



CRMS Schooner News

Kindness

Responsibility

Self Control

Grit

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, 2/2 - Sunday, 2/4 - National Toboggan Races, Camden Snow Bowl

Monday, 2/5, 5:15pm, CRMS Library - CRSA Monthly Meeting.

Wednesday, 2/7 - EARLY RELEASE DAY, 2pm dismissal.

Wednesday, 2/7 - 5th & 6th grade Ping Pong club, see page 6 for details!

Friday, 2/9, 6:30-8:30pm - 7th & 8th grade Winter Dance, \$5.00 admission and concessions - pick up PROMPTLY at 8:30pm!

2/14, Happy Valentines Day!



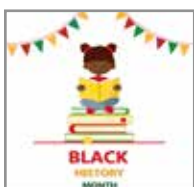
Wednesday, 2/14, 7pm @ Rose Hall - Camden Schools Board meeting.

Friday, 2/16 - EARLY RELEASE DAY, 12:15pm dismissal.



Monday, 2/18 - Friday, 2/22 - February Break, **NO SCHOOL.**

Tuesday, 2/27 - 8th grade groups in NAEP assessment.



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Schooners and Schooner Families,

Congratulations on successfully completing the first half of the year! Help me spread the love as we celebrate so many accomplishments this year!

We have so much to be proud of here at CRMS...

- Several amazing academic projects culminated in December for each of our grade levels! The work on display was of remarkable quality! Thank you to so many of you who made it in for school events in grades 5 and 7!

- Many of our students participate in co-curricular activities at school that have resulted in awards, performances, and joy! Here are just some of what has been happening!

- Student Council
- Chess Team
- Fall and winter sports
- Band
- Chorus
- Art club
- Homework Club
- Yearbook
- Our spring play
- Tech Crew
- Robotics
- And more!!

CRMS is a vibrant, joyful and busy place every single day!

This is possible because of the dedication of our staff, club leaders, coaches and parents! Join me in thanking everyone who helps make this possible! We appreciate all you do to help your child fully engage in the CRMS experience!

Sincerely,

Jaime Stone
Principal

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Camden-Rockport Middle School will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on Tuesday, February 27, 2024. NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subjects. NAEP is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from our state assessments because it is a common measure of achievement across the country. The results are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents/guardians, policymakers, and the public.

Your child (will/may) take a mathematics or reading assessment. In addition to subject-area questions, students voluntarily complete NAEP survey questions. These questions provide valuable information about participating students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn both in and outside of the classroom. Additionally, American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) students will be included in the National Indian Education Study (NIES). NIES describes the condition of education for AI/AN students in the United States. More information about NAEP survey questions is available at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/parents> under the section "What Questions Are on the Test?"

The assessment takes about 120 minutes for most students, which includes transition time, directions, and completion of survey questions.

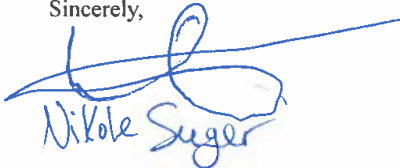
The information collected is used for statistical purposes only.

- Your child's grades will not be affected.
- Students may be excused for any reason, are not required to complete the assessment, and may skip any question.
- While the assessment is voluntary, NAEP depends on student participation to help policymakers improve education. However, if you do not want your child to participate, please notify me in writing by Monday, February 26, 2024.

There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP, but please encourage your child to do their best. Contact Jaime Stone at (207) 236-7805 or at jaime.stone@fivetowns.net if you have any questions.

We are excited that our school is participating in NAEP. We know that Camden-Rockport Middle School's students will show what our nation's students know and can do.

Sincerely,



Nikole Sugar

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) conducts the National Assessment of Educational Progress to evaluate federally supported education programs. All of the information you provide may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law (20 U.S.C. §9573 and 6 U.S.C. §151). By law, every NCES employee as well as every NCES agent, such as contractors and NAEP coordinators, has taken an oath and is subject to a jail term of up to 5 years, a fine of \$250,000, or both if he or she willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you. Electronic submission of your information will be monitored for viruses, malware, and other threats by Federal employees and contractors in accordance with the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015.



7TH GRADE NEWS!

