

# Principal's Newsletter

Asa C. Adams Elementary School  
Issue No. 16, March 2020

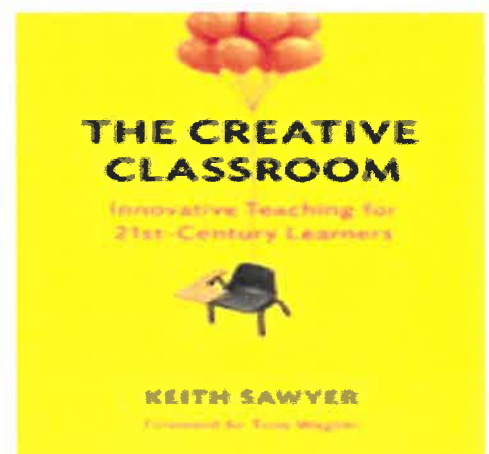


March 10	Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration	3:15-6:00 pm
March 12	Arts and Literacy Night	5:00-6:00 pm
	Show Choir Performance	6:00-7:00 pm
March 14	Orono Farmers' Market	9:00 am-12:00 pm
March 17	All Bands Concert at Hauk Auditorium (UMO)	6:30 pm
March 18	Grade K-3 Spring Concert Hauck Auditorium	6:00 pm-7:00 pm
March 20	In-Service Day (Teachers Only, No Students)	
March 28	Orono Farmers' Market	9:00 am-12:00pm

## Always Learning: Professional Development at Asa

Dear Families,

You probably know our teachers participate in rigorous trainings in areas including but not limited to safety, confidentiality, and emergency response. There is, however, a vast diversity of professional development our teachers use to enrich their practice and stay current with new research. Aside from our regular PLCs (Professional Learning Communities), which typically focus on content-related practices such as literacy, math, and science, we also support teachers who have different interests. For example, in our most recent Book Study Groups, teachers choose one of four texts. The selection of the texts was based on input provided to our Leadership Team, a representative group of staff who help make decisions about our vision of learning and culture at Asa C. Adams School.

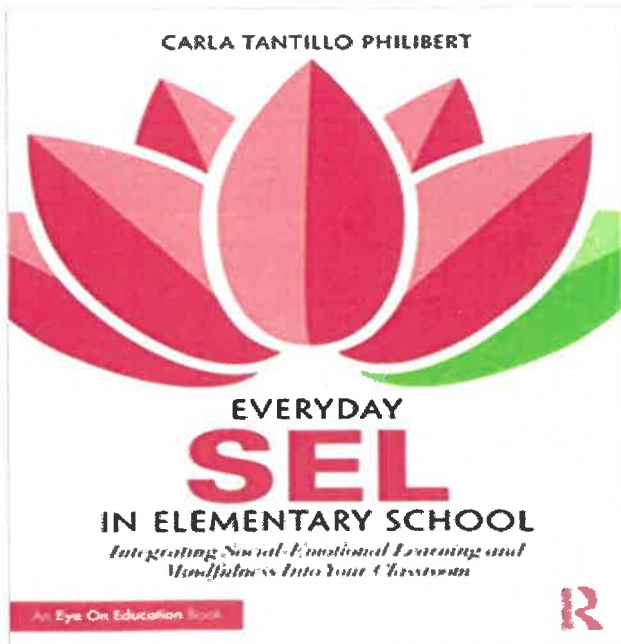




It may interest you to know that Asa teachers and specialists have chosen from a selection of subjects that include creativity in the classroom, executive functioning (brain-based research for classroom application), trauma-informed teaching strategies to assist students who may be struggling with significant emotional issues, and mindfulness-related Social-Emotional Learning approaches.

At Asa, we teach our students to use a Growth Mindset, which is a willingness to continue to learn and avoid fixed perceptions. Our staff models this belief as well. In addition to Book Studies, you should know that our excellent teachers and specialists attend many workshops, seminars, and presentations by experts in their fields every year. At Asa, we work as a learning organization, where every person continues to grow.

Sincerely,  
Darren J. Akerman, Ed. D.  
Principal



**Reminder**  
Please submit recipes, pre-order forms and checks (made out to Asa Adams PTO) in by Friday March 6, 2020. Just to remind you, the money raised from this project directly funds the Memory yearbooks that each child receives at the end of the year at no cost. For more information email us at: [asaadamspto@rsu26.org](mailto:asaadamspto@rsu26.org)





BRIDGES TO  
LEARNING



Science | Technology | Engineering | Arts | Mathematics

EDUCATION UM Orono 2014

On **April 2<sup>nd</sup>**, Asa C. Adams will be presenting their traditional Math Night in a new format—STEAM! But before that our students have been using the theme of Bridges to Learning as they literally build various types of bridges. These young engineers have learned about collaboration, construction, design and an array of other connected ideas. Working in partnership with the University of Maine at Orono for materials, we had enough for every class.



## Safety Information re: Coronavirus

*School districts recently received information from the MDOE, in coordination with the Maine CDC, regarding planning and precautions in light of the Coronavirus outbreak occurring internationally. Although there is not a confirmed case in the State of Maine, the Maine CDC and Maine Department of Education encouraged all schools to review emergency plans and communicate universal precautions to our communities.*

*Orono schools have been following universal precautions and monitoring influenza and illnesses over the last few months and will continue with these practices. Parents, students, and employees are reminded of the importance of staying home if you have a fever and are not feeling well.*

***The best preventive measures for all infectious diseases include washing hands thoroughly with soap and water, covering your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing, and staying home when you feel sick. Additionally, frequently touched objects and surfaces should be regularly cleaned and disinfected.***

*Attached is a fact sheet on the Coronavirus from the Maine CDC. If you have symptoms, it is important to follow up with your medical provider. Should we receive updated information, we will keep you informed.*

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention  
**2019 Novel Coronavirus  
(2019-nCoV)**



Fact Sheet



2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a respiratory illness. It is caused by a coronavirus.



