

TAFT EARLY LEARNING CENTER

16 Granite Street · Uxbridge, Massachusetts 01569

Phone 508-278-8643



TAFT UPDATE - 9/29

This week at Taft:

- World Smile Day - October 4th - Wear a smiley face shirt or the color yellow!
- Be on the lookout for Picture Day flyers for October 9th and 10th - schedule will follow soon.

½ Day Lunches Available:

The Uxbridge Food Service Department is excited to offer “Grab and Go Lunches” on scheduled ½ days for the 2019-2020 school year. Please find the flyer attached to this email that needs to be completed and return to your child’s teacher by Tuesday of this week.

Meet the Teacher Night Survey:

As we look to improve our practices here at Taft, we are asking for your feedback. Thank you to all parents/guardians who attended Meet the Teacher Night on Thursday night! Meet the Teacher Night is designed as an opportunity for parents/guardians to come to the school and learn about their child's curriculum. Please complete a brief survey found at this [link](https://forms.gle/SxUSnS4wGMubc2UM7) (<https://forms.gle/SxUSnS4wGMubc2UM7>) by Friday, October 4th.

Thank you for taking the time to fill this out. Your insight and opinion are important to us!

PTO - Taft Spirit Wear

Taft Spirit Wear is now available. Please use the link below to view and order your Spirit Wear. The store closes Sunday October 6th. Please email Chris Pezzullo with any questions at chrispezzullo@gmail.com. Happy shopping!

<https://taftelementary.itemorder.com>

ST Math - Grade 2 and Grade 3: Students in grades 2 and 3 will be utilizing ST Math this year!



What is ST Math?

ST (Spatial-Temporal) Math is a math software program that promotes problem solving. It helps teachers reach all students at their level, and provides students with the opportunity to be successful learners. ST Math combines classroom instruction with online math games and puzzles. These activities emphasize working with math concepts rather than fact

memorization. They start off simply and get more challenging as a student progresses.

When students use ST Math, the teacher gets feedback on what math content each child has mastered and if any child is having trouble. The teacher uses this information to tailor instruction during math lessons and interventions. ST Math addresses all Common Core Standards for math at each grade level. Using ST Math reinforces classroom learning and provides each student with extra practice in grade level content. We want students to develop patience and perseverance when solving problems. We teach this as part of daily math instruction. ST Math provides an opportunity for students to try different approaches and to keep going until a solution is found. We want students to develop math tenacity and stamina, but we also want students to develop an appreciation for math. Students usually enjoy ST Math. It is a fun and sound way of providing students with reinforcement and guided practice in grade level math content.

What is unique about the ST Math resource?

- EMPHASIS ON VISUAL MODELS - ST Math emphasizes visual models and incrementally teaches students to connect those models to abstract numbers and symbols.
- PROMOTES REASONING - ST Math uses reasoning puzzles for student learning, not rote procedures. This fosters conceptual understanding rather than repetition of memorized steps.
- INDIVIDUALIZED TOWARD MASTERY - Each student can progress at their own pace, staying on one level until mastery has been reached or moving forward once mastery has been demonstrated.
- MOTIVATING - Students who experienced ST Math last year were fully engaged in the puzzles, motivated to demonstrate progress and advance to higher levels, and they spontaneously started discussing math reasoning with their peers. These are all positive indicators of student interest and engagement.
- TARGETED INSTRUCTION AND BLENDED LEARNING - The teacher can monitor individual student progress, identify areas in which a student struggles, and provide targeted instruction in school.
- DEMONSTRATED IMPROVED PERFORMANCE - ST Math has improved student performance on standardized tests when students use the program for at least 90 minutes per week (60 minutes/week for Grades PreK-1).

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Important Dates:

Week of October 7th - Fire Prevention Week

October 9th and 10th - Picture Days (Date Correction) - Schedule to follow soon!

October 11th -1/2 day

October 16th - Title I Night 6-7 pm

PTOs - Old Fashioned Halloween Costume Party - Friday, October 25th from 6-8 pm, Sensory Sensitive Time from 5:30-6 pm

My door is always open and I welcome your input. Please feel free to call or email, jbelle@uxbridge.k12.ma.us, to discuss any concerns throughout the year or stop by to say hello. I am looking forward to working with you as a team to help each student at Taft Early Learning Center meet their goals and have a successful school year!

Have a great week!

Principal Bellville

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