



Union Elementary School

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Union, ME 04862
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Scott A. White, Principal
Allison Davis, Administrative Assistant
April 5, 2024



Dates to Remember

Monday, April 8th

Solar Eclipse- see more information on last page of this newsletter

April 15-19

April Vacation- No School

Tuesday, April 30th

UES Student Performance of "The Trees Remember" @ 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 8th

Early Release Day
Dismissal @ 1:15 p.m.

Monday, May 27th

Memorial Day- No School

Tuesday, June 4th

Field Trip for grades 3 & 4 to the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens

Wednesday, June 5th

Field Trip for PreK to The Coastal Children's Museum

Friday, June 7th

Mad Science Presentation @ UES

Wednesday, June 19th

Juneteenth- No School

Thursday, June 20th

Last Student Day (at this time)
Early Release Day

Super Citizens

Students recognized for positive behaviors!!

Our PBIS monthly theme for April is - Conflict Resolution.

I will choose positive ways to resolve conflicts.

Congratulations to the following students for being recognized this week for our targeted positive behavior:

Pre K: Cove Johnson & Lucy Brown

Kindergarten: Caroline Girtman & Ashton Bowen

1st Grade: Tegen Bernardo & Malachi Calderwood

2nd Grade: Lexie Hopkins & Charlie Ward

3rd Grade: Bailey Elwell & Aaliyah Stanton

4th Grade: Brooklyn Moody & Brookelynn Gamage

5th Grade: Angelika Stanton & Fallyn Kirkham

6th Grade: Jordan Elwell & Kyle Jensen



Solar Eclipse

In case you haven't heard, the Solar eclipse is happening on Monday, April 8th! All students will receive their special solar eclipse sunglasses on the way out of the school that afternoon. If you are picking your student up early that day and want to get their glasses, please let us know ahead of time so we can keep them in the office.

Please read the last page of this newsletter for more important viewing information about the eclipse. We want everyone to have a safe experience viewing this once in a lifetime event!

Student Feature: Zoe Carlson Grade: 5



I like UES because - because I get to see my friends and the teachers are nice. They help me when I need it. Today, Ms. Adams noticed that my multiplication paper was wrong, she printed a new one and now I am able to fix it.

My favorite books include - *The Secret of the Rose* from the Vose Library. I also liked *The Girl from the Sea*.

I like to watch - *The Princess and the Frog* and *Wish*. They're both Disney movies.

My favorite singers and bands include - The Rock group Nirvana or the Country artist Lil Nas.

My favorite foods include - chicken and rice with chocolate ice cream.

My hobbies include - drawing. I enjoy drawing people, backgrounds, and like the moon.

When I grow up I want to - be an artist or an astrologist. .

If I could live anywhere in the world I'd live - in Mexico because I like their food and that they celebrate The Day of the Dead or Japan because they also have great food and I like their animé.

Leader of the Band

Mr. Phillips and a portion of his band students are shown here preparing for the day's practice session. Mr. Phillips has been instrumental in procuring instruments for students and rekindling a program which has been absent for many years. Students enjoy this co-curricular activity and have made a ton of progress since September. There are 20 members! {5 percussion, 5 trumpet, 2 trombone, 3 alto saxophone, 2 clarinet, and 3 flute players}. We hope to add more instruments next year from a local grant source.



A.C.E. (After-school Children's Enrichment)

Childcare Openings (Ages 4 - 12)

Before (7-8:30) \$25/Week and After Care (3:15 - 5:30) \$50/Week

Locations: Union, Waldoboro and Warren Schools

It is the intent of A.C.E. or the After-school Children's Enrichment program to provide a social, structured, and safe out of school time environment for the students of the MSAD #40 school district. The program works to incorporate a mix of educational and recreational activities that are fun, interesting, affordable and safe for children ages 4 to 12 when school is not in session.

Additional Care: Early Releases, Workshop Days, Vacation and Summer

Please contact Stacey Fowler for an application @ 701-8407 or ace.stacey@yahoo.com

Writing Excerpts from Grade 5 and 6

Mrs. Splaine's students have been working on Informational writing for the past few weeks. There was a lot of work researching, putting information into their own words, organizing the material into a format which flows properly, and conveying educational details to the reader. Students also spent time revising and editing their piece to make it worthy of publishing and also included several sources in their Bibliography. Below you will find excerpts from a few students:

Calvin W - "The red squirrels know how to make syrup. They bite the trunk to make holes in the very thick branches of the tree. The sap will drill out of the hole that they made, but they don't eat it right away. They wait until the sun hits the watery sap as it will evaporate then it will become maple syrup. When the sun hits the sap, the squirrels will lick the syrup then they bite two more holes to do the same thing over again."

Kallie W - "Chocolate can be delicious, but the workers at chocolate farms are not being treated or paid fairly. Some of the workers are even being used as slaves. Harvesting all day almost every day, with the hot sun beating down on them. To stop the workers at chocolate farms from being used as slaves, you can try buying from fair trade chocolate brands."

