***Dear South School Community,***

**Generosity is always alive and well in the SES Village!!! Over the past few weeks, this was illustrated many times!!!** Thank you for “**Beeing Kinder than Necessary**” as always… by participating in the ***Support South Check writing Campaign***, by planning to attend the ***SES PTO Social*** this Friday night the 9th, by helping with ***harvest parties***, and the ***Math Olympics***, as well as ***Socktober*** ***Collection (to name a few)***. All of these kind donations go a long way to make SES a better place, help others, and are great experiences for the children as they develop their affective intelligence**. Thank you also for the many donations of time and/or money you all give to many events and endeavors here at SES. You all truly make us grateful for all you do as we enter the month of giving thanks!!!**

***Quote of the Week: I have the courage to do the right thing!***

***This tool will be highlighted at the Veteran’s Day Assembly on the 9th***

***News for you…Just a reminder that new items are bold italics. Old news items that are still relevant will also be bulleted but will not be bolded italics, but left on for reference:***

* ***The November 7th early release day is set aside for professional development for staff. This release day has a release time at noon and lunch will not be served. Please send in a substantial snack.***
* ***We are very grateful Dr. and Mrs. Schreier for presenting South School with a digital replica of an 1802 school register from a school that existed in South Hingham at that time. Mrs. Schreier also did a wonderful presentation about the history of the school and area in 1802 for the fifth graders and other guests. It was fascinating! We are in the process of choosing a place in our school to hang this very wonderful gift.***
* ***We need three special favors from all of you!!!! Could you please label your child/children’s belongings with their names if you have not already done so? This would help to reduce the number of things that are currently residing in our “Lost and Found” in the cafeteria hallway. Before you go shopping to replace lost belongings, please check there. We are also asking that any photos that are taken in the building at events not be posted on Social Media for safety reasons. Finally, could you please remind all of your children about appropriate bus behavior? We have been doing this also and the language we are using encompasses being in the seats, sitting down, facing forward with knees/legs in from the aisles. We also emphasize using indoor voices so that the bus drivers can concentrate. This is important for everyone’s safety!!! It will be especially important with winter “roads” looming on the horizon…Thank you for your help. All of the teachers are also reinforcing this in Morning Meeting!!!!***
* ***Annual South School Feast : has been scheduled for Thursday, November 15. This is one of the great South School traditions that students remember fondly for years! It is a wonderful day to celebrate the tradition of Thanksgiving and the community of South Elementary. This year we are continuing with our “Over the River and Through the Woods” theme, and asking students to wear dressy clothes if they choose. A roast turkey lunch is served as the only choice that day. Children may also chose to bring their own lunch that day. The school lunch is always nut free and we ask that lunches that are sent in are also nut free as that would be very helpful on that one day! More information will be sent home as the event gets closer.***
* ***Kindergarten 2019-2020- We are having an informational evening on November 8 at 6:30 at 220 Central St. for families and preschool staff who are interested in learning about the Hingham Public Schools’ Kindergarten. This is open to all families who have children who will be turning five by 8/31/19. Please spread the word in your neighborhoods.***
* ***We are so appreciative towards the Fifth Grade Leadership Team for the spruce up job they did on our rainbow rock display!***
* ***This week, we are discussing of Tool Number Twelve, The Courage Tool (hence, the quote of the week) as it fits nicely with the Veteran’s Day Observation and will be emphasized at our assembly on Friday. Ask your child about it and the other tools! See the Old News section for an explanation of Tool Box.***
* ***Second Grade Field Trip to the Company Theater: Last Friday, November 2, the second grade enjoyed a field trip to the Company Theater production of Mulan. The students received many compliments about their excellent audience behavior! A huge thank you goes out to the grade level team and all of the parents who volunteered to chaperone!!!***
* ***Veteran’s Day Assembly Invitation: South School holds an annual Veteran’s Day Ceremony to honor all Veterans especially those Veterans who have a connection to South School. The fifth grade will present a school-wide program explaining the history of Veteran’s Day. Please invite any Veteran in your family or your neighborhood to be part of our ceremony. It will take place on Friday, November 9th from 2:00 o'clock to 2:30. The fifth graders are busy learning a special song. We hope that the special Veterans in your life can be a part of this annual ceremony. Please email Ann Thompson (athompson@hinghamschools.org) if you have any questions and let us know if your special veteran would like to attend.  Thank you!***
* ***Special Note:***
* ***We know that making ends meet can sometimes get difficult for some of the families in our HPS community. Therefore, we want to let you know that there are individuals in each of our schools who are ready to provide information and assistance.  With that in mind, please be aware that access to government programs and other resources that are donated by a very generous Hingham community may be available to help families in times of financial or other need. Some examples of such outreach include the federal free and reduced lunch program and assistance with costs such as with athletic, bus/field trip, school picture, and tuition fees.  As well, because of the generosity and caring of parents and others in our community, we are able to support families during the holiday seasons.***

