Lightning News for February 22nd - 26th.

Barnhill does their Best! Better Every Single Time.

The theme for the month of February is “caring.”

“Caring – about people, about things, about life – is an act of maturity.” ~ Tracy McMillan

This week is Spirit Week. Please see the attached poster with the information for each day of the week. We are kicking off the week with pajama day tomorrow. Anyone who would like to wear their pajamas to school for the day, may do so tomorrow and pay a loonie to your homeroom teacher. All the loonies collected will be donated to those in need in the Saint John area with the *I Care Kits.*

This is the final week to fill up the *I Care Kits* ~the kits will include personal items such as combs, toothbrushes, soaps, deodorants, mittens, socks etc. The kits will be donated to those in need at the end of the week. Thank you for all your support and donations.

The month of February is “Suicide Awareness” month. Community involvement is important, for suicide is a societal problem and everyone has a role to play if we want to succeed in its prevention. It is crucial to keep informed of suicide prevention programs and services available, suicide prevention gives hope to survivors and their loved ones. Students have been learning more about suicide prevention here at school. If you require any further information, please reach out to our Guidance Counsellor, Mrs. Jennifer Levesque.

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements of Black Canadians and how they contributed to Canada’s history and culture. The students are learning more about these achievements here at school.

Every Friday we have hot lunch available for our students. Pizza is sold on Cashless School for $5.00 for two slices. However, do not despair, students may purchase pizza for $2.50 a slice on Friday, however, it is first come first serve.

Breakfast – we do have some nut free, healthy, individually wrapped breakfast items and snacks available in the office to anyone who would like one. Students may come to the office at breaks or lunch to receive a healthy food item.

There are only 5 school days left in this month for our PBIS initiative, the Oscar Award. We are encouraging all students to make every effort to keep the environment clean in their class bubble. Without the use of lockers this year, it has been more of a challenge to keep the class bubbles neat and tidy, however, most bubbles have been doing an excellent job of keeping their desks organized and their outdoor clothing and shoes stored away in the class. The custodians have been very pleased with the cleanliness of the classes. It certainly does take all of us together to keep our school clean and sanitized and we want to applaud all the students for the part they play in this endeavor. Thank you to everyone, it will be a tough choice to see who the winners will be at the end of the month.

**Pink Shirt Day:** Pink Shirt Day is Wednesday, February 24th. Anti-Bullying Day is a day when people wear a pink shirt to symbolize a stand against bullying. Pink Shirt Day has humble beginnings ~ inspired by an act of kindness in 2007 in a small town in Nova Scotia. Three high school boys organized a school protest to wear pink in sympathy with a grade 9 boy who was wearing a pink shirt and being bullied. Travis Price one of the high school boys, with his friends organized a pink protest, they handed out many pink shirts and with the other students dressed in pink, stood in solidarity. The bullies were never heard from again. On February 24, 2021, we encourage everyone to practice kindness and wear pink to symbolize that you do not tolerate bullying. If you do not have a pink shirt, we have pink shirts on sale in the office, please note they are going fast. The shirts are only $5.00 each, it will be first come first “serve.”

**On the Horizon:**

**March Break:** New Brunswick students will have March Break from March 1st – 5th. Students return to school on March 8th.

**Virtual Assembly:** On Wednesday morning, March 10th we will be having a virtual assembly presented by “Live Different” from Hamilton, Ontario to all 15 of our classroom bubbles. This is sure to be an excellent event. Pre-COVID -19 we had this group here in our gymnasium and the students loved this presentation.

**Report Cards:** The second home report will be issued on March 31st. After March Break we will provide you with more information regarding the Parent/Guardian/ Teacher/ Student conferences.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 658-5971 or jill.ferguson@nbed.nb.ca

Thank you.

Ms. Jill Ferguson