-teaching model in grade four. We had another co-teaching model last year in grade five with Ms. Keegan and Mr. Casey and are super excited to try it in another grade!

-Mrs. Jen Foundas has decided to continue her maternity leave and has extended it through the 2015-16 school year. As a result, after interviewing many outstanding candidates, we welcome Ms. Kate Snell to Team Lynch! Kate has taught fourth grade in a private school for the last two years and has her masters' degree from Simmons College.

-We have another returning face to Lynch! Our third English Language Learner teacher is a former Lynch teacher, Mrs. Karen Hart. Karen will be joining our spectacular team of Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. McCoy. Mrs. Susan Vitale who was here part time last year will be working at Lincoln School this year.

-We welcome our new Physical Education teacher, Danielle Dean. Danielle is a volleyball coach and recently completed a stint in the E. Bridgewater school system. We wish Ms. Sarah Croteau our former PE teacher well as she also relocated out of state.

-Mrs. Irina Chelnokova will be leaving Lynch to be the Chorale teacher at McCall Middle School (so most of you will see her again)! We are excited to welcome our new music teacher Daniel Thompson to Lynch! Daniel comes to us from Mystic Valley Charter School after receiving his Masters' Degree from the NE Conservatory. Welcome Daniel!

We still have a few other positions that are yet to be filled. Our weekly newsletter will include any additional new faces around Lynch. Thank you to all of our staff that have moved into new roles, moved classrooms, served on search committees and have been flexible in so many ways in order to best serve our school.

Here are our homeroom teachers this year:

Kindergarten-Ms. Bergeron, Mrs. Bianchini, Mrs. Cummings, Mrs. Mafera

Grade One-Mrs. Christo, Mrs. Corley, Mrs. Greco, Miss Maguire

Grade Two-Mrs. Aharonian, Ms. Bandi, Mrs. Johnson, Ms. May

Grade Three-Mrs. DesJardins, Mrs. Lynch, Ms. Moresco, Ms. Snell

Grade Four- Mr. Flaherty, Ms. Keaveney, Mrs. Nolty, Ms. Pine

Grade Five-Mrs. Barber, Mr. Casey, Mrs. Clements, Mrs. Duffy

Parking Lot Updates: We will be continuing with our parking lot and traffic plans that were generated several years ago. If you are not familiar with them, please refer to: <http://lynchschooll.com/parking-safety/> to familiarize yourself with our traffic/parking regulations. We are looking for help with our "Orange Hat Committee" that helps with traffic flow and parking. They could use volunteers to help especially in the morning. Please consider helping with this important committee (and you get a snazzy orange hat)! Please contact Deb DePeter at: deborahdepeter@yahoo.com to find out how you can help. Also, thanks to our great senior volunteers and orange hat volunteers, we offer drop-off valet service in both traffic circles. Don't park, just drop off your child between 8:20-8:45 and we will make sure they get to the cafeteria or gymnasium safely.

Dates and Info: The Lynch Parents' Association (LPA) will host a welcome back popsicle party on Sept. 2nd at 4:00 pm for **NEW** families in the Lynch playground. (We will move inside in case of inclement weather). The LPA will also host a series of coffees that will take place on Sept. 8th and 9th at 9am in the Lynch library. LPA Co-Presidents-Deb DePeter and Liz Schreiber will join us to welcome you and discuss plans for the upcoming year. All parents (PreK through Grades 5) are invited to attend. The LPA plays an integral role in supporting all Lynch students and staff. Successful schools are forged through the collaborative efforts of all constituents and I welcome you to become involved in the LPA. Save the date for our Fall Family Barbeque

which will be on Sunday, September 27th at 4:00 pm. In addition, school pictures are slated for the week of September 28th (exact times will be announced by classroom teachers). Preschool pictures are slated for October 2nd. Photos are generally taken outdoors so they may need to be rescheduled due to inclement weather. Our first LPA meeting will be on Thursday, October 8th. We alternate between morning and night meetings (Weds. nights and Thursday mornings). The morning meetings start with an informal coffee with the principals at 8:30 with the general meeting to follow from 9-10. They are open to all and our meetings are held in our school library. I love working with the parents at Lynch and our LPA's commitment to our school and to all of you who have generously contributed to the school through Go-Direct funds in the past. These funds go directly to enrichment, technology and other school related supplies that are generally funded through our operating budget. We appreciate your support!