2019-nCoV cases are very rare in the United States and occur in people returning from Wuhan, China.

**Common Signs and Symptoms**



Fever



Cough



Shortness of Breath  
and Trouble Breathing

Severe disease can cause pneumonia, kidney failure, and death.



If you have symptoms and traveled to Wuhan or had contact with an infected person, call your healthcare provider. Tell them your travel history and if you were around someone ill with 2019-nCoV.

**100 Days of School at Asa**



It is an annual custom at Asa C. Adams Elementary School to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school. This milestone takes many forms. Younger students arrived with a vast assortment of models to celebrate 100 days: pennies, Sweden Fish, toothpicks and more imaginative items than anyone could count. There were indeed celebrations, marches, and the sharing of the idea that 100 days of school is a landmark. Congratulations to our students—and to the Asa teachers, who make certain all students celebrate the joy of learning.



## The Owl Man Comes to Asa



First Grade Students has the unique opportunity to end their unit of study on Owls and the environment with a visit from, Grayson, who goes by the name, 'The Owl Man.' Grayson has taken up the role his father once served for many public schools. As a certified wildlife expert, Grayson shared many facts about owls and their habitats. Students were fascinated to see a live owl, and they were cautioned well in advance to be still and quiet so that the owl was comfortable in this human environment. Thank you to the Grade One team for their collaborative efforts to make this visit of learning a reality.

## Force and Motion: Mr. Soderburg's class



Mr. Soderburg's Third Grade students have been studying Force and Motion, a unit within our Science curriculum. Typically, as with all our students, teachers use a combination of hands-on materials and concept-based designs. This particular unit incorporated a variety of information from multi-media sources. Student collaborated to discover scientific evidence supporting their hypotheses. We are proud of the way Asa teachers share resources and knowledge.

# Pre-K/Kindergarten Screening

We have chosen Thursday, April 30 and Friday, May 1 as our Pre K and Kindergarten screening dates. Though that may seem far away, we wanted to give our current PreK families a chance to sign up for a screening slot. We will **NOT** have regular PreK or Kindergarten on these dates; you will need to bring your child in for a 45 minute screening appointment.

The screening consists of the following:

- A developmental assessment with our Kindergarten team
- A gross motor assessment with our PE teacher
- A vision screening with our School Nurse
- A hearing & speech evaluation with our Speech Language Pathologist team

Please choose at least one of the following options and return by Tuesday, March 3rd. We will do our best to accommodate each time slot requested. Please keep in mind that these times will not be finalized until we mail out confirmation dates in April. Please call the office (866-2151) with any questions. Thank you!

LUNCH					MARCH 2020				
Lunch \$2.60 Milk \$0.50					ASA C. Adams Elementary School				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Cheesy Monday</b> 2 Chicken Alfredo w/ Fettuccini *Salad Bar	<b>Taco Tuesday</b> 3 Beef or Bean Taco Corn Tortilla Boat *Salad Bar	<b>Pizza with Mrs. Fo</b> 4 Handmade Cheese Pizza On whole grain Dough *Salad Bar	<b>Take-out</b> 5 Sweet & Sour Chicken Fried Rice *Salad Bar	<b>ASA Snackable</b> 6 Turkey, cheese, grapes & Flatbread *Salad Bar	<b>Pasta Amore</b> 9 Spaghetti & Marinara Cheesy Garlic Bread *Salad Bar	<b>Tuesday Tenders</b> 10 Whole grain Chicken Tenders Green Peas *Salad Bar	<b>Wednesday Warm</b> 11 Cinnamon French Toast Bake Blueberry Sauce *Salad Bar	<b>Pizza with Mrs. Fo</b> 12 Handmade Cheese Pizza On whole grain Dough *Salad Bar	<b>Fish Friday</b> 13 Breaded Pollock French Fries *Salad Bar
<b>Soup &amp; Sandwich</b> 16 Toasted Cheese Hearty Tomato Soup *Salad Bar	<b>Tuesday Tenders</b> 17 Whole grain Chicken Tenders Steamed Broccoli *Salad Bar	<b>Pizza with Mrs. Fo</b> 18 Handmade Cheese Pizza On whole grain Dough *Salad Bar	<b>Deli Boardwalk</b> 19 Turkey & Cheese Subs Whole grain Roll Baked Lays *Salad Bar	<b>No School</b> 20	<b>Dipping Day</b> 23 Cheesy Breadsticks Marinara Sauce *Salad Bar	<b>Tuesday Tenders</b> 24 Whole grain Chicken Tenders French Fries *Salad Bar	<b>Nacho Bar</b> 25 Corn Tortilla Chips Cheesy Sauce *Salad Bar	<b>Pizza with Mrs. Fo</b> 26 Handmade Cheese Pizza On whole grain Dough *Salad Bar	<b>Breakfast For lunch</b> 27 Assorted whole Grain Cereal Cheese Stick Yogurt Cup *Salad Bar
<b>Burger Time</b> 30 Char Broiled Burgers Whole grain Bun French Fries *Salad Bar	<b>Tuesday Tenders</b> 31 Whole grain Chicken Tenders Steamed Corn *Salad Bar								

Lunch Menu includes minimum of an Entrée, Whole Grain, Fruit, Veg, and Milk (low fat regular and fat free flavored). Students must take a fruit or vegetable. \*Salad Bar is included with lunch and offers different items daily, which include fruits and vegetables, salads, and items to go with daily menu. **Menus are subject to change without notice**



This institution is an equal opportunity employer





**And then there was our sledding party! Thanks to the Asa Staff for their good spirits and support.**

