



Principal's Message:

May certainly started at Simonds with a bang, or should I say a leak? It was definitely a whirlwind of activity here last week from the discovery of the water main leak to planning our trip to the middle school. All in all, it went smoothly and was actually a great opportunity for Simonds students and staff to see how the middle schools works. I overheard many students say, "Can we come back here again tomorrow?" We have been learning about idioms this month and this event definitely was a 'blessing in disguise.' Moving forward, we know that in an emergency we can spend the day at the middle school and it also brought a new level of comfort for many students about the 'big school.'

As always, May is a busy month for us! We have about 25 school days left to accomplish many things. Most grade levels have at least one field trip planned for this time. Please remember, in order to chaperone a group you must be fingerprinted with the district. We are also in the midst of our **end of year benchmark assessments**. All students will complete their AIMSweb and/or Early Bird benchmark assessments in the next few weeks. You should receive a report of student progress in your child's 4th quarter report card. Our 3rd through 5th graders will start working on their state assessments the week we return from Memorial Day weekend. Many of our WIN groups will be canceled over the next two weeks in order to complete these tests. This will be a great chance for teachers and students to reflect on growth from fall to spring.

We have also planned a 5th grade celebration for Monday, June 17th at 4pm. **Parents of 5th graders are encouraged to attend.** There will be more to come on the details of this event later in the month. This celebration will include a short ceremony and then a chance for parents and students to visit classrooms one last time. It should be finished by 5 pm in case students need to get to evening sporting events.

I also wanted to share a change that will be coming for next year. The school board, as recommended by the district transportation committee, approved a change to our start and end times next year. This change will allow for Simonds students to be separated on the buses from middle and high school students. It may also assist with length of bus rides in the afternoon and driver shortages. Some of this is a prediction, but the committee remains hopeful. For Simonds, our new start time will likely be 8:45 with an end time of 3:15. There will be a lot more to come on this topic, I'm sure, from the SAU and school board over the summer.

Lastly, a huge thank you to parents and the PTO for planning **Staff Appreciation** festivities last week. Staff enjoyed all the great foods and our staff room received an incredible facelift! This was a great chance for me personally to reflect on how lucky we are here at Simonds to have an amazing and dedicated staff. Simonds is truly a special place for students to learn as a direct result of caring teachers who always put students first. We are truly lucky!

Important Dates:



- Thursday, 5/16 - No School - Professional Development Day
- Tuesday, & Wednesday, 5/21 & 22 - 5th Grade to Camp Coniston - Overnight
- Friday, 5/24 - Kindergarten/1st Grade to Polar Caves
- Monday, 5/27 - No School - Memorial Day
- Tuesday, 5/28 - Memorial Day Assembly - 9:00 am
- Wednesday, 5/29 - Kearsarge Spelling League Championship
- Tuesday, 6/4 - Kearsarge Math League Championship
- Wednesday, 6/5 - 4th Grade to Strawberry Banke
- Friday, 6/7 - 2nd Grade to Squam Lake Science Center
- Wednesday, 6/12 - 3rd Grade to Odiorne State Park
- Thursday, 6/13 - 5th Grade Step-up Day
- Friday, 6/14 - Kindergarten to Montshire Museum
- Monday, 6/17 - Field Day
- Tuesday, 6/18 - Last Day, Davis Awards, Family Cookout, Early Release (noon)

6/18 - Last Day of School Schedule

Davis Awards - AT SIMONDS SCHOOL

10:00 am

11:00 am - Simonds PTO Sponsored Cook-Out

12:00 pm DISMISSAL

NOTES FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE:

We are seeing quite a bit of red, bloodshot, and itchy eyes likely due to pollen and allergies. Only bacterial conjunctivitis (bloodshot eyes with thick crusty discharge) is excluded from school until an antibiotic has been started. Eyes that are irritated by allergies can still be uncomfortable and bothersome for students at school. There are many over-the-counter allergy medications and eye drops available that may be worth discussing with your child's primary care physician. The ticks are out! Please remember to do daily tick checks on your child. Prompt removal of ticks helps prevent tick borne diseases. See this link [Tick Free NH](#) for more information on the prevention, removal, and identification of ticks.

PTO NEWS

Our annual Read-A-Thon was a huge success! Simonds students raised \$2,350.00 for the PTO to support our school community after reading at total of 54,151 minutes!!!

Our final virtual meeting before summer break is June 5th. Please join us as we look into next year for new fundraising opportunities and ideas of ways we can further support our learning community.

We hope you enjoy our May [Newsletter!](#)

Boys & Girls Club News: Boys & Girls Club will be open from 7am to 6pm on the professional development day (Thursday, May 16) at Simonds School. Applications for summer camp are out! For more information ask your club member or reach out to Justin at bleakley@nhyouth.org.



Message from Pillsbury Free Library

Last after school craft of this school year, Tuesday, May 21st, 3-4:00. Please be sure to sign up with Miss Sue and Mrs. Grimes.

The library will be closed Monday, May 27th, for Memorial Day.

Last POKEMON club meeting for this school year is June 11th, 3-5:00 at the library. Register with Miss Sue and Mrs. Grimes.

Summer reading program starts July 9th. Brochures will be distributed soon.

If you have an incoming kindergarten student for the 2024-25 school year and have not [registered](#) please reach out to the main office for a registration packet at 603-456-2241 or wgrimes@kearsarge.org

On Thursday, May 9th Simonds School relocated to KRMS due to a water main break. We all enjoyed our day there and wish to thank the Middle School not only for sharing your space with us but for all your kindness and assistance on that day.