As part of their DNA study to answer the essential question "what makes me, me?" on a biological basis, students extracted DNA from strawberries and were able to visualize the molecules and quantify the mass of the DNA.



5TH GRADE ART SHOW!

Page Art Gallery in Camden is hosting their annual Youth Arts month. The theme is Still Life and our 5th grade art class students are working on Still Life paintings of stuffed animals. The show will run the month of February. Please stop by and see the show!





ALL FOUR CRMS BASKETBALL TEAMS ARE IN THE BUSLINE CHAMPIONSHIP!

The CRMS 7th Grade Girls Basketball team finished the season 10-1!
The 8th Grade Girls finished 12-0! Both teams play in the Busline League Championship this Saturday, Feb. 3rd at Oceanside High School!
7th girls - 11:30 am • 8th girls - 3pm.

7th Grade Boys Basketball were 8-4 in the regular season and 1-0 in the playoffs. They won their first playoff game and are headed to the championship game on Saturday, Feb 3rd at Oceanside Middle School. Each player has improved tremendously this season!

8th Grade Boys Basketball won their playoff game and will also be in the Championship this Saturday, Feb. 3rd! 7th boys-10 am • 8th boys - 1:30 pm.



CRMS CHESS CLUB • MLK Chess Tournament Jan 15, 2024

Lincolnton Central School hosted the biggest ever MLK Day chess tournament with the help of parents and chess coaches. We had 70 contestants: 54 boys, 16 girls and a whopping 12 kids in K/1 (the old record was 4)! It was a fun tournament designed to get lots of games in between 9 AM & noon. If this were State we'd get two to four games played in three hours. While it may have seemed chaotic at times, we tried to keep the time between games to a minimum. Most kids played at least eight games while some played fourteen to eighteen!

Most contestants came from Camden, Belfast, Rockport, Lincolnton and Hope. Many Home Schooled kids came too! Home Schoolers should know that they can attend chess at their local school and play in the State Team Chess Championship on March 9 (see chessmaine.net) for the school closest to their home that has a chess team. Soon I'll dye my hair red and blue so it will be ready for the kids at the schools that do the best at State to shave my head.

Chess is free everywhere I teach. Tuesdays: CRES 2:30-3:30; Wednesdays: Thursdays: Camden Hills HS 2:15-3:15 & CRMS with Kate Kaplan 3:20 – 4:20. You can join at any time and all levels are welcome! Email me: BruceHaffner@gmail.com. Here is a NBC video about my chess program: [MrBruce](#).

Chess is an amazing activity because it teaches how to put together a logical argument, on the fly, often under time pressure. There is no chance in chess: the loser almost always announces what happened with: "Oh! I didn't see that!".

The essence of chess is learning how to see the future by calculating the results of forcing moves, visualizing them in your mind (without being able to see the moves on the board) and understanding the results. Howard Gardner, author of the excellent "Multiple Intelligences", says that a good chess player who can see ahead in a game has spatial intelligence, the foundation of creativity. We all carry more knowledge than we will ever need in our cell phones. Teaching how to find and use what is known defines our obligation to our children. Chess teaches creativity which will benefit our kids in school, sports and life!

A great way to improve is get on my weekly email list: I send puzzles with answers. Another is come to class with your child: parents (and grandparents) are always welcome! Play games on chess.com or lichess.org. Be careful: the chat box can be abusive (very seldom in my experience). After you play a game click "self-analysis" and go over your game, move by move, to see what you missed. Don't miss summer chess camp June 24-28, half or full days, from 9-3 at George Hill Farm in Hope!

Thanks to Justin Bennett (LCS's new principal) for the use of his wonderful school, and everyone who helped at the tournament: Jacqui Gage, Kate Kaplan, Russ Kizor, Jess Mazur, Justin Mazur, Holly Merrow, Nick Ling and Freddy Wolpers.

Here are the top finishers:

Grades 4/5 Girls: 4th: Dorothy Smith, CRMS. Boys: 1st: Will Kaplan, CRMS. 2nd: Jack Mortlock, CRMS.

