

TAFT EARLY LEARNING CENTER

16 Granite Street · Uxbridge, Massachusetts 01569

Phone 508-278-8643



TAFT UPDATE - 5/10

Happy Mother's Day to all moms!!! I hope you had a wonderful day! I enjoyed the day with my children.

Stay healthy!

Principal Bellville

This week at Taft:

- PTO Meeting - check out the PTO Facebook page
- Last day of school - June 17th
- Taft closed for students through June 29th
- Building closed to the public

Counselor's Corner from Ms. Kelley, School Psychologist:

This week's counseling corner is an article about teaching mindfulness to children. The article is mostly infographics so it's very user friendly :)

<https://lifehacker.com/15-ways-to-teach-mindfulness-and-patience-to-children-1787160073>

A Message From Mrs. DeMarco to Grade 3 Parents:

Hello Grade 3 families,

It is hard to believe that we are starting the transition of the 3rd graders up to Whitin for next year. I always look forward to welcoming a new class to Whitin each year.

This year we will be asking families to fill out the attached [Parent Placement Input form](#) which will provide us with important information about your child. We ask that families fill out this survey to help in the process of placement for 4th grade.

If you have any questions regarding the survey, placement or about Whitin please do not hesitate to contact me. Once we get further guidance on accessing the building we will start to plan an open house for the 3rd graders and their parents. In the meantime, we will be planning a virtual move up day for the students at the beginning of June.

I look forward to hearing from you very soon.

Be well,

Leanne DeMarco

Principal

WIC Services:

The Department of Public Health is sharing the following information on access to WIC services and food for our families with young children.

The MA Department of Public Health's Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) Nutrition Program is informing our health and community partners that WIC services are available by phone. ALL WIC Programs are able to provide **all services by phone** to align with social distancing efforts. Our [website](#) will be kept up-to-date as well. Contact local WIC programs with any questions about breastfeeding, nutrition or shopping. Even if local program offices are not open, they are responding to phone calls and providing services from remote locations. WIC is committed to providing families with continued support now and in the days ahead.

WIC welcomes families at any time. Check out WIC's [eligibility page](#) to see how to families can **apply online** for WIC services. Parents, grandparents and foster parents may apply for children under the age of five years who are in their care.

Call WIC at 1-800-942-1007 or 617-721-6601 weekdays Monday through Friday 9am – 5pm. If you hear a recording, please leave a message with your name and telephone number, and staff will respond the same business day or email a Local WIC Program directly with any questions. Download the list: [WIC Local Program Email Addresses](#).

STEM Read Aloud from Patti Sprague, Math Coordinator:

I traveled to space to read *Starry, Starry Night*, a great non-fiction book about our solar system. [Here](#) is the link. As always, discussion questions and extension activity links are in the video description.

Message from Patti Sprague, Math Coordinator:

The Uxbridge Public Schools insures equal employment and educational opportunities for its employees and students and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, gender identity, disability, or sexual orientation in compliance with Title VI, Title IX, section 504/ADA and G.L. c 151b and 157c.

The Taft Math Fairies are essential workers, and they have delivered May's Problems of the Month! Check out this [Padlet](#) for each grade level's problem. Click the plus sign underneath to upload your student's answer. It could be a picture of their work or a video or sound recording of their explanation. Here are more [detailed instructions](#), if necessary. Please join us to share your child's thinking and check out the work of other students!

Meals to Go (see attached flyer):

Uxbridge Offers Healthy Meal Service to Children During School Closures

Nutritious Breakfast and Lunch available free to all Uxbridge Students

April 9, 2020 — Beginning Monday, April 13, 2020 in efforts to support families during school closures, Uxbridge Public Schools is providing free, nutritious breakfast and lunch meals to all Uxbridge students and *to all children/youth aged 0-21, regardless of residence or school attended*, as part of the USDA's emergency COVID-19 response.

“We want people to know that these healthy meals are available to all Uxbridge students. In fact, parents/caregivers can pick up meals on children's behalf to help ensure safe social distancing,” said Superintendent Frank Tiano. “We know that home food supplies are running low and it's important to try to keep people out of the supermarkets. This is a federally funded program, and the food is nutritious, so please come take your meals!”

Uxbridge Public Schools offer meals at the **Taft Early Learning Center**, 16 Granite St, Uxbridge, MA 01569. Meals are available for pick-up on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, with breakfast and lunch offered for multiple days. “On Monday and Wednesday, we offer two breakfasts and lunches to cover Tuesday, and Thursday. On Friday, we offer three breakfasts and lunches to carry children through the weekend,” said Stephanie Barstow, the district's School Nutrition Director.

- Meals are available **to Uxbridge Public School students and to all children/youth aged 0-21, regardless of residence or school attended.**
- Meals are available **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11am - 1pm**
- Children receive **a free breakfast and lunch for every day of the week** (bagged breakfast and bagged lunch). Children (or parents/guardians on behalf of children) can take multiple days' worth of meals at once.

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- **On Fridays, families can pick up 6 meals** to cover both a breakfast and a lunch on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
- **Children do not need to be present for parents/guardians to pick up the meals.**
- **Safe social distancing is encouraged via the pick-up process:** Meals are distributed outside cafeteria doors on the sidewalk where families enter the drive-up/pick-up line, pull up to the curb, and inform staff how many students they are picking up for. Food service staff will place meals in the trunk of vehicles to maintain distance.
- Anyone who cannot make it out of their house to pick up a meal is encouraged to email Stephanie at sbarstow@uxbridge.k12.ma.us.