

OCTOBER 2023

# DAYTON AVENUE SHARK BITES

Sharing Small Pieces of Big Moments



SNEAK PEEK OF WHAT'S  
INSIDE:

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## WELCOME BACK!

*Dr. Watkins*

I love the beginning of each school year and the excitement it brings for the entire family. As the summer vacation comes to an end, we all get excited for the new beginnings that naturally come with each year. This year, there was a lot of excitement as we were able to see the finishing touches being put on our MakerSpace, Art room, STEAM room and playground. Our students returned excited to see old friends, make new friends and meet their new teachers. They were pleasantly surprised to see their new learning spaces.

It has been exciting to see how much our students are cultivating habits to become successful students. I enjoy hearing them talk about their goals and I look forward to celebrating accomplishments with them.

As we move through this year, I will share some small pieces of our big moments in our monthly newsletter and social media. I hope that you will take some time to read each newsletter.



# SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING AND PBIS

## Leader in Me and PBIS

We will be continuing our journey with Leader in Me this year! We will use Leader in Me framework and resources to continue to support our students' social emotional growth. As we continue to use Leader in Me curricular resources, we will help our students to develop competency in various areas which includes Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, and Responsible Decision Making. Our students will learn how to practice understanding and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others and establish and maintain positive relationships. I will also share some resources that families may use.

Beginning this month, our students will explore and apply a habit each month. October's habit is - Be Proactive. This habit teaches children that they are in charge of themselves and encourages them to develop a "can do" attitude.

We also incorporate PBIS into our everyday practices to improve student behaviors. Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is another area in which we support student behavior. We started the year discussing respect for ourselves, each other and our school. Students participated in team building activities and of course, we dedicated time to focus on our mindsets!

This year, we have implemented student portfolios. Student portfolios will help us to display the achievements of our students. Students have created "Widely Important Goals" for themselves and are committed to doing their best to meet their goals. Throughout the year, we will take the time to celebrate the achievements of our students.

Would you like to encourage habit building at home? Please feel free to use the parent engagement resources that have been shared with you.



### Habit 1: Be Proactive

#### I'm in Charge of Me

Students will learn to take control of their lives and become responsible for their actions and choices.

##### STEPS TO TAKING CONTROL OF YOU

1. Think about what you are doing now.
2. Think about what you should be doing.
3. Think about what you can do to change.

##### COMMON LANGUAGE

Proactive  
Control  
Power

##### WHY?

Being in charge of yourself means you are responsible for your actions and choices.

Being in charge of yourself means you are responsible for your actions and choices.

##### HOW?

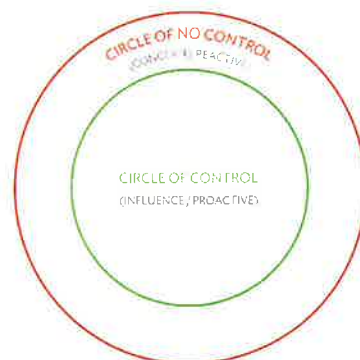
Ask yourself if you are in charge of yourself. If not, what can you do to change?

Remember, you are in charge of yourself. You are responsible for your actions and choices. You can change your life by taking control of yourself.

LeaderinMe

### Habit 1: Be Proactive

Family discussion: Discuss with your family how you can take control of your life and become responsible for your actions and choices.



LeaderinMe

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LeaderinMe



# CELEBRATIONS

## 3rd Grade

Scientists in Mrs. Kerins' class have been learning about forces and their interactions. They took a visit to the MakerSpace, designed structures to allow an object to move from one point to another and revised and made improvements until they were successful.



## 4th Grade



On September 15, the students in Ms. McGinness and Mrs. Orlando's 4th grade class kicked off the school year with courage and creativity when they celebrated International Dot Day. This day was inspired by the book *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds. In the story, the dot symbolizes the mark someone can make on the world. The students were given a dot and were encouraged to create a picture incorporating it. From this small idea, came collaboration of endless possibilities. The students learned that they can take a small, ordinary idea and make a masterpiece using their talents, visions and gift! What a way to kick off the school year!

