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# February 2024 Newsletter

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## Nottingham West Elementary School

10 Pelham Road, Hudson, NH 03051

[Nottingham West Elementary School | Nottingham West Elementary School \(sau81.org\)](https://www.sau81.org) T: 603-595-1570

Principal: Scott G. Baker [sbaker@sau81.org](mailto:sbaker@sau81.org)

Assistant Principal: Gloria Hussey [ghussey@sau81.org](mailto:ghussey@sau81.org)

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### Office News

“Am I in trouble?” This is often the first thing students say if they are asked to come to the office or to report to the Student Support Center. Most often, the answer is “No”!

Kids often make mistakes as they learn to get along with others and to meet the expectations of school. When minor problems come up -- in the cafeteria, at recess, in the halls or on the bus -- the first step is to talk to all the students involved. We can often resolve the situation with a conversation, an apology or reminders about expectations at school.

If your child says, “I got in trouble today” and you have not received an email or phone call, it’s because there was a minor issue and an adult at school had a conversation with him/her about positive behavior choices. There will be no additional “trouble”. If you have questions after talking about the situation with your child, please let us know.

As a Reminder...Students sometimes bring toys or other personal items to school. Toys and personal items are not allowed to be used during recess (except for balls, books or writing/drawing tools). Please be sure that your child keeps their favorite toys at home so that nothing is lost, damaged or traded away.

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### Counseling News

WORD OF THE MONTH: **Kindness!**

Ms. Fitzgerald: [cfitzgerald@sau81.org](mailto:cfitzgerald@sau81.org)

Mr. Blais: [mblais@sau81.org](mailto:mblais@sau81.org)

Kindness is defined as: as the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. Kindness is not only beneficial for the person on the receiving end and those who witness the kind action, but also for the givers of kindness. When we are kind and intentionally perform acts of kindness, we get a boost in our own wellbeing and happiness. It feels good to help others and it helps us focus on the positive things in our lives. Children have an innate desire to use kindness, and this grows over time if we can nurture it along the way.

Our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Ambassadors is working on a variety of activities at school including recycling, reading in classrooms, supporting younger grades at lunch, morning announcements, etc. We are proud of the work the leadership team is doing to help support our community.

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### Upcoming Events

#### February 6

Strategic Planning Committee at NWES Library (6:30PM)

#### February 7

PTO Meeting (6:30PM in Library)

#### February 10

Deliberative Session (9AM, Community Center)

#### February 14

Valentine’s Day, plus parties

#### February 15

Parent/Teacher Conferences (4-7PM)

#### February 16

NAEP Testing – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### February 19

Read Across America Week (Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>)

#### February 26

No School on February Break – Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> thru March 1<sup>st</sup>

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## Reading News

Mrs. DuCharme, Reading Specialist: [aducharme@sau81.org](mailto:aducharme@sau81.org)

Hello Wonderful Parents and Kiddos!

There's so much to celebrate in the short month of February! World Read Aloud Day, Black History, Groundhog Day, The Super Bowl, President's Day, Valentine's Day and our course winter!

Listed below you will find a variety of books your child can read this month. I have also included some great questions for you to ask them while they are reading or while you are reading with them! Some of these books can be taken out at school or at your local library!

### List of Books to read with your child this month:

#### Black History Month:

- Who Was Martin Luther King, Jr.?
  - By, Bonnie Bader
- Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad
  - By, Ellen Levine

#### Groundhog Day:

- Groundhogs Day Off
  - By, Robb Pearlman
- Groundhog Gets a Say
  - By, Pamela Curtis Swallow

#### President's Day:

- George Washington's Teeth
  - By, Deborah Chandra
- Don't Know Much About the American Presidents
  - By, Kenneth C. Davis
- Presidential Pets
  - By, Julia Moberg

#### Valentine's Day:

- Splat the Cat Funny Valentine
  - By, Rob Scotton
- There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Rose
  - By, Lucille Colandro

#### Winter:

- The Story of Snow: The Science of Winter's Wonder
  - By, Mark Cassino
- Over and Under the Snow
  - By, Kate Messner
- Snow
  - By, Cynthia Rylant

### Questions you can ask your child while they are reading:

#### Focus on asking who, what, where, when, and why!!!

Describe the main character for me?

What do you think will happen next?

What's happened so far in the story? Beginning? Middle? End?

What's the problem in the story? How would you solve this problem?

Tell me a new or interesting word that you learned?

What is something you learned after reading this story?

Share with me a connection that you had to a character or event in the story?

Why do you think the author wrote this story? Inform? Entertain?  
Persuade?



## Library News

Mrs. LeShane: [kleshane@sau81.org](mailto:kleshane@sau81.org)

Please help your student to remember to return their books on their library day.

Mrs. LeShane is looking for volunteers to help restock books. You can choose your time and days; very flexible. If you are interested in volunteering in the Library, please email Mrs. LeShane directly. Thank you so much, any amount of time is appreciated.

## Health News

Mrs. Eriksen, RN: [meriksen@sau81.org](mailto:meriksen@sau81.org)

T: 603-595-1570 x55005

During this school year, we are working diligently to keep students healthy. We appreciate your help in keeping unwell children at home, so they recover faster, do not become re-infected, and do not spread illness to others. Also, a reminder that children go outside for recess unless the weather is below 20 degrees, please send boots, hats gloves, and snowpants, as well an extra change of clothes in case they get wet. Thank you for your support.

## Attention: Be on the Lookout!!!

One final addition to our fun-filled month this year is Read Across America Week. The week of February 19<sup>th</sup> to February 23<sup>rd</sup> (week before winter break), Nottingham West will celebrate our love of reading.

Our week will be full of themed days, Mystery Book Challenge, and completing a Reading Bingo Card during Winter break for a chance to win a prize! More details will be sent home in the next week or so, so keep an eye out for that!