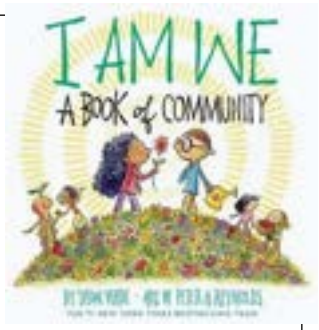
ATWOOD AWESOME

OCTOBER FAMILY LETTER

PRINCIPAL'S PEN



Dear Families,

I am a big fan of picture books by Susan Verde and Peter Reynolds, as they offer such beautiful messages to children. Their book, I Am We: A Book of Community, perfectly connects to our annual Costumes for a Cause tradition.

"How we build, create, learn and show love.
How we care for each other affects the world.
I am more than me...I AM WE."

Every October we partner with World of Change (www.worldofchange.world) to show the impact of **WE** on our community. This incredible nonprofit movement uses spare change (yes, pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters) as a tool to teach others about the power of their change and their collective capacity to make a world of change.

On October 5, we will have an annual town meeting with Matt Hoidal from World of Change to share the impact of the millions of dollars in change that is discarded annually. The essential message to children is that we can use our change to make a difference! Last year, in partnership with Williams Elementary School, we collected $1,764.27 in coins to benefit our school food pantries. In 2024, the $2,090.82 that we collected was donated to sponsor a wish through the Make a Wish foundation for a child in Maine. Our goal is to show children that something as simple as collecting change can make a significant impact, especially when combined with the efforts of others!

In the words of Helen Keller, "Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much." We are excited to parade through town on Friday, October 30 for our annual Halloween parade with our message of spreading kindness in our community!

Warmly,
Shelly Moody & Amy Naegely



COSTUMES FOR A CAUSE

Our affirmation this month is "I am kind to others." We will be celebrating acts of kindness all month long! Our collaborative Costumes for a Cause event is one way that we can shine the light of kindness together!

- From October 5 to October 30, students can bring change from home to school to add to their classroom jar.
- On October 30, the World of Change Truck will participate in the Costumes for a Cause Parade, and students will deposit the coins they have collected into the truck.
- 100% of the change collected will benefit the Dempsey Center and our local Humane Society.

Thank you for partnering with us to make a difference!

IMPORTANT DATES

October 2: School Picture Day
October 5: World of Change Assembly & Shine Bright Awards!
October 7: Flu Clinic
October 9: No School ~ Teacher Workshop Day
October 12: No School ~ Indigenous Peoples' Day
October 30: Happy Halloween! Costumes for a Cause See our flyer for more information!



ATWOOD AWESOME

OCTOBER FAMILY LETTER

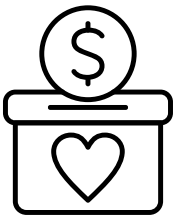
PTA FUNDRAISER UPDATE

We are so fortunate to have the support of our amazing Atwood Williams Parent Teacher Association! In addition to organizing fun events for families, such as the annual Snow Ball and fall family Bingo Night, this group of parents also helps to fundraise for special experiences for our students. For the past two years, they have also funded a trip to the Waterville Opera House for our entire school. We are grateful for their partnership and support for our school community! New members are welcome!

How can you help support our schools?
Atwood-Williams PTA's fundraiser started last week and the PTA needs your help. Their goal is to raise $12,000.00 for important items and enrichment activities for students.

You can still participate!

1. Register at www.ShopFund.com
2. Make sure you use Group Code: E4NBV
3. Share custom support links with family & friends with encouragement to support our schools!



Thank you for supporting our schools through this annual fundraiser!

FIELD TRIP



On Monday, October 19, our K-2 students will be traveling to the Waterville Opera House from 11:00-1:30 for a special production of Peter Pan. There are many special messages that we hope to highlight in this performance for your child, including imagination, courage and friendship. We are looking forward to this special experience for our school community! Thank you to our AWESOME PTA for sponsoring this experience for all children!

AWESOME UPDATES

Community Movie



We're excited to invite all district families to a fun-filled Community Movie Night! Join us on Friday, November 6th at 6:00 p.m. at the Messalonskee High School Performing Arts Center. Bring your family to watch "GOAT" for free! Students are encouraged to design their own jersey (see the attached paper)! These personal jerseys will be on display at the PAC at the movie night! Be creative and have fun!



Attendance Update

Classrooms are celebrating attendance daily as part of morning meeting! Every day that all students are present, we add a star to the classroom jar because we shine brighter together! Mrs. Lee's and Mrs. LeBrun's classes were the first groups to fill their Star Jar! When each class reaches 25 days together, Mrs. Naegely and Mrs. Moody will be presenting them wtih a special prize. Thank you for supporting your child by prioritizing daily attendance! Our year is off to an Atwood Awesome start!

