

UP TO DATE NEWS!



3 Shaw NEWSFLASH!



The Scoop

Reader's Workshop:

After completing the ELA MCAS, we returned to our Character Unit of Study. We have been reading the text Make Way for Dyanonde Daniel together to compare the main character with the main character from Because of Winn Dixie. The students have also been reading their second book with their book club. They have practiced comparing characters – character traits, how they react to their problems, and which character would make a better friend.

In Writer's Workshop, the students have begun their third Unit of Study: Persuasive Speeches. We have explored topics that will cause positive change – we even toured parts of the school, looked for problems, and then imagined what could be. The students have also practiced writing thesis statements. This week after setting a writing goal and planning strategies to reach that goal, all students chose one idea to be their persuasive speech topic.

Math: We are gearing up for Math MCAS, which will be next week. Currently we're engaging in hands on activities exploring quadrilaterals. We also have been practicing the Math MCAS tools on the MCAS practice site. Below are the links, if you'd like to view the practice site or have your child practice the tools at home:

- [Grade 3 MCAS Practice 1](#)
- [Grade 3 MCAS Practice 2](#)

Social Studies: The class is studying the causes of the Revolutionary War! This week we've been talking about the Boston Massacre. Upcoming topics include the Boston Tea Party, Lexington and Concord, and the Battle of Bunker Hill.



More Classroom Info

WEST Grant

Our second WEST grant presentation is happening May 17th!

- Young Audiences of Massachusetts *presents* John Manning portraying **Benjamin Franklin, Inventor and Statesman**

The final WEST grant presentation will be on June 7th.

- Sheryl Faye *presents* **Helen Keller, Champion of the Disabled:** <http://sherylfaye.com/>

Save the Date:

The children have been working on Step 2 of their VIP project, which is due Monday, May 14th. Their final presentation will be the morning of June 13th. A formal invitation will come home closer to the date – but you may want to put it on the calendar now!



Upcoming Dates

Hint: The links on the online or email version of our newsletter work! Visit our class website.

- May 15-16: Grade 3 MCAS - Math
- May 17: Young Audiences of MA presents Benjamin Franklin
- May 25: Memorial Day Program
- May 28: No School: Memorial Day
- May 29: No School: Staff Development
- May 31: Principals' Coffee March 16
- June 7: Sheryl Faye presents Helen Keller
- June 8: Field Day
- June 13: 3S MA VIP Museum



shaws@wrenthamschools.org

3Shaw Webpage



Reminders

MCAS: May 15th and 16th

Some studies have shown that sucking on mints during testing improves performance. Conclusions of these studies have described decreased anxiety and increased focus during **long** testing sessions. If you feel this would benefit your child and would like to provide **your child** with mints, the 3rd grade team asks that you follow these guidelines for MCAS:

- Mints only (peppermint is recommended)
- No other candy will be permitted.
- Individual pieces – 5 or 6 per day is plenty! - must be unwrapped and placed in baggie (i.e. Ziploc)
- Mints will **not** be shared with other students.
- The mints are only for MCAS test dates.
- When testing is over any remaining pieces will be placed in the child's backpack to go home.

Field Day T-shirts:

Please send in \$7 (cash) by Monday, May 14th, to order your child's t-shirt. Another copy of the form will go home with this newsletter. It's also on our website. Our HRP will be placing the order next week. Thank you if you already sent your child's in!