Lauren L - "Unfortunately there is a downside to most cacao farms, and that is that have slaves, and most of them are children. There are over twenty seven million slaves in the world today of whom over nine million are children. Every day in the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria and Cameroon, about three hundred thousand children pick cacao beans, Children in West Africa pick a large percentage of the world's cacao, in fact they pick most of the world's cacao."

Bentley R - "This is the way people are making maple syrup today. In the spring it has to be twenty degrees at night and forty degrees at day. Tap the tree with a drill, and get a tap, then shove it in. Then put a bucket on the tap. The bucket fills with sap. Then you take the bucket and put the sap in a pot to boil. That's how you make syrup. We still make syrup the same way Native Americans did."

Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration Information for 24/25

Pre-K:

A child must be four years old on or before October 15, 2024, to be eligible to register for Pre-K. Priority will be given to students who live in our school district.

We currently have six Pre-K classrooms in our district located at Miller School (2), Union Elementary School (1), Prescott Memorial (1) and Warren Community School (2). Students attend five full days a week. Each Pre-K class is full when it reaches 16 students. Friendship students will have the option of being transported to/from Warren or Miller School based on class sizes.

A child will not be considered for placement in a class until registration is fully complete including proof of residency, birth certificate, and immunization record.

Kindergarten:

A child must be five years old on or before October 15, 2024, to be eligible to register for Kindergarten. If your child was already enrolled with the district for Pre-K, you do not need to do a new registration for enrollment for Kindergarten. You will need to do the annual update of Student Information in the fall.

Link will be published on March 1st, 2024 for new Kindergarten registrations.

Please note: If you are an existing family of RSU 40 with a student already enrolled in the district and are registering another child, you will register your child through your Campus Portal account and not from here. If you do not have a Campus Portal account, please contact your child's school.

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION LINK

Important Information Regarding the Solar Eclipse

Source: [Parent Tips](#) and [Maine DOE](#)

Children and parents across the country are getting excited for the total solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, which will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada. It will be visible in 15 parts of the United States, including Maine.

In Maine, the eclipse will start at approximately 2:19PM, be at its half-way peak at 3:01 PM and be at full view at 3:31PM. For many of our students, they will be on the bus at this time. According to [NASA](#), people should never gaze directly at the sun during a solar eclipse, even when it is partly or mostly covered by the moon. **UES, along with all RSU40 schools will provide each student with "eclipse glasses."** These glasses were made possible by the [Knox County Emergency Management Association](#) and are intended as a precautionary measure for safely viewing the eclipse. We will ensure each student has a pair of glasses and will encourage them to wear them to prevent any possible damage.

We asked Cook Children's experts how to best prepare for this historic event. [Osaretin Aimuyo M.D.](#), pediatrician at [Cook Children's Pediatrics Arlington](#) and [Michael G. Hunt M.D.](#), Research and Education Director of Ophthalmology at Cook Children's, advise parents on how to protect their family and their eyes.



"A total solar eclipse can be very exciting because it doesn't happen often and is a great opportunity to get kids excited about natural phenomena," says Aimuyo. "It is possible to look directly at the eclipse, but it *must* be done with proper eye protection to prevent blindness or permanent 'stamps' of the sun on the eye. There are glasses with specialized filters designed specifically for viewing an eclipse. [The American Astronomical Society](#) publishes a list of vendors who sell ISO-certified eclipse glasses."

Wearing solar eclipse glasses - Hunt explains that solar eclipse glasses are worn the same way you wear regular sunglasses. They can be worn directly over your regular glasses or contact lenses. However, Hunt emphasizes that you should not put them on or take them off while you are looking at the sun. "The simple order for using solar eclipse glasses is this: look away, put them on, watch the eclipse, look away, take them off."

Hunt shares the safest way to use a pair of solar eclipse glasses:

1. Prepare your glasses by folding them into the correct configuration if needed.
2. While holding the glasses, stand with your body toward the sun, but look down.
3. Still looking down, put the eclipse glasses on.
4. Raise your head and look up at the sun - enjoy the eclipse.
5. Don't remove your solar eclipse glasses if you are still watching the eclipse.

When can solar eclipse glasses be removed?

- There is one situation where the glasses can be removed: during the totality phase of a total solar eclipse. This is when the moon has completely blocked out the sun and the sky is dark.
 - With young children, it could be hard to have them remove and replace the glasses at just the right time. It is best to have them keep the glasses on the entire time they look toward the sun.
 - With infants, it is safest for them to remain inside during the eclipse. If they are small enough to fit in a car seat or stroller with a canopy, you can safely have them outside. Be sure the canopy is drawn so they do not get direct sunlight to their eyes.
- Be prepared to put your solar eclipse glasses back on before totality ends and the partial phase reappears.
- To remove the glasses, look away from the sun and remove the glasses.

Please click on the links below for additional information regarding the eclipse.

[Eclipses](#)
[2024 Solar Eclipse](#)