

Bell Top

39 Reynolds Rd., Troy, NY 12180

March 2018



From the desk of Mr. Mahar

They say March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb, and that is certainly holding true this year. The brief warm spell over February break was a treat but winter is clearly not over. So, don't put your winter coats away yet, there are still a few weeks of winter left. Please be sure your children have the proper attire for outdoor recess.

Maple sugaring season has arrived! The teachers and students have already tapped the maple trees and the buckets are filling with sap. Soon, the learning barn will be actively working as a sugar house. Many of the children will participate in boiling the sap into maple syrup. We are very excited to try this delicious treat.

The bowl-a-thon for the Rebuilding Warriors fundraiser was held on Sunday, March 4th. I saw several of our students enjoying their time bowling. Thanks to the Southern Rensselaer County Rotary organization who sponsored this event on our behalf.

NYS ELA Assessments

Next month the students in grade 3 through 5 will be taking the New York State English Language Arts Assessment. ***The exams are now being administered over 2 days and will have no time limit as long as the students are working productively.***

The days for the NYS ELA Exam administration are Wednesday, April 11, and Thursday, April 12. Make-up days will range from April 13 through April 18. You can prepare your child for these exams as you do every day by making sure they are well rested, have eaten a healthy breakfast, and are feeling minimal stress about the test days ahead. They should try their personal best, as they do here every day at Bell Top.

There are many items in our Lost and Found station. If you discover that your child is missing something please have them take a look. Eventually, all unclaimed items will be donated to families and organizations in need.



Upcoming Important Dates

- 3/7 - End of marking period for K-5
- 3/11 - Daylight savings time begins
- 3/14 - Report cards go home
- 3/14 - BOE meeting @ 7pm - Administration Ctr.
- 3/15 - ½ day - K-5 parent conferences - dismissal 11:30
- 3/17 - St. Patrick's Day
- 3/20 - First Day of Spring
- 3/26 - Spring picture day (rescheduled from 3/14)
- 3/28 - BOE meeting @ 7pm - Administration Ctr.
- 3/23 - ½ day - K-12 - Professional Development Day
- 3/30 - 4/6 - Spring Recess - No school
- 4/11 & 4/12 - NYS ELA Exams

