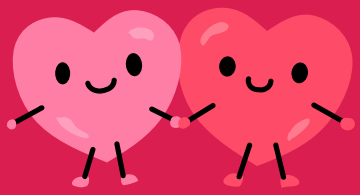


COYOTE Caller

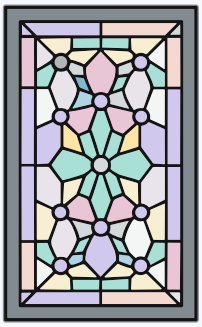


February 9, 2026

FROM POP ART TO STAINED GLASS: ART IS IN FULL COLOR!



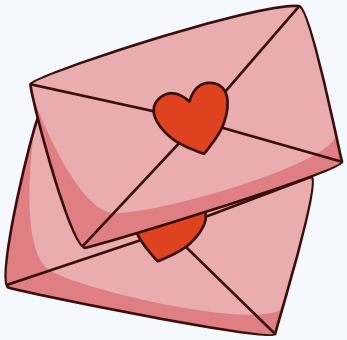








In art class everyone continues having a blast making art! Fourth grade artists are beginning their next big project by learning about the Pop Art Movement and are studying the art styles of several Pop Artists. Third grade artists learned about Cartography, the art of map making, and they are designing their own maps of real or imaginary places. Second grade artists used mixed media art techniques to create a blueprint of a house, barn, castle or even a spaceship. First grade artists have learned about stained glass art, they are creating their own stained glass inspired art works and are excited to have their art as part of a display for the end of the year art show! Kindergarten artists learned about the artist Alma Thomas and created art inspired by her colorful style! Pre-K Artists learned about the Artist Jim Dine and created collages inspired by his work.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

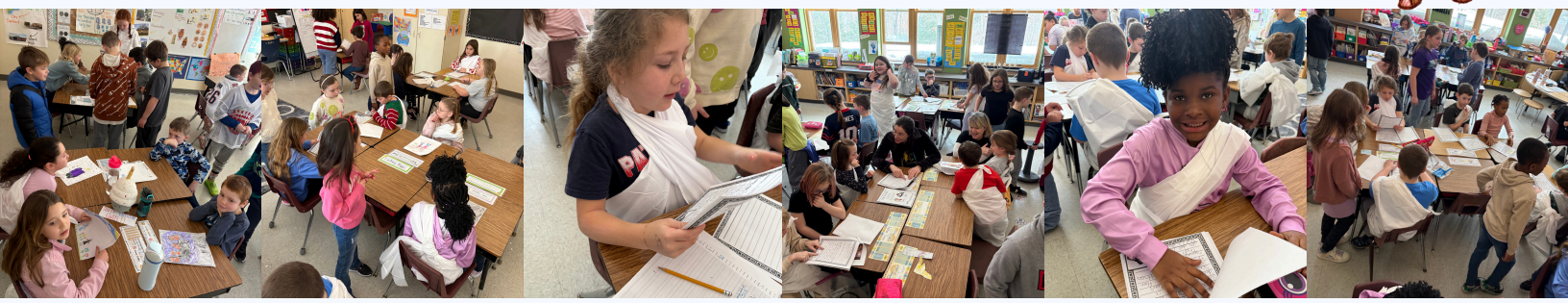
- 2/10- Weather at Your School 5:45-6:50 am
- 2/11- 4th grade NAEP testing 9-11 am
- 2/12- 100th Day of School
- 2/12- Author Frank Cole Visits 4th grade 8:45 a
- 2/13- 3rd grade Learning Showcase 2pm
- 2/16-2/20- February Break (No School)
- 2/25- 1st grade Learning Showcase 12pm



STUDENT Engagement

A MYTHICAL LEARNING SHOWCASE





Second grade students proudly hosted a learning showcase for our third graders, sharing their Greek myths created during their CKLA unit of study. Acting as both authors and presenters, second graders retold classic myths, explained key characters and themes, and showcased their creative storytelling through writing and illustrations. Third grade visitors were engaged and inspired as they listened, asked thoughtful questions, and made connections to their own learning. This special event highlighted student confidence, collaboration, and the power of sharing learning across grade levels!