***Please don’t hesitate to contact an administrator, the school nurse, or counseling personnel in your child's school if you need any kind of assistance. Please be assured that your request will be managed in a way that respects your rights for confidentiality.***

***\*\*\*If you need help from MA WIC (Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program), the number to call is 1-800-WIC-1007 or you can go to: mass.gov/wic or*** [***www.quincywic.org***](http://www.quincywic.org/)

* ***See bottom of complete Office News to see Dates for Calendar***
* ***Old/Still Relevant News:***
* *Report Cards: As you may know, we have been making changes to our Report Cards over the past years to reflect Standards Based Curriculum progress. This year grades K-4 will have two marking period, with grades 3 and 4 receiving a Check-In Progress Report in November and April followed by Report Cards in February and June. Grade 5 will still be on three terms (December, March and June Report Cards). Fifth grade will continue to be on three terms for this year.*
* *The SES Holiday Concert is set for Monday, December 17 @ 9:15 AM*
* *MCAS 2.0: Students in grades three, four, and five will be participating in MCAS 2.0 testing during April and May of 2019. This year, students in grades 3-5 will once again take part in computer-based testing in both English Language Arts and Mathematics. Grade 5 students will also take Science, Technology and Engineering MCAS as well. Our testing schedule is in the dates’ section below.*
* *We are looking for substitutes of all types: teachers, nurses, paraeducators, bus drivers. If interested, contact us, and we will point you to the right person depending what you want to sub as.*
* *As a result of the HTSS Task Force which has met for two years to explore how we can further support the Social/Emotional well-being of our students, all of the teaching staff was trained this week in Essential Toolbox. It is a wonderful program that can be easily integrated into daily instruction. Children will be taught the twelve tools for learning and life: Breathing Tool, Quiet/Safe Place Tool, Listening Tool, Empathy Tool, Personal Space Tool, Using our Words Tool, Garbage Can Tool, Taking Time Tool, Please and Thank You Tool, Apology and Forgiveness Tool, Patience Tool, and Courage Tool. We know that you all already reinforce these life skills at home, but we wanted you to be aware that we will be talking about 2-3 tools a month as a school as the year progresses. We will also integrate this with our “Bee Kinder than Necessary” theme…and you will also see it reflected in Quotes of the Week.*
* PLEASE DO NOT MAKE A DOUBLE LINE IN THE FRONT DRIVEWAY, WE NEED TO LEAVE A LANE FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES…IF THE DRIVEWAY IS FULL, PASS BY, TURN AROUND AND MAKE YOUR WAY BACK. IT SHOULD BE PASSABLE BY THEN! Thanks!!!
* BICYCLES: We had a wonderful Bike Rodeo for the third graders last Friday. We thank Officer John, the many parent volunteers, and the Third Grade Team as well as Mrs. Jacobs for making this happen!!! Many of the children have been taking advantage of the beautiful weather by biking to school. The child does need to have a note to be able to do this as it is a change in dismissal. Please be aware that only children in grades 3-5 are allowed to ride to school without a parent/guardian along as long as they have parent permission. Bike riders who live in Liberty Pole are asked to walk their bikes to the end of the sidewalk by the fire station, and then they can start to ride. All other children are escorted by a teacher down to