School Council: Every school in Massachusetts is required to have a school council that consults with the building principal in order to look at making school improvements as necessary. This year, as with others, we will have several open parent spots for our council which is made up of principal, assistant principal, staff and parents. If you wish to be a part of our committee, please contact Deb DePeter at deborahdepeter@yahoo.com. The LPA will coordinate an election process which will probably be on-line in order to fill the position

SchoolHours/Grades 1-5: Regular hours- 8:45-2:50; Early Release Days-8:45-11:45
Grade K- All Day Kindergarten-ADK-
8:45-12:30 on M/F; 8:45-2:50 on T, W, TH
Morning only K-8:45-12:30 Monday through Friday

First Day/First Week Tuesday, September 8th and Wednesday, September 9th
are EARLY Release Days with an 11:45 dismissal
for students 1-5
Thurs. (9/10) and Fri. (9/11) are Full Days

Staggered Kindergarten Arrival Days-

Group A-Kindergarten/ First Day-Tuesday, Sept. 8th
Group B Kindergarten/First Day- Wednesday, Sept. 9th
Dismissal on these days for all K students will be 11:45

Thursday, Sept. 10th is a full day for kindergarteners who
will stay for afternoon sessions

Friday, Sept. 11th will be a regular Friday for Kindergarten
students with the 12:30 dismissal.

Before School Plans: Students should typically arrive to school between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m. This year, we will once again offer free supervision starting early. We will allow children to arrive early at 8:20. Children arriving between 8:20-8:30 should go to the cafeteria. At 8:30 all children will wait in the following areas:

All kindergarten, first and fifth grade students will go to the cafeteria for before school waiting time.

All second, third and fourth grade students will wait each morning before school in the gymnasium.

The Recreation Department offers a before school program here at Lynch that is fee based. The sessions will run from 7:15-8:20 Monday-Friday although parents can opt to use one or more days of the week for early morning care. Please call them at 781-721-7125 for more information or to register.

Safety: At Lynch, we ask that all parents or guests come directly to the main office (preschool families will need to use the pre-k door at the far end of the school and be buzzed in after regular arrival times). After arrival, all doors will be locked and you must be buzzed into school. All visitors must wear visitors' badges while at Lynch. We do have a number of senior helpers who work at our lobby desk and welcome visitors into our office. However, we have shifts that we could use parent help. If you are a parent that has a three hour shift to volunteer, please contact Deb Depeter at: deborahdepeter@yahoo.com. This is fun and interesting volunteer position. You can do a shift a week or a shift a month (and bring your laptop, you can access our wireless system and get some work done in between visitors). Thank you to all of our senior helpers and parents who work hard to keep all of the children and staff safe.

After School

Programming: Lynch PTO runs seasonal afterschool quality courses through our Extended Learning Program (ELP). The classes run generally 3 times per year from 2:50-3:50 and are taught by on a variety of subjects by our talented Lynch staff. We will be finalizing our course offerings in the coming weeks. This fall we will plan to begin our classes on Sept. 28th and classes will run after school for 6 weeks. We are proud to offer a variety of fantastic programming at a very affordable cost. The ELP is organized through me and the LPA and is provided as a service to the school. If you need financial or other considerations for your child to register, please contact me at: ckelley@winchesterps.org

The town does offer a tuition based bus that can pick-up or drop off your child in your neighborhood. If you would like information or wish to register for the bus, please contact Nancy Clark at 781-721-7001.

There are several after school programs that bus from our school to their sites. Currently they are:

- WRAP-Winchester Recreation Afterschool Program 781-721-7125
- Kids' Corner-781-721-1514
- YMCA-617-571-1496
- Ku's Olympic Tae Kwon Do-781-935-3733
- Chinese School-617-909-2497

Lunch: In addition to this email, you will find the memo explaining our lunch program by Mrs. Eileen Corsetti. For menu options and cost, please go to:

<http://schools.whitsons.com/ma/winchester-public-schools?page=menu>

Communication: Our main line of communication is done through teacher led or school led emails/phone messages or LPA messages. We also use Twitter and our website. Please make it a habit to read our messages and weekly newsletters (sent out on Mondays) as they contain important information and dates. We will also link our newsletters and other information to our main school web site at:

http://www.edline.net/pages/Lynch_Elementary_School.

Twitter: https://twitter.com/the_lynchscool

If you do not have access to email or need translation, please let your child's teacher know so that we may send hard copies or links of correspondences home. In addition, if ANY of your contact information changes throughout the year, please let the office know. Please note, that our office phone lines are very busy, so we appreciate any effort you can make to take care of phone calls to arrange after school plans at night or in the morning before school time.

However, if something does come up that requires immediate attention; you may reach us at 781-721-7013.

The first day of school, we will plan to send a Welcome Back packet that includes lots of forms and information that will give further details to us or will need to be returned back that week. Of most importance are student data sheets that should be reviewed (corrected if necessary) and returned.

If you have any comments, concerns or questions throughout the year, please call us at or email us. Again, we are so happy to begin a new year with our wonderful community! On behalf of the entire staff, we would like to wish all of you a wonderful school year.

Sincerely,

John Dupuis, Interim Principal

jdupuis@winchesterps.org