VALENTINE'S DANCE FUN

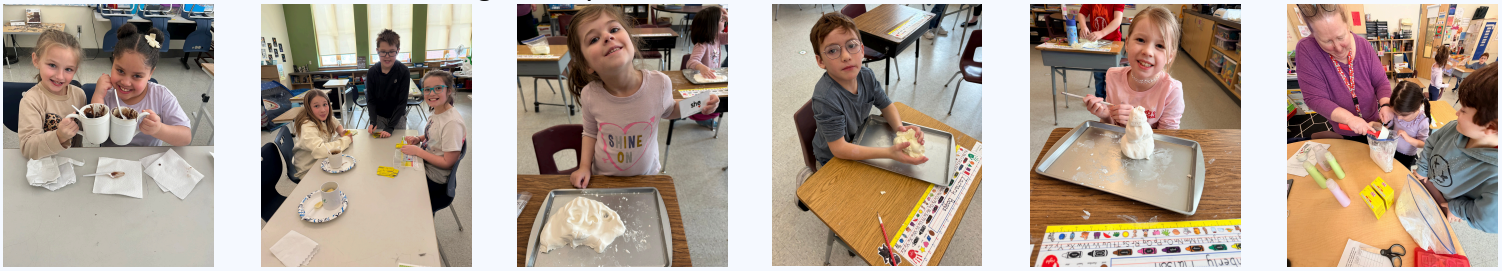




HANDS-ON LEARNING



Ms. Combs' class wrapped up the month with some delicious learning during a cooking activity that had everyone smiling! Students enjoyed making cake in a mug, practicing important life skills like following directions, measuring ingredients, and working together. Ms. Bennett's students created their own learning dough and practiced writing their "heart" words during literacy blocks this week! So much fun for both classrooms!

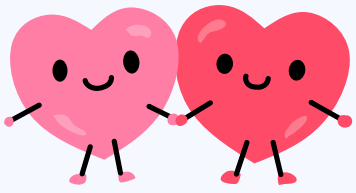


SCHOOL COUNSELOR CORNER

MONTHLY THEME:

THIS MONTH'S THEME IS HONESTY. HONESTY MEANS LIVING TRUTHFULLY IN YOUR WORDS, ACTIONS, AND THOUGHTS.

AS A SCHOOL, WE ARE GOING TO WORK ON "BUILDING TRUST" THROUGH A SOLID FOUNDATION USING HONESTY. AS A SCHOOL, STUDENTS WILL WORK ON BUILDING A LEGO TOWER BY ADDING A PIECE TO THE TOWER EACH TIME THEY SHOW HONESTY AT SCHOOL.







HONESTY AT HOME"

SET ASIDE SOME TIME TO GATHER AS A FAMILY AND CHECK IN WITH EACH OTHER. ASK EACH FAMILY MEMBER, "HOW ARE YOU FEELING TODAY?" PRACTICE HONESTY WHEN RESPONDING AND LISTEN CAREFULLY AS EACH FAMILY MEMBER SHARES. USE THE EMOTION CHECK-IN QUESTIONS TO LEARN MORE. CHALLENGE YOURSELVES TO CHECK IN WITH EACH OTHER ON A REGULAR BASIS!

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR WEEK-

15 Things You Might Not Know About School Counselors

1.School counselors are trained mental health professionals.
Most hold a master's degree in school counseling plus state licensure or certification.

2.We don't just address "behavior problems."
We support *all* students, including those who are doing well but need skills, guidance, or connection.

3.We teach skills, not just solve crises.
Classroom lessons and small groups focus on coping, friendship, problem solving, emotional regulation, and confidence.

4. Prevention is a big part of the job.
Much of school counseling is proactive, helping students build skills before challenges turn into bigger problems.