the sidewalk/crossing guard near the bus loop. If they live on the school side of the street, they can ride after they cross the lower parking lot crosswalk. If they live on the other side, they are crossed by the guard and then they ride either north or south on Main St. depending where they live. This would also be true for walkers. This procedure will also apply on the way to school. Please go over this with your child. Main Street may be one of the prettiest streets in America, but it is also very busy. So, it will take our whole village to keep our children safe. Thank you for your help with this!!! Also, please ask your child not to arrive at the crosswalk before 8:40 when the crossing guard goes on duty and to follow the rules of the road and stay right unless crossing after looking…many children have been spotted riding their bikes in the middle of the road and crossing without looking in Liberty Pole….Thank you for helping ot keep our children safe!
* Please help us move dismissal at Special Dismissal and Liberty Pole Car Loop (only for those turning right in Liberty Pole) along smoothly:
  + Please come in single file at all times. If you cannot pull in, go down the street and turn around for another pass.
  + Please put a sign with your child’s name in the window so we can move the lines along more quickly.
  + It would also be helpful if you stay in your car and let us bring the children to you. Please do not use cell phones in lines!
* ***MCAS Dates for 2019 have been added to the end of the dates’ section at the bottom of this email.***
* ***Dates to Remember:***
* ***Friday, November 9- South School Veteran’s Day Assembly @ 2:00 PM***
* ***Friday, November 9- South School* Social (all adults invited)**
* **Wednesday, November 7- Noon release for Professional Development/ *Lunch is not served***
* **Thursday, November 15- South School Feast**
* ***Saturday, November 17- South School 5K @ 9AM***
* ***Tuesday, November 20- Third Grade Pow Wow @ 1PM***
* ***Saturday, December 1- Winterfest @ SES***
* ***Monday, December 17- SES Holiday Concert @ 9:15 AM***
* ***Wednesday, December 5- Noon Release for Parent/Guardian Conferences/ Lunch is not served***
* ***Wednesday, January 9-* Noon release for Professional Development/ *Lunch is not served***
* ***Wednesday, February 6- Noon Release for Parent/ Guardian Conferences/ Lunch is not served***
* ***Wednesday, March 6-* Noon release for Professional Development/ *Lunch is not served***
* ***Wednesday, April 3- Noon Release for Parent/ Guardian Conferences/ Lunch is not served***
* ***Wednesday, May 1-* Noon release for Professional Development/ *Lunch is not served***
* ***Thursday, May 23 –Grade 4- China Trade Culmination @ 1 PM***
* ***Wednesday, June 5-* Noon release for Professional Development/ *Lunch is not served***

**School Council Meetings 18-19:**

* **Wednesday, November 28- 3:15-4:00: School Council Meeting in the Conference Room**
* **Wednesday, January 23- 3:15-4:00: School Council Meeting in the Conference Room**
* **Wednesday, February 27- 3:15-4:00: School Council Meeting in the Conference Room**
* **Wednesday, March 27- 3:15-4:00: 1st School Council Meeting in the Conference Room**
* **Wednesday, April 24- 3:15-4:00: 1st School Council Meeting in the Conference Room**
* **Wednesday, May 29- 3:15-4:00: 1st School Council Meeting in the Conference Room**
* ***MCAS DATES 18-19:***
* ***Grade 3 ELA: 4/1; 4/2***
* ***Grade 5 ELA: 4/4; 4/5***
* ***Grade 4 ELA: 4/8; 4/9***
* ***Grade 5 Math: 5/6; 5/7***
* ***Grade 3 Math: 5/8; 5/9***
* ***Grade 4 Math: 5/13; 5/14***
* ***Grade 5 STE: 5/16; 5/17***