



## Smith Spectacular November 21, 2017



We have been adjusting to the cool temperatures here at Smith School. Students go out to recess every day. Please make sure children are ready for whatever mother nature decides to bring!

Reminder, there is no school Wednesday-Friday (Nov. 22-24). We hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Coin Drive! Monetary results will be in the next Smith Spectacular!

Kindergarten has settled in nicely this year, and we are working hard on all of our learning. In math, we continue to work on numbers 0 to 10 and have begun working on addition. In reading, we continue to work on beginning sounds, sight words, rhyming, and syllables. We have begun Writer' s Workshop and are writing pieces that teach. After Thanksgiving we will be working on small moment writing, telling stories about ourselves. We will also begin learning about Wants and Needs—figuring out the things that we must have to survive (like food, water, and shelter) and the things that we would like to have but do not need (like toys, tablets, and cell phones).

If you are in the kindergarten hallway, please take a moment to look at our Family Turkey Project turkeys. Children worked on them with their families. They are all so individual!! We love sharing this project and its results with everyone!

### Library

4th graders are learning about the Maine Student Book Award (MSBA) nominees for this year. The MSBAs are 37 new books selected and compiled by the MSBA committee of teachers, students and librarians throughout the state. All students from grade 4 to 8 who participate and read at least 3 books on the list can vote for their favorite. Reading more than 3 is always encouraged, however! If you are interested and would like more information, please visit <http://msba.umeedu.maine.edu>.

### 2nd grade:

The second graders have been getting ready for Thanksgiving. They made “Thankful Trees” with leaves showing what they are thankful for. After reading the story Thanksgiving at the Tappletons, by Eileen Spinelli, the second graders made up stories about what happened to the turkey at their house. They sure did get creative! Weaving placemats was a fun activity to get ready for our school Thanksgiving Day lunch. They turned out beautiful and full of color!

## Second Grade Researchers

Students in second grade have been studying nonfiction text in reading and writing class. We began this unit discovering text features and their uses. Next, we selected a topic to research and used the text features to quickly locate information.

Students will finish this unit by writing a research book. Students will be including text features in their books.



A SLICE OF PIE!  
(Partners in Education).

Today was the final day of our ANNUAL SMITH SCHOOL COIN DRIVE! Classes have been enjoying weighing their coins at weekly school assemblies and have reached a grand total of 230 pounds of coins! We will announce fundraising totals from the event as soon as all the coins are counted! Thank you to all the families who participated in the fundraiser!

Mark your calendar! PIE's Holiday Movie Night will be held on Friday, Dec. 15th starting at 6:00. Smith School students will soon be voting on which holiday movies will play at the event. Be on the lookout for a flyer coming home soon!

The winner of the fall Box Top grade level contest was...second grade! Nice work, second graders—your grade level brought in the most Box Tops since the beginning of the school year! The last grade level Box Top contest of the school year starts now. The monthly classroom Box Top contests will continue throughout the school year. Mrs. Patterson's first grade

class brought in the most Box Tops per classroom during the month of November and is enjoying a visit from Baxter the Box Top Bear! Which classroom will Baxter visit in December? Let's keep those Box Tops rolling in!

Next PIE meeting date: **Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 6:30** in the library.

Smith School has been selected for the "Hannaford Cause Bag" program! Any time during the month of December, Smith School will receive \$1.00 for every reusable bag (with the "Cause Program" logo) sold. All you need to do is purchase a "Cause Bag" reusable shopping bag for only \$1.00 during December and the money will go directly to support Smith School. This fundraiser is at the Hampden Hannaford only. Thanks for participating!

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday-Friday, Nov. 22-24, No School

Friday, December 8, Early Release (11:30)

Tuesday, December 12, PIE meeting, 6:30 Smith Library

**Wednesday, Dec. 20 – Smith School Field Trip to HA : Holiday Music Concert**

Monday-Monday, Dec. 25-Jan 1, No School. School resumes on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>