Grades 6/8 Girls: 1st: Ruth Prendergast, CRMS. Boys: Tie 1st: Jules Richardson, CRMS. 1st: Silas Ociepka, TH. Tie 3rd: Oliver Mitchell, CRMS. 3rd: Jacob



CHESS CAMP !!


GEORGE HILL FARM

1 George Hill Road, Hope, ME 04847

June 24-28




Join us at the barn at George Hill Farm for an amazing camp experience! This is for children 2nd - 9th in the fall! Beginners are welcome for one-on-one and small group learning sessions. Learn bughouse (team chess) & play in the camp championship for trophies (everyone wins one, some are bigger than others)! Learn thinking and problem solving skills that help in school and in sports! Chess wires your child's brain for math, science and creative thinking by teaching concentration, logic and calculation. Problem solving skills are the basis of all learning and are key to success in school and the workplace!


Eli Slaughter, one of the State's best high school players along with others in high school: Miles Gupta, James Kimmitt, Walter Fields and Kate Kaplan, a crack Tournament Director, will be helping me. 9 AM - 3 PM: Full camp: \$200, half days: \$100. I'm flexible: 3 hours \$20, all day \$40. Wear sneakers and a cap and bring sunscreen, lotion, lunch, drink and snack! Reserve your spot, no obligation to attend! Space is limited. Scholarships are available. Contact me! If you paid for another camp (6-24-28) tell me and come for free. Parents are welcome anytime! Be a helper and one child is free. First come, first served. Register via email, pay when you get to camp at the barn, 1 George Hill Road, Hope. Full refunds at any time for any reason. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call or text me: 847-987-3091 BruceHaffner@gmail.com



6th graders having fun and ice skating as a CREW at the MRC!





8th grade at MRC!





CRMS SPELLING BEE WINNERS!

Congratulations Ami, 1st place, Madden, 2nd place, and Robert, 3rd place!

Good luck to Ami and Madden in the Knox County Bee in February!



Five Town Little League 2024 Registration is NOW OPEN!



Five Town Little League registration for the 2024 season is now open for all players ages 5 – 12!

Please visit the FTL website today to sign up for the season, as well as the below indoor clinics and baseball/softball major evaluations at The Pitch in Warren.

Please note that signing up for the clinics or evaluations will NOT register your player for the season, that must be done separately.

REGISTER FOR INDOOR CLINICS, EVALUATIONS AND THE 2024 SEASON TODAY AT:

www.fivetownlittleleague.org

TUESDAY CLINICS (6-7pm for 7-9 year olds and 7-8pm for 10-12 year olds):
2/27 - Baseball
3/5 - Softball
3/12 - Baseball
3/19 - Softball
3/26 - Baseball

SATURDAY CLINICS (12:30-1:30pm for 7-9 year olds and 1:30-2:30pm for 10-12 year olds):
3/2 - Softball
3/9 - Baseball
3/16 - Softball
3/23 - Baseball
3/30 - Softball

EVALUATIONS (returning Major players do NOT need to attend, this is for NEW players only)
4/6 - 12:30-2:00pm - Softball
4/6 - 2:00-3:30pm - Baseball

Please email mainefivetownlittleleague@gmail.com with any questions. You can also follow us on Facebook at Five Town Little League. Let's play ball!



Modeling Matters:
What Parents Need to Know and Do to Decrease Stress, Worry and Anxiety With Lynn Lyons, LICSW

Thanks to all who came out for the Lynn Lyons Parent workshop - it was a great event!
Please click [HERE](#) for more information!

If I'm uncomfortable or unsure or nervous as I'm learning something new, I'm on the right track...

CRITICAL ATTITUDINAL SHIFT!

Punxsutawney Phil, the renowned groundhog who's been predicting when winter will end since 1887, says things are about to warm up! He did NOT see his shadow on Groundhog Day this February 2, 2024, so we may have an early spring!



FROM THE HEALTH DESK.....



February is Children's Dental Health Month!
celebrate with the Maine CDC
School Oral Health Program's

2024 Poster Contest!

CLICK HERE FOR INFO

**GRADES PK-6TH
WITH 4 AGE
CATEGORIES!**

**DEADLINE – THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 29, 2024**

This year's theme:
**"HEALTHY HABITS FOR
HEALTHY SMILES!"**

All posters should be horizontal, 8.5" x 11", and include the name, grade, and school in the lower right corner!

