



OSPREY NEWS

NOVEMBER 8, 2020

Dear MBS Families,

I hope you have all enjoyed the beautiful weather this weekend! I wanted to share a few updates and changes that we will be making at MBS over the next few weeks.

As Superintendent Minor shared on Friday, November 6th, all CSD elementary schools are working hard to ensure compliance with the distancing guidelines recently updated by the State Agency of Education and the Vermont Department of Health.

Throughout the school we are in the process of rearranging classrooms, removing non-essential furniture, purchasing new student desks and making adjustments so our students are able to properly distance. Over the next week, MBS administration will be in touch with individual grade levels about any changes effective November 16th that will impact that grade level as a result of the new guidance. We appreciate your understanding in this process.

The change to the physical distancing requirements is directly impacting our ability to shift any interested students from a virtual classroom to an in-person classroom. Thank you for your patience as we further develop our plans to bring interested virtual learning students back to in-person instruction. If your MBS student is currently enrolled as an in-person learner and wishes to switch to a virtual learning classroom, please reach out to me at jordan.burke@colchestersd.org.

All students should bring their Chromebooks to and from school each day. This is so students can be prepared in the event a class has to quickly shift to remote learning for a short period of time. Please remind your child to bring their Chromebook and charger to school each morning.

The playground is now open for students. It is still closed in the morning because we are still avoiding mixing cohort groups but students are able to use it during the day.

Respectfully,

Ms. Burke

Upcoming Dates

November 9th: Picture Retake Day; 1:00 - 5:00 pm

November 12: MBS PTA Meeting, 6:00 - 7:00 Link Sent out via School Messenger

November 23 and 24th: MBS Conferences: No School

November 25th - 27th: School Recess

NURSE UPDATES

This year it's hard to balance our desire to celebrate the holidays with loved ones and the growing risk of COVID-19 infection. Travel or gathering does increase your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19, so we are asking families to think about how they can make their holiday plans safer. Make safety a priority for your family and take these steps:

1. [Check the map](#) to find out the risk of COVID-19 infection at your destination
2. Decide if the [risk](#) is worth it for your family
3. [Plan](#) to have a safe trip or gathering, remain flexible and get your [flu shot](#) and
4. [Quarantine](#) when you return.



You can celebrate the holidays, but like other aspects of our lives right now, they will likely look different. Take extra precautions when attending or hosting an event and insist that people wear masks, keep gatherings small and cancel if anybody in your family is sick. More information can be found on the Health Department [website](#) and you can email with questions.

ALSO, JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER TO WASH MASKS DAILY TO HELP KEEP THEM CLEAN AND GERM-FREE!

UNIFIED ARTS CONFERENCES

If you would like to schedule a conference with a Unified Arts teacher, please email them directly before November 20th.

- Art - Katie Miller; katie.miller@colchestersd.org

Hannah Terracino is currently on family leave

- Guidance - Sim Peltier; simrat.peltier@colchestersd.org
- Library - Carole Oglesby; carole.oglesby@colchestersd.org
- Music - Tyler Mast; tyler.mast@colchestersd.org
- Physical Education - Ryan Kluk; ryan.kluk@colchestersd.org
- Physical Education - Elizabeth Eastman;
elizabeth.eastman@colchestersd.org

COURTESY POSTINGS

A new 4-H club is forming for youth age 8-18 that will be based in Colchester. Members may join from any town though! The project area focus will likely include animals, community service, hiking, cooking and crafts.

Club meetings (probably Mondays) will be held virtually initially and then (potentially) face to face in the future.

Interested in joining? Contact Tiera Porter at tiera.porter@uvm.edu if you are interested in learning more, and click the link to read more about it!