5.We support academic success, too.
Study skills, organization, motivation, goal setting, and executive functioning are all part of our work.

6.We help with social development.
Conflict resolution, communication, empathy, and friendship skills are taught just like academic subjects.

7.We can work with every age and stage.
From learning how to share in Kindergarten to planning postsecondary goals in high school, we're there!

8.We collaborate with families.
School counselors regularly communicate with caregivers to support students at home and at school.

9.We're part of student support teams.
We work closely with teachers, administrators, psychologists, social workers, and outside providers.

10.We advocate for equity and access.
School counselors help remove barriers so all students have opportunities to succeed.

11.We help students navigate big life changes.
Grief, divorce, moves, illness, friendship shifts, and transitions between schools all fall within our role.

12.We use data to guide our work.
We track student needs, progress, and program impact to make sure supports are effective.

13.We provide short-term individual counseling at school.
While we don't replace outside therapy, we offer brief, solution-focused support during the school day.

14.We run small groups for common student needs.
Topics often include anxiety, social skills, friendship, grief, executive functioning, and confidence.

15.Our goal is for every student to feel safe, supported, and capable.
School counseling is about helping kids grow not just academically, but emotionally and socially too.

what we do

Thank you to the MCS community for the appreciation

WEATHER AT YOUR SCHOOL



Ted McInerney
Meteorologist



JOIN US!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH FROM 5:45-6:50AM

Rise and Shine! Come meet Meteorologist Ted McInerney and the WMTW team. Join us behind the scenes for a live weather broadcast and help show our our MCS Coyote spirit on air. We can't wait to see you there!

- **Families will need to stay with their children and should plan to return for drop off at 8:00 AM**
- **When: Tuesday, February 10th**
- **Time: 5:45 AM – 6:50 AM**
- **Where: Front Entrance of Margaret Chase Smith School**
- **Unable to make it? That's ok, this event will be followed by an assembly for students at 8:40 in the Gym.**

HIKE THE KINDERGARTEN TRAIL

SANFORDSCHOOL DEPARTMENTINVITESYOUANDYOURLITTLE EXPLORERTOCHECK OUT ALLTHE“STOPS”ALONGTHEKINDERGARTEN TRAIL!

1.

FIRST STOP

Community Wide K Registration Night

March 4, 2026, 3:30PM-6:00PM

Sanford Pride Elementary 708 Main Street Sanford ME



2.

SECOND STOP

Kindergarten Exploration

at your child’s elementary school

April 9, 2026, 5PM-6PM

3.

THIRD STOP

Playground Exploration

at your child’s elementary school

May 14, 2026, 5PM-6PM

LEARN MORE

Scan Me!

4.



FOURTH STOP

Kindergarten Screening

BY APPOINTMENT

at your child’s elementary school

5.

FIFTH STOP

Summer Play & Learn Series

A 3-session series August 4th, 11th, and 18th

8:00AM-9:30AM

at your child’s elementary school

6.

SIXTH STOP

School Open House

at your child’s elementary school

August 27, 2026 5PM-6PM

FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN!

First10 Sanford

Sanford Spartans

Girls on the run maine

Her future is built on the confidence she has today.

The Girls on the Run program focuses on the whole person- mind, body and social connection. The evidence-based curriculum includes:

- JOYFUL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
- CRITICAL THINKING EXERCISES
- FUN!
- LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
- GOAL SETTING TO PREPARE FOR CELEBRATORY 5K

SPRING 2026 SEASON DETAILS

- Location: Margaret Chase Smith School
- Practice Days: Mon/Thurs. 3:15-4:45pm
- Site Contact: Tracie Hallissey (thallissey@sanford.org)
- The Program Runs: 3/30-5/31/2026
- Financial Assistance Is Available: Girls on the Run-Maine uses a sliding scale ranging from $20-$180 to set the participant fee.

SIGN UP, STARTING 2/1!

girlsontherunmaine.org