Winners will receive an awesome prize package!

**SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE
EMAILED TO SOHP@MCD.ORG**

*SHOW YOUR
TEETH SOME
LOVE THIS
VALENTINE'S
DAY!*

February is
National Children's
Dental Health Month

**15th Annual
Lyme Disease Awareness
K-8th Poster Contest**

Theme: Little Tick, Big Deal

Contest Rules:

- Eligibility:** Contest open for any child in Maine, K-8th grade or equivalent age.
- Number of Entries:** Submit only one poster per child.
- Release:** Each submission **MUST** have a signed release waiver.
- Deadline:** Entries must be received by Maine CDC by Tuesday, April 30, 2024. See address below.
- Judging:** Maine CDC employees judge and vote on winning posters.
- Winners and Recognition:** Maine CDC will notify winners by Friday May 24, 2024. A total of 4 winners will be chosen (one each for grades K-1, 2-3, 4-5, and 6-8).
 - Winners receive a one-day family pass to a Maine State Park of their choice. Each member of the winner's family or classroom will also receive a tick removal kit.
- Property:** All posters become the property of Maine CDC and will not be returned. Maine CDC may duplicate the posters to use as part of the Lyme Disease Awareness promotional efforts but in no instance will this involve monetary transactions. If a child/parent/guardian does not want the poster to be duplicated, "DO NOT DUPLICATE" must be printed on the back of the poster.
- Send poster entries to:**
 - Infectious Disease Epidemiology
 - Maine CDC
 - 285 Water St, 6th floor
 - Augusta, ME 04333-0011

Poster Design:

- Art Medium:** Poster submission may use drawing, painting, photography, or other digital medium. Submissions must be original work by child. No AI generated art accepted.
- Size:** Maximum size is 12x18 inches. Please do not laminate or mount posters.
- Submissions:** Print the following information on the back of each poster entry:
 - Child's name
 - Grade
 - Teacher's name
 - School name
 - Child's address
 - Contact phone number

Winning Posters Should:

- Show the importance of preventing tick bites to stop Lyme disease and other tickborne diseases.
- Illustrate at least 1 of the 4 approaches to personal protection:
 - Use caution in tick-infested areas.
 - Use an EPA-approved repellent.
 - Wear protective clothing.
 - Perform daily tick checks.
- Learn more at www.maine.gov/lyme.
- Be creative, colorful, and easily seen from a distance.

Questions? Email the Vectorborne Disease Health Educator: [Megan.Porter@maine.gov](mailto: Megan.Porter@maine.gov)

**The first Ping Pong club is
Wednesday, February 7th!**

Ping Pong club will be once per month on early release Wednesdays at the First Congregational Church for 5th and 6th graders. Kids can walk to the church after school. We will finish at 3:30.

Please contact Marianne Bernadino at bern0368@gmail.com with questions and to get a copy of the permission slip.

We welcome volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering at Ping Pong Club, please let Marianne know and she will send you the background check to be completed prior to volunteering.

CRMS Presents:

A Winter Dance!

for CRMS 7th & 8th Grade Students (only)

Friday, February 9th
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
\$5 admission

♡ Casual Dress Code ♡
Concessions Available
Firepits Outside

**LOST AND
FOUND**

OUR RACKS ARE OVERFLOWING AND WE WOULD LOVE TO GET THESE ITEMS BACK TO YOUR STUDENTS! IF YOU ARE MISSING THINGS AT HOME, PLEASE PLAN TO STOP BY QUICKLY AT ARRIVAL OR DISMISSAL AND TAKE A LOOK TO SEE IF IT MIGHT BE HERE! WE WILL DONATE EVERYTHING TO A LOCAL ORGANIZATION OTHERWISE. THANK YOU!



Wintery Mix

for Middle Schoolers over February Break

2/20-23 9-1PM

the best activity for the weather

- CROSS COUNTRY SKIING
- ICE FISHING
- POND SKATING
- WINTER SURVIVAL
- ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED

\$190 scholarships available



www.sundogoe.com/winter-expeditions-2024

FEDCO SEEDS

Teacher/Coordinator _____ Grade _____
 Student _____
 Customer Name _____
 Address _____
 Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____

FUNDRAISERS

CAMDEN-ROCKPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SEED SALE

Support the students and share the joy of gardening!
 The school receives 50% of every sale.

