

Quaker Farms School



**Office of Rachael Cacace
Principal of Quaker Farms School**

December 11, 2018

Celebrations & Events

- The Oxford PTO Holiday Boutique will take place on December 11-12 where students will be given the opportunity to “shop” for the holidays.
- The Oxford High School National Honor Society officers will be visiting QFS students on December 14. Students will be engaging in holiday stories and activities.
- On December 14 students and staff will be participating in “PJ Day for the Kids” in support of kids at Connecticut Children’s Medical Center. PJ Day is recognized by the State of Connecticut where the governor has proclaimed the second Friday in December of each year to be PJ Day to raise awareness of all of those children being treated and cared for in hospitals across the state. All students and staff will wear their PJs to school and make an optional donation of \$1 which will benefit the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at CCMC.
- The QFS students and staff will be collecting toys throughout the month of December for the Oxford Resident State Trooper’s Office to distribute to Oxford children as well as children in the surrounding areas. State Troopers will be at QFS on December 20th collecting the toys from students and staff.
- Kindergarten students have been practicing for their holiday sing-a-long for parents and friends which will be taking place on December 18th with shows at 10:00 for QFS students and staff and 2:00 for the parents (with a snow date of December 19th).
- QFS Holiday Spirit Week will take place the week of December 17th. Monday – wear red and green; Tuesday – Wear your “Holiday Best”; Wednesday – Holiday Sock day; Thursday - “Festive Frock” wear your most festive holiday attire and prizes will be awarded to the most “festive” classroom in each grade level; Friday – Holiday pajama day.

Curriculum & Instruction

- Curriculum Walkthroughs took place at QFS on Monday, December 3rd in K-2 classrooms as it relates to our Strategic Operating Plan. The purpose is to increase student achievement, gather evidence on current curricular practices being utilized and then to use that evidence to identify trends that celebrate strengths and address needs across the district.

- On December 6th, Quaker Farms School teachers participated in a reader's workshop coaching webinar. K-2 teachers had the opportunity to conference with a Reader's Workshop coach for an hour relating to grade level specific curricular areas.
- QFS has been learning about computer programming in the technology lab. Students will become computer programmers and write code by participating in the Hour of Code. The Hour of Code was created by Code.org®, a non-profit dedicated to expanding participation in computer science by making it available in more schools. The Hour of Code is a global movement reaching tens of millions of students in 180+ countries. K-2 students will use botlogic code to help the robot get to his home. This can be found at <http://botlogic.us>. Second grade students will be introduced to coding using code.org's site and using either "Candy Quest" or "Puppy Adventure (pre-reader. There are various other resources that build thinking skills on the page which are fun for the whole family. We are extremely excited about coding at QFS and believe that coding sparks analytical skills in a way that is fun and exciting. A special thank you to Ms. Yacovelli, QFS Library/Media Specialist for implementing this great program.

Communication

- All classroom teachers have created parent/guardian distribution email lists at the beginning of the year and continue to utilize this method of communication to keep parents informed of upcoming events and what is taking place in the classroom. The main office also utilizes school wide email as its main form of communication with parents/guardians.

Facilities & Safety

- A scheduled fire drill will be held this month.

On behalf of Quaker Farms School, I would like to wish everyone a very happy holiday season!

“Educate, Prepare & Inspire”

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