



**UPCOMING
IMPORTANT DATES**

- January 14:
PTO Meeting at 9AM
- January 17:
Yearbook Sale Begins
- January 20:
No School
- January 23:
STEM/Literacy Night 5:30-7
- January 31:
All Pro Dads
- January 31:
Yearbook Sale Ends

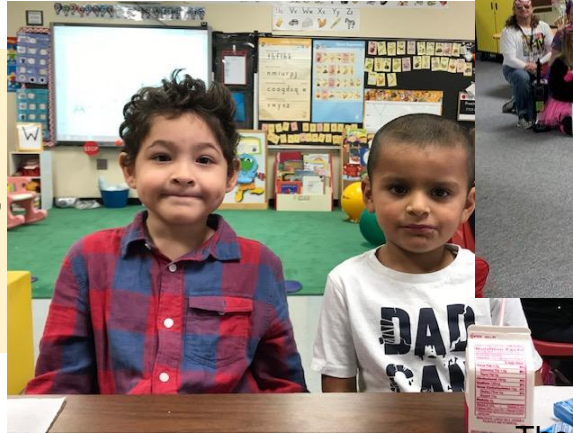
Dear Souders Families and Friends:

An instructional focus this year has been independent reading. Our district literacy framework identifies independent reading one of the key pieces of our literacy instruction. As a staff we have been working to provide more chance for students to read and to read independently. Reading like any skill requires practice. Parents will often ask what they can do to strengthen student reading skills. My suggestion is to read with your child. Alternate reading different pages. Have your child read to you and you read to your child. Share what you are reading with your child. If you model a love of reading for fun, your child will likely follow. If you have questions, call or email me.

Happy 2020! I hope your year is off to a great start.

Mr. Cox

At right: Staff participates in "decades" day. Below: Snack time in preschool.



Quote of the Week:

"Things don't change. You change your way of looking, that's all."

Carlos Castaneda

We are excited to learn that we are the recipient of a Walmart Community Grant for \$3,000 toward our Kindergarten Learning Kits that incoming kindergartners receive in May. The Learning Kit contains number and letter flashcards, play-doh, pencils, a pad of paper, crayons, a rhyming activity and activity suggestions from the kindergarten teachers. Thanks to the Sunbury Community Library for providing the bags with a summer schedule of events for children and a bookmark. We are giving incoming kindergartners a head start with their learning and setting them up for success! A big thank you to Heidi Curtin for applying for the grant. Also a big thank you to Walmart!

These dates are still two months away, but I wanted to make parents aware as the events are right before spring break...

March 19: Celebrate Arts Day (all day)

March 20: Career Connections (8:45am) and Recorder Concert (2:45pm)

March 23-27: Spring Break

Please do **not** send glass containers or bottles in your child's lunch. Thank you.

The state budget bill had a language change to HB410, regarding student attendance. The change took effect in October. "Medically" excused absences no longer are counted in chronic absenteeism, so if you have a doctor's note, then it doesn't count toward hours of absence. The office must receive a copy of the doctor's note for the absence to be medically excused.

