North Salem Elementary

Wilkins Weekly 5-18-19

- It is hard to find the right words to express our staff's collective thanks for a very special Staff Appreciation Week. While often it's called "Teacher" appreciation week, each staff member plays an important role at North Salem in ensuring that our students not only learn, but are healthy, well nourished, and working in a clean, safe environment. You made EACH staff member feel special and truly appreciated. THANK YOU for the staff room makeover, the luncheon, the welcoming display, the mocktails, muffins, fruit, and salads, and the new microwave, toaster, and toaster oven!! And then there were the gift cards.....I know I speak for the whole staff when I say we were just "paw"struck by your generosity and "paw-someness"!
- Friday will be our school's annual Memorial Day observance. Students will sing patriotic songs, hear poems, and what the words to the Pledge of Allegiance they say each morning mean. Amy Moldoff will lead students. SHS JrROTC students will be there to present our nation's colors; and two band members will perform TAPS. It would be great if your child could wear our nation's colors. Because of the solemn nature of this observance, we do not invite families, but encourage you to also make the time over the holiday weekend to share WHY we observe Memorial Day.
- Music teacher Ms. Pacuk had quite the busy week! Monday was her chorus concert featuring our 4th and 5th grades. Tuesday night she presented at the School Board meeting, highlighting music at North Salem. She did an outstanding job - and even got our Board and Dr. Delahanty to play lollipop drums! Hopefully that will be available soon on our website. It's worth viewing to get a better understanding of how music at North Salem truly is music EDUCATION, not just a class. As an FYI, next year the STRINGS program will become a part of the school day (like band) for grades 3-5. Watch for info if you think your child may be interested.
- Second grade's field trip to the Dover Children's Museum in Dover was a first time for the team, and it was a HUGE success! Kids and staff loved it.
- Our last PTA meeting of the year was held last week. Our new slate of officers includes:

Sue Hills, President; Amy McSweeney-Vice President; Alicia Emerson-Treasurer: Maria Kench-Secretary. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank now-Past PTA President Ken Tarara for his leadership and service to our children and community. We are fortunate to have great leadership serving our school community!

- Most of our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders have completed their state testing. I am proud of their efforts, and of our staff's in helping students be ready for this test. It is challenging in format as well as content, and it is important for students to be able to stick with it and work through the challenges to the best of their abilities. (Not just for this test, but in life as well!) 
- There's lots of paper coming home - notices about events, field trips, summer offerings... Please stay up to date and help our staff and PTA by returning required paperwork in a timely manner.

The only good thing about this weather is that it's keeping our students more focused on their schoolwork and not their upcoming vacation! Hopefully we'll see some more sun and seasonal temps this week. Enjoy the weekend!

Janice