## 5th Grade

Space Systems: Stars and the Solar Systems!  
The students were engaged in a high-interest kinesthetic game of "Shadow Tag". They investigated the daily apparent motion of the sun. Throughout the day they predicted what would happen in various scenarios involving changing shadows. They analyzed and interpreted data and identified various cause and effect relationships of daily changes in the length and direction of the shadows.



## 6th Grade

Students in Mr. Longo's/ Mrs. Grieco's class discussed the important events that took place on September 11, 2001. The students studied actual photographs from that day and took notes on what they observed, what they thought, and what they wondered. Once the students were finished, a meaningful class discussion took place. Students then read an article about the events that transpired that day and not only reflected on the tragedies that occurred, but examined the resilience and patriotism of the American people during that time. Lastly, students created American Flags focusing on the question, "Why is it important to remember the events that took place on September 11th?" The students' responses were heartfelt and compassionate.



## Library



Hispanic Heritage month is celebrated in the United States each year between September 15 and October 15. This month in Library class we celebrated Hispanic Heritage month by recognizing the culture, achievements, and contributions made by Hispanic and Latin Americans. We recognized some notable Hispanic figures by doing research using the Virtual Reference Collection.

## STEAM

Unity is strength. . . when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved. - Mattie Stepanek

Students started out the school year brushing up on their teamwork skills. Each grade level completed different tasks throughout the first few weeks that would challenge them, and create bonds with their classmates. Challenges such as cup stacking, ramps, mazes, bridge building, paper towers, Saving Fred, and spaghetti marshmallow towers were only a few of the tasks students had to use their collaboration and thinking skills to solve.







# STAYING HEALTHY CHAT WITH NURSE GROSSKOPF

## Meet The School Nurse

Mrs G.(Linda Grosskopf,RN)

Dayton Avenue Elementary School

Phone: 631-801-3090

Fax- 631-878-6404

### Childhood

I grew up in Cortlandt Manor, NY, a small town near Bear Mountain. Science was always my favorite subject. Reading, roller skating and playing on the soccer team were my hobbies. I lived with my parents, an older brother and 2 dogs, Muffin and Cappy.


### Education and Experience

I went to StonyBrook University for Nursing. I have been a Neonatal Intensive Care Nurse for over 20 years, and 12 years ago I decided to switch careers and entered Pediatric Nursing. I have been Dayton's school nurse for over 12 years and have also spent countless hours working as a Telephonic Triage Nurse during the COVID pandemic.

I have lived in Manorville for 14 years with my husband Freddy, 4 children- Nick, Pat, Aimee and Jenna, and 2 dogs- Oscar and Onyx. My favorite place is Cupsogue beach, where you can find me all summer long reading my favorite books!

### What Dayton means to me

Dayton is my second family. I am so honored to work with the amazing staff, and feel proud to work here everyday. I LOVE children, all children, and take my job as the only health care provider in the building very seriously. I encourage anyone to call me directly with any health issues or concerns that develop during the school year. Please notify me of any changes in medication, recent surgeries or injuries, or any other important information that you feel I should be aware of while I am caring for your child.



# UPCOMING DATES

**October 5 - ENL Night**

**October 5 - SMPTA Meeting at Dayton Ave**

**October 9 - Columbus Day (School's Closed)**

**October 10 - Shared Decision Making Meeting**

**October 11 - Picture Day**

**October 18 - Title 1 Informational Meeting**

## REMINDERS

### Attendance

Our school day begins at 8:30 and ends at 2:46. It is important that students arrive to school by 8:30 and remain in school until classes end at 2:46.

### Communication

We use ParentSquare to stay in touch with our families. Download the app in the App Store or on Google play to receive important texts and other messages.

### Chromebooks

- We use Chromebooks everyday.
- Bring them in fully charged.
- Leave chargers at home



### Student Dropoff

- Students may be dropped off beginning at 8:15am
- Students attending extra help on the day assigned by their teachers may be dropped off at 8am

### Student Pickup

Students being picked up are dismissed from the cafeteria entrance. Please park in the administrative lot on the west side of the building. We begin dismissing students being picked up at 2:46. Please send in a note if your child will be picked up at dismissal. Be sure to include the full name of the person picking up and that person should be prepared to show their license. All students must be picked up by 2:53.

