



# WINTHROP SCHOOL

## FAMILY UPDATE #8 2020-2021

### NOVEMBER 23-NOVEMBER 27

#### Thanksgiving Wishes to Council on Aging - Meals on Wheels.

For our school-wide community project this month, students made Thanksgiving cards for Hamilton-Wenham Seniors who benefit from the Meals on Wheels program. We hope the cards bring some joy to our neighbors this holiday season.



#### Holiday Travel Reminders:

As the holiday season approaches and families are making travel plans, it's important to remind all of our families and staff of the [Massachusetts COVID-19 Travel Orders](#) in place during the COVID-19 pandemic. All visitors entering Massachusetts, including returning residents, who do not meet an exemption, are required to:

- Complete the [Massachusetts Travel Form](#) prior to arrival, unless you are visiting from a lower-risk state designated by the Department of Public Health.
- Quarantine for 14 days or produce a negative COVID-19 test result that has been administered up to 72-hours prior to your arrival in Massachusetts.
- If your COVID-19 test result has not been received prior to arrival, visitors and residents must quarantine until they receive a negative test result.
- Important details:
  - Students and staff will need to provide proof of a PCR (not antigen) test per the order.
  - Those traveling for 72 hours may not obtain a test prior to their departure.

For a list of state-sponsored testing sites, please refer to this [Stop the Spread resource](#).

#### Updated Quarantine Guidance after Exposure to COVID-19

Last Thursday, the Department of Public Health (DPH) issued [updated quarantine guidance](#) for those exposed to COVID-19. Specifically, an individual must remain quarantined for:

#### IMPORTANT DATES

**Wednesday, November 25**  
*Early Release 11:15 Dismissal*

**Thursday, Nov 26/Friday, Nov 27**  
*No School - Thanksgiving Break*

**Tuesday, December 1**  
*Cohort A & APL Students - School Picture Day*

**Thursday, December 3**  
*Cohort B & APL Students - School Picture Day*

**Friday, December 18**  
*Report Cards open in Aspen*

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- At least 14 days from the date of last exposure; or
- At least 10 days, provided all of the following are satisfied:
  - You have not had and do not have any symptoms;
  - You are tested on day 8 of your quarantine period or later using a molecular diagnostic test (e.g., polymerase chain reaction (PCR)) to detect the presence of the virus;
  - You receive a negative test result; and
  - You monitor yourself for symptoms for the full 14 days. If you develop symptoms, you should contact your health care provider and be re-tested.

Please contact Nurse Jess Baker @ 978-468-5346 with any questions or concerns.

### **Wednesday Specials - November 25th**

On Wednesday, November 25th, specialists are holding normal synchronous classes @ 9:00 and 10:00. The 11:00 special will be quick, ending @ 11:15.

### **Superintendent/Principal Coffee Hour**

Thank you to the families who joined Superintendent Mary Beth Banios and I for the Coffee Hour last Monday evening. We appreciate the thoughtful questions and feedback to help us continue to improve our hybrid model.

### **O'Connor School Photos - respond by Tuesday, Nov. 24**

Last week, you should have received an email from Mrs. Brockenbrough to “opt-in” to the O'Connor online ordering process. The deadline to set up your account is tomorrow, so please click [HERE](#) to opt-in for ordering. You will receive additional emails directly from O'Connor to order the photo package for each of your children, with separate accounts for separate households. Picture Day is Tues. Dec 1 for Cohort A, and Thurs. Dec 3 for Cohort B. APL families can choose either day, but should email Mrs. B to schedule a time.

### **Updating Aspen and reviewing Handbook**

Please remember to update your child's contact and medical information in Aspen in the Tasks section under *Initiate*. We also ask all families to review the [Winthrop Handbook](#) containing COVID additions for this school year.

### **Safe Arrival Line/Dismissal Changes**

**In person days, please call the safe arrival line 978-468-5344 to report your child absent or tardy. Please call the front office @ 978-468-5340 for dismissal changes.**