



Taunton Forge School

Future Leaders Begin Here

CARING

RESPONSIBILITY

KINDNESS

INTEGRITY

HONESTY

RESPECT

THE TIGER TIMES

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you and your family had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. I trust, too, that you found Parent-Teacher conferences to be valuable and informative in reporting your child's progress. If you have any suggestions or concerns regarding the conferencing process, please contact me or your child's teacher.

December's value will be "kindness". The holiday season is upon us and there is no better time to show kindness to others than now. In the spirit of kindness we will be participating in "Holton's Heroes". Information on this toy drive was sent home right before Thanksgiving. We hope you will consider participating in this worthwhile charity event! Additionally, we will be conducting a supply drive for the Burlington County Animal Shelter. Information on that was sent home this week. We hope you'll consider supporting one or both of these optional programs.

We continue to collect worn, but usable shoes through our Shoe Box Recycling program that runs all year. This program allows individuals to get additional use from shoes that would otherwise end up in a landfill and we raise money for our school at the same time. It's a win-win situation. Keep bringing in your old shoes! We accept both child and adult sizes!

This month, we will be having our annual December Spirit Week. The below schedule documents the special events for each day:

- **Monday, December 18 – Favorite Team Day** – Wear clothing of your favorite professional, college, or high school team. For this day only, team hats will be allowed.
- **Tuesday, December 19 – Different Hair Do Day** – Get creative and wear your hair in a way that's different from your usual, every day "do".
- **Wednesday, December 20 – School Colors Day** - Our school colors are red, white, and blue so let's celebrate by wearing red, white, or blue or your Taunton Forge spirit wear.
- **Thursday, December 21 – Crazy Dress Day** – This is a day to wear whacky clothing... colorful socks, a Hawaiian shirt, neon colored clothes or any other types of crazy outfits are encouraged. Please do not wear bathing suits, Halloween costumes, or other clothing that would be inappropriate or make it difficult to walk or see.
- **Friday, December 22 - Pajama Day** – Wear your PJs to school (please wear sensible shoes to school; slippers can be worn in the classroom only).

We do not expect parents or guardians to go shopping for special clothing for these days. Rather, use what is already in your closet. We thank you for your participation and school spirit.

I want to take this opportunity to recognize and/or thank some individuals for their efforts in November. First, congratulations to Chris Ahrens and Ava Scussa. These 5th graders were our 1st Place and Honorable Mention (respectively) winners in the annual Veteran's Day Essay Contest sponsored by our local VFW Post. Second, I'd like to thank all of our parents that contributed and set up the delicious food that our staff enjoyed on the Tuesday evening of Parent-Teacher Conferences. We truly enjoyed it! Third, I'd like to thank all of the parents and grandparents that visited on the Thursday and Friday of American Education Week. There was a tremendous turn out! Over 280 family members visited our school. We also thank you for completing the questions on our Opinion Board. Your support is most appreciated!!

You may hear your son or daughter talking about Ms. Filippone. Danielle Filippone is our new building substitute. She comes to Taunton Forge every day and fills in for any absent teachers or instructional assistants. Danielle is a certified teacher and has been a welcome addition to our staff.

Finally, I want to remind all parents and guardians that Tuesday, December 5, is a two hour delayed opening. Students will be picked up two hours later than their usual morning bus pick up time. Lunch will be served as usual and the school day ends at its normally scheduled time. Wednesday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m. is our Chorus Concert. We hope to see you there!

On behalf of the students and staff of Taunton Forge School, I'd like to wish you a happy and healthy holiday season. Should you have questions, concerns, or suggestions please call me at 609-654-6723, extension 5445 or e-mail me at rlacovara@medford.k12.nj.us. Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,
Richard N. Lacovara Jr.