

# **BELL TOP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

## **Principal - Martin Mahar**

39 Reynolds Rd., Troy, NY 12180

December, 2020

### **Principal Reflection**

Students were able to join in their first live virtual character education program this past month. We focused on the theme of being thankful and grateful. [View Character Education Bulletin Board.](#)

### **Bell Top Retirements**

I wish to extend my best wishes and congratulations to our most recent Bell Top retirees. Two of our longtime teaching assistants, Ms. Mary Stewart and Ms. Karen Taylor, have each served over 30 years at Bell Top. Both were instrumental in formulating many of Bell Top's coveted traditions. In addition, our front vestibule secretary, Ms. Linda DeRubertis, has also retired. I thank all of these ladies for their years of dedicated service to the Bell Top community.

### **Welcome Aboard**

I am happy to introduce our two new teaching assistants, Ms. Catherine Regitano and Ms. Coleen Spath to Bell Top Elementary. Both of these ladies come to us with years of experience working closely with teachers and students.

### **Lockdown safety drills**

On December 3rd & 4th we will be practicing required "Lockdown" drills. The NYS Education Department mandates that schools perform four of these drills each year. During these drills the teachers will discuss with the students the purpose of practicing the drill as well as how they should conduct themselves in the event of an actual Lockdown emergency. The students will meet police officers who assist us with the drill while familiarizing themselves with the building. The drills will take place at 10:00 a.m.

### **Bell Top TV Studio**

Last month we kicked-off our all new live Bell Top TV Studio. Fifth grade students get to practice their public speaking skills while conducting the morning announcements to the rest of the student body. All fifth grade students will be given the opportunity to be involved with the TV Studio this year.

### **Holiday wishes**

On behalf of the Bell Top staff, I wish all of our families a safe and peaceful holiday season.

### **December Important Dates**

- ❖ 12/2 - Half day - parent conferences
- ❖ 12/3 & 12/4 - Lockdown drill (10:00 am)
- ❖ 12/7 - Bell Top PTO meeting 7:00 pm
- ❖ 12/8 - District Safety committee virtual meeting @ 6:00 pm
- ❖ 12/9 - Board of Education virtual Meeting @ 7:00 pm

- ❖ 12/24/2020 - 01/01/21 Holiday Recess - No School

Please visit our district website @ <https://egcsd.org/> for any updates or news regarding COVID-19 and the district reopening plan.