

# Montowese Elementary School

Kathryn Russo, Principal

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145 Fitch Street, North Haven  
Office: (203)-239-2564  
Nurse: (203)-239-0235



School Hours: 8:30-3:02 pm

## Montowese News

We're off to great start and have had a busy month acclimating to a new school year. Our Open House ran smoothly and our first Fun Friday (Super Hero Day) was well received by the students. Thank you to everyone who donated money that day to support the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Our "Fun Fridays" promote school spirit as well as encourage students to give back to our community by donating to local charities each month to support needed causes.

Students in grades K-5 have completed their benchmark assessment for September. These initial assessments will provide teachers with valuable information to help guide their instruction and target specific skills for students. Assessments will be discussed at parent/teacher conferences in November.

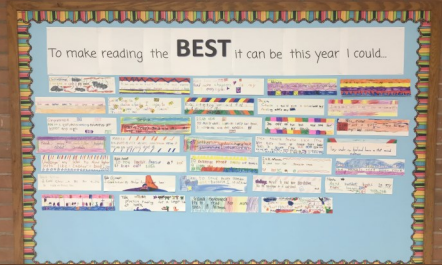
**New staff:** Please join me in welcoming Mrs. Sheetal Shah, our new special education teacher for grades K-2. Mrs. Shah is joining us from Glastonbury schools and we are excited for her to begin on October 3rd.

### Save the Dates!

On Wednesday, October 17th, the PTA will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new kindergarten playground! Please join us, First Selectman Mr. Freda, and Quinnipiac University's new president, Judy Olian. The ceremony will take place at 3:30pm at the kindergarten playground.

Don't forget to join us at our PTA Fall Family "Spooktacular" night on Friday, October 26th from 6:00-8:00pm. We will continue to host our pumpkin contest! More information about this fun evening will be distributed soon.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences** will take place on November 28th (5-8pm), November 29th (4-6:00pm) and November 30th (1:15-3:15). Electronic sign-ups for conferences will open soon and an email will go home to all families.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Oct. 5th:** Early Dismissal @ 1:00

**Oct. 6th:** Harlem Wizards Game @ NHHS

**Oct. 8th:** No School-  
Columbus Day

**Oct. 10th:** Practice Bus Safety evacuations @ 8:30am

**Oct. 15th & 22th:** Lion's Club Vision Screenings (K-5)

**Oct. 17th:** Kindergarten Playground ribbon cutting ceremony @ 3:30pm

**Oct. 23rd:** Picture Day re-takes

**Oct. 26th:** PTA Spooktacular

**Oct. 31st:** Halloween



## HALLOWEEN OCTOBER 31ST

Halloween is on Wednesday, October 31st. Students and staff may come to school in costume for the day. We ask everyone to please adhere to costume guidelines: No weapons, or anything that promotes cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, or violence. Please avoid costumes that are satanic in nature (devils, ghouls, demons, etc) and clowns. We are also asking parents to make sure your children are not dressed inappropriately and that costumes are suitable for sitting in class all day (nothing that will obstruct or restrict their movement).

**Room coordinators** will be in touch with teachers to plan the party. Please note: ALL SNACKS brought to school MUST BE STORE BOUGHT and then checked with the nurse due to severe allergies. We want to keep our students safe. The teachers will also incorporate various themed activities within the curriculum throughout the day. We look forward to another successful celebration.

### MAC WANTS YOU TO KNOW...

- MAC stands for: Montowese Always Cares.
- On Friday, 10/26, we will have Fun Friday “Wear Pink Day” and donate to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Our school follows the 3R's:

**Respect school**

**Respect self**

**Respect others**

### **JUST A FEW REMINDERS...**

- If your child’s transportation needs change, please send him/her in with a note for our office staff that morning. We understand that emergencies occur but if you know beforehand, please be sure to contact the main office as soon as possible.
- The first week of each month we will post the Montowese School Newsletter on our school’s website informing you of various events, activities and general school information.
- Breakfast is served in the morning. Information about the program can be found on the district and school website. Students can purchase a “to go” breakfast and bring it to their classroom. Breakfast cannot be brought from home.
- Birthdays celebrations: Every child will be recognized on their birthday by having their name announced over the intercom system and will receive a prize that day. To eliminate loss of instructional time throughout the month, each classroom will celebrate students’ birthdays the last school day of each month. A calendar with specific dates will be sent home by classroom teachers. Only store-purchased, labeled food will be allowed in the classrooms (per student allergies). Please be mindful of nut-free classrooms.

## News from P.E.- Mrs. Brown

4th grade P.E. classes will be participating in the State of CT. Fitness Assessment during the month of October. The components of the fitness test are cardio/respiratory endurance demonstrated by completing a mile run; muscular strength and endurance demonstrated by completing curl ups and by completing right angle push ups; flexibility by completing the back saver sit and reach which tests the flexibility of the hamstrings and spine. Please encourage your 4th graders to practice their push ups at home. It seems to be an area of weakness for many students. Improving upper body strength can help support students efforts in many sports, enhance overall health and personal safety when participating in water activities. Please help by encouraging a healthy breakfast and a good nights sleep, especially on P.E. day. Thank you in advance for your help and support. We should complete the fitness test by the end of October.

## News from Technology: Mrs. Ardolino

The new "MakerSpace/Tech Lab" is a huge hit with students! It is definitely a different class set-up than the old desktop and row formation from previous years. The students bring their Chromebooks to the Tech Lab; once the day's lesson/instruction is done, they can work on their assignments in a flexible environment. So far the Fourth and Fifth grade students have been introduced to Google Classroom (the younger students will get to try it soon!) and all gds. 3-5 students have been able to work in their Google Drives using Google Docs and Slides. Digital Citizenship and Digital Footprint concepts will be reviewed in the next few weeks. Students have really embraced the new technology and it is great to see how adaptable and collaborative the students have been with the new technology tools. If you have any questions about curriculum for Technology class this year, please do not hesitate to contact me at [ardolino.michele@northhavenschools.org](mailto:ardolino.michele@northhavenschools.org).



## **OCTOBER NURSE'S NEWS**

**Absences:** Please call the nurse's office by 9am each day that child is absent. Please leave the child's name as well as the reason they are absent that day.

**Birthday/Holiday celebrations:** Just a reminder that if food is sent in for a celebration that it must be store bought. No homemade food is allowed in any classroom. The food needs to be brought to the nurse's office at the start of the day for the nurse to check ingredients.

**Medications:** Please remember to send in all medication paperwork as well as bringing the medication to the nurse's office if your child will be keeping/taking their medications at school.

**Hearing Screening:** Is scheduled to start the first week of October.

**Vision Screening:** The Lion's club will return this year to conduct vision screenings on every child. Please see attached letter.

**As always please feel free to contact me with any questions/concerns. Thank you.**

**Cheryl Rapuano, RN**

## All about iReady

- iReady is a universal screener aligned with the Common Core State Standards K-5. It will provide teachers with data to guide daily instruction and support individualized learning.
- The first iReady benchmark was administered and completed by students in grades 1-5. Kindergarten will be assessed in the winter.
- More information about iReady will be discussed at parent/teacher conferences in November.