Online orders are encouraged to keep costs low. If you are unable to order online, please submit this order form and payment to fundraiser coordinator Any Brega by the order deadline.


Checks should be made payable to Camden Rockport Elementary School.

All orders will be shipped to the fundraiser coordinator approximately one week after the deadline.


Scan here to shop.

CHOOSE FROM 50 EASY-TO-GROW VARIETIES

SEE REVERSE FOR LISTING



Shop online at: <https://fedcoseeds.com/fundraisers/CAM-ROCK-ELEM-24>



SEE REVERSE FOR SEED VARIETY LISTING

CLICK HERE FOR INFO



SUMMER CAMP

2024 Summer Camp

Six weeks of your choice...
June 17 - August 16
at a reduced rate for Camden residents

Online Registration for Camden Residents and YMCA Members opens
Monday, February 5 at 8:00 AM

Day Camp is one of the best ways for kids to spend their summer, learning new skills, playing fun games, and making and strengthening friendships.

For six weeks of any of the nine weeks offered, beginning June 17, Camden residents can sign up for **Basic Snow Bowl Camp** for a reduced rate. This camp is geared for younger campers, grades 2-5, and provides ample opportunities for summer fun! Snow Bowl camps must be 7 years old at the start of their camp week.

Camden residents will have an **early registration** opportunity starting February 5, 2024 at the subsidized rate. Registration is through Penobscot Bay YMCA. Camp will begin and end each day of the Snow Bowl, as well as Before and After Care programs, which must be requested and paid for in-advance of registration.

More space has been made available for camp this year, so if you are a Camden resident in need of summer camp for your kiddos, visit the links below for more details and sign up starting February 5 to secure your space(s).

Registration can be for all six weeks of your choice, or by the week as needed.
 Click here for more information
 Additional weeks, as well as Before and After Care weeks are available at YMCA rates.

Snow Bowl Camp (grades 2-5)

Reduced rates for Camden Residents

Snow Bowl Camp
 Six weeks of camp: \$400
 Weekly rate: \$140




Nature-Based Pre-k Program

2024 - 25 School Year Enrollment

The Camden Rockport Elementary School will be accepting applications for the nature-based PreK Program beginning Oct. 15, 2023. Limited space is available.

Program Highlights

- Extensive outdoor time for learning in nature.
- Curriculum driven by child's interest/seasonal themes.
- Emphasizes learning with nature.
- Four full days for students: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri.



Eligibility:
 Children 4 years of age on or before October 15, 2024 who reside in Camden or Rockport.



Application Process:
 Lottery applications accepted until **March 15**

Forms and instructions may be found on the Camden Rockport Elementary School PreK website or by contacting the school at 236-7809. All applications received by March 15, 2024 will be added to the selection process. <https://cres.fivetowns.net>

The Megunticook River Citizens Advisory Committee presents

RIVER RESTORATION ROUNDTABLE

lessons learned from other communities

Join us to hear from four different representatives on their journey to river restoration.

Wednesday February 7th
 5:30-7:30 pm
 Camden-Rockport Middle School

- Bogaduce River, ME
- Exeter River, NH
- Long Pond and Somes Pond, ME
- Walton's Mills Pond, ME

The CRMS office will be closed from Monday, February 19th through Friday, February 23rd. We will reopen on Monday, February 26th at 7:30am. Have a safe and fun filled break!



Random Acts of **KINDNESS DAY**

IS EVERY DAY!

Rockport Public Library's

VALENTINE'S DAY FAMILY TEA PARTY!

February 10th
 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Families will be seated at tables complete with decorations and specialty menus. Our cafe waiter will come around to take orders, and while you wait for treats and drinks, your family will have materials on your table to make homemade Valentines. Tea and hot chocolate will be served, as well as cookies provided by local business, Cookies-To-Go!

Free event, open to families.
 Space is limited, so please RSVP by calling 207-236-3642.

