

All Around AES

The (mostly) weekly newsletter from AES

Our mission: Exceptional instruction without exception

March 23, 2016



Calendar

- March 23 2nd Trimester Report Cards go home
Public Hearing on next year's School Budget – 7:00 pm at AHS
- March 25 NO SCHOOL – Good Friday observance
- March 29 6:30 – 8:00 Information Night for incoming Kindergarten parents AES cafeteria
- April 13, 14, 15 No Kindergarten Classes: screening for incoming K students
- April 18 – 22 No School – Spring Vacation
- April 26 Grade 4 Field Trip to Lowell Mills – Mrs. Ripley and Mrs. Harney
- April 27 Grade 4 Field Trip to Lowell Mills – Mrs. Chabot and Mrs. Berry

MCAS Testing Schedule

Grade 3	March 31	April 5	April 7
Grade 4	April 4	April 6	April 8

Principally Speaking

Having our school year divided up into trimesters provides us with a pretty good window for looking at student growth. Sixty school days is a long time in the life of a young child! The second term report card covers the time from just before the December break through the beginning of March. It is during this time that we often see the light turn on for lots of kids. Many first graders in particular come back from the holidays and have figured out how to put the pieces all together and they find themselves truly reading. Even Mother Nature cooperated this year with only three snow days so that we could keep our routines intact.

As our older students get ready to take their English Language Arts state assessment we are hoping that they will be peaking at just the right time. We have provided them with the necessary skills and strategies and now we are working to assure them that they “simply” need to do their best. This year's version of MCAS is slightly different than other years, but the children are ready. The schedule for the assessments is listed above and I know that all of our families will do their best to make sure that their children get a good night's sleep, eat a healthy breakfast (protein is a plus), and arrive to school on time. A recently retired AES teacher used to tell her kids that MCAS stood for Massachusetts Celebrates Academic Success...and our kids have a lot to celebrate!