Health Reminders



Attached to this newsletter, you will find our district guidelines related to fevers and other symptoms as illnesses become more common this time of year. Please reach out to Nurse Holly if you ever have questions about your child's health. Thank you!

COSTUMES FOR A CAUSE PARADE

WITH WORLD OF CHANGE

OCTOBER 30, 2026 AT 8:30 AM

As we stroll through the spook-tastic streets of Oakland, we'll be on a mission to make a difference. Together with World of Change, we are collecting coins this year to support the Dempsey Center and the incredible care they offer. With cancer touching so many hearts in our community, every single coin brings us closer together to support the people and families who need it most! Students also selected the Waterville Humane Society as a local cause that they would like to support this year!

DON'T MISS THIS FANG-TASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN & MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY!

PARADE ROUTE:

LINE UP ON HEATH STREET... JOIN WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS AND HEAD DOWN MAIN STREET TOGETHER!

WE WILL TAKE A LEFT ONTO WEST PLEASANT & WALK PAST WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.FINALLY, WE WILL TAKE A LEFT NEAR THE KORNER STORE TO RETURN TO ATWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL!

YOUR CHILD SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL IF HE/SHE EXHIBITS ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

	Do Not Send	May Return to School
Diarrhea	3 loose/watery stools/dry-bloody or foul smelling	Symptom-free for 24 hours
Eye inflammation or conjunctivitis	Pink eye, drainage (pus) from eye, inflammation (swelling) of the mucous membranes of the eye	After treatment with antibiotics for 24 hours and discharge from eye(s) has stopped
Fever	Temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher	Temperature below 100.3 degrees for 24 hours, without use of fever reducing meds
Flu	Abrupt onset of fever, chills, headache, sore muscles, running nose, sore throat, cough	When symptoms are gone, without fever for 24 hours
Impetigo and/or bacterial infections	Blister-like lesion, crusted pus-like sores	After 24 hours of antibiotic therapy
Rash or rash with fever	Unexplained rash with fever or behavioral changes	When physician has determined the illness is not contagious, fever is gone for 24 hours, rash
Sore throat, earache, irritability	Accompanied by fever	Symptom-free for 24 hours
Strep throat diagnosed by physician	Strep throat diagnosed by physician	On antibiotics for 24 hours
Vomiting	One or more times in last 24 hours	Symptom-free for 24 hours

Children with these symptoms cannot comfortably participate in program activities and unnecessarily expose others to their illnesses; they should stay home for at least 24 hours before returning to school. *If you believe your child is too sick to go out to recess, they are probably too sick to attend school.* We appreciate your cooperation in adhering to these guidelines.

Please encourage your child to wash their hands before eating, after using the bathroom and after sneezing or blowing their nose. By using these few guidelines we can all stay a little healthier. If you have any questions, please give your school nurse a call.

SOCIAL WORK

TIP OF THE MONTH

➢ Child Screen Use

OCTOBER 2026

Did you know?

- School-aged children benefit from **consistent limits** on media use & guidance with choosing media.
- It is important to allow plenty of time for active play, sleep, interacting with peers without screens, and time with family!
- Avoiding screen use 1 hour before bedtime it can improve sleep quality!



Making the Most of Screen Use

Model: Set a good example. Kids learn from watching their grown-ups.
Engage: Ask questions about what they watch & play to make real life connections.
Adjust: Choose a balance of age-appropriate, educational content
Limit: Set healthy rules & expectations for your home. Try screen-free times & zones
Support: Co-watch & help choose media.

Signs of too much screen time:

- Disrupted sleep
- Frequent irritability
- Attention challenges
- Less pretend and creative play
- Less emotional expression
- Difficulty ending screen time or turning off screen

Resources

- commonsensemedia.org
- aap.org
- healthychildren.org
- www.seattlechildrens.org/health-safety/parenting/screen-time/

ATWOOD AWESOME

LIBRARY

I have enjoyed welcoming students back into the library and meeting everyone! Students have been excited about the new library flooring and new set up. We have read some fun books together and students have enjoyed choosing books to borrow!
~ Mrs. Crowell



We have spent time talking about how to take good care of our library books.

The book care tips we have talk about are:

- Keep your books in a safe place like your backpack
- Keep food & drinks away from your books, including your water bottle.
- Keep books away from pets or little siblings
- Return your books each week so you can borrow a new one!

Story Walk

This month we set up a brand new story walk featuring the book *From Head to Toe* by Eric Carle in our Atwood orchard. Each class experienced the story walk during their library visit. Each page features a certain animal and their unique movements! If you come to Atwood after school hours, feel free to check it out in the orchard! We will be adding new books throughout the year!

