



WINTHROP SCHOOL

FAMILY UPDATE 2021-2022

JANUARY 17, 2022



Safe Arrival Line/Dismissal Changes

Please call the safe arrival line @ 978-468-5344 to report your child absent or tardy.

Please call the front office @ 978-468-5340 for last-minute dismissal changes.

Follow us on Twitter: Winthrop School @WinthropEagles, Principal Shediak @ShediakC

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

HW Police Departments - Autism-Disability Outreach Program

The Hamilton & Wenham Police Departments will introduce this new program in response to the varied needs of residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities and aims to provide a “total approach” to issues that these residents and police encounter through education, outreach, and response. The main focus of the program is to provide a platform for those that don’t always have a voice. The goal of their outreach is to provide tools and resources which prepare for effective ways to ensure a safe, meaningful community.

The Autism-Disability Outreach Program will offer community members a voluntary and confidential opportunity to identify individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder or other disabilities who live, work, or attend school in Hamilton or Wenham.

The purpose of the program is to promote communication and ensure first responders are aware of any special considerations individuals may need if and when they need public safety services. The informational session will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, Jan. 18, at 6 p.m. The informational session will include an overview of the program, followed by a question-and-answer session. To access the informational session via Zoom on Tuesday evening, [click here](#).

School Budget Presentation and Q&A - Wed. Jan. 19th

HWRHS Auditorium 6:30 pm

In an effort to make the budget process more transparent, I would like to invite all parents and staff to an overview presentation of the proposed FY23 school budget. Vincent Leone and I will give a brief presentation followed by an open Q&A session. We hope to see many of you next week. If you have any questions, please email Superintendent Tracy e.tracy@hwschools.net

Appropriate Winter Weather Gear

Just a reminder that students will be going outside for recess on days when the wind chill temperature is 20 degrees or above. Please ensure

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, January 17

No School - Holiday

Tuesday, January 18

HW Police Autism-Disability Outreach Program 6pm on Zoom

[Zoom Link](#)

Wednesday, January 19

School Budget Presentation
HWRHS Auditorium - 6:30pm

Friday, January 28

No School PreK

Friday, February 11

Friday Principal Chat 9:00am

Tuesday, February 15

Winthrop School Council Meeting
3:30-4:30 (Rescheduled from Jan)

Monday, February 21 -

Friday, February 25

No School - February Break

Monday, March 14

No School - Teacher Workshop

Monday, April 18 -

Friday, April 22

No School - April Break

Monday, May 30

No School - Holiday

Monday, June 20

No School - Holiday

Tuesday, June 21

Last Day of School - 2 Snow Days

that your child comes to school with a winter coat, hat, and gloves. Students must also have winter boots to be able to play in the snow. Snow pants are recommended to keep pants dry.

K-12 COVID Test and Stay Program Clarification

The Test and Stay Program has been a powerful tool in helping us keep more students in school after being identified as a COVID-19 close contact. There are two important guidelines public schools must follow for a student to participate in **Test and Stay**:

- Applies only to **in-school** close contacts (not at home exposure)
- Student must be able to wear a well fitting mask properly while in school, including outdoors for the duration of test and stay period

COVID SAFETY Checks

If you haven't already done so, please consider signing your student(s) up using this [consent form](#) (one for each child). If you have any questions about COVID/Pool testing, reach out to nurse Jess Baker j.baker@hwschools.net.

[Useful COVID information](#) and links from the public health nurse.

Keeping Sick Students Home

If your child does not feel well, please keep them home from school and check in with your pediatrician or Jess Baker before sending your child to school.

Reporting COVID19 Vaccination Records to Nurse

The HW nurses can update Covid19 vaccination records via Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS) a web-based immunization registry. You will receive an email if we are unable to upload vaccination records. Covid19 Vaccination is not mandatory at this time but highly encouraged. Thank you, Nurse Baker

Digital Citizenship Info for Families

A Message from Linda Mastrianni - Elementary Library/Technology Specialist
"For kids, digital life is real life. It's where they build friendships, take a stand on issues, and do so much more." (Common Sense Media)

Over the next several weeks, your student will participate in a Digital Citizenship Curriculum from Common Sense Media during Library/Tech class. Through this unit, we hope to empower our students to participate safely and responsibly in the digital world. This curriculum will focus on the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District Digital Citizen Goals:

- "Recognizes the rights, responsibilities, and opportunities of living, learning and working in an interconnected digital world and they act in ways that are safe, legal, ethical and self-aware."
- "Uses digital tools to broaden their perspectives, increase empathy and understanding, and work effectively in teams."

If you are interested in receiving free text message tips about how to practice healthy media habits at home with your family, text the word kids to 21555.



Just text the word **kids**
to this phone number

21555



Coins for a Cause

During the month of January, The Institution for Savings will donate the 5% fee for converting your spare coins to cash directly to the Friends of Winthrop. Stop by their local office on 545 Bay Rd or their offices in Gloucester or Rockport to convert your coins to cash.