



WINTHROP SCHOOL

FAMILY UPDATE #3 2020-2021

OCTOBER 19-OCTOBER 23

We had another great week at Winthrop! Tuesday and Friday brought us our first rainy days with each cohort. While there were changes to some routines, and some challenges at pickup, the days went well overall. Please remember to send your child to school with weather appropriate outerwear, including a sweatshirt or jacket everyday, and raincoat and boots on rainy days, so we can continue to access our outdoor spaces whenever possible.

Morning Arrival/Car Drop-off Reminder: Please follow staff directions, with students exiting cars only when indicated that it is safe. Students should have backpacks in their laps and masks on when you pull up. Parents should remain in cars, with students exiting independently, to allow us to move cars through the lines quickly and safely.

Early Dismissal: If you need to dismiss your child early from school, please call the office to let us know that you are on your way. We will have your child ready at the door when you arrive. 978-468-5340

PickUp Reminder: When you enter the pickup area, place the pickup sign, with your child's name, in the driver side window and leave it there until your child is in the car. This will help us direct students to their cars and will indicate to staff when it is safe for the group of cars to exit.

Message from Nurse Jess Baker: Please remember that we are asking families to log in to our [parent portal](#) to complete our symptom screening each morning that your child is coming to school for in-person learning (please make it part of the morning routine)! You should have received log-in information from noreply@studentehr.com for how to access the portal. If you haven't seen it, check your junk folder. If you have any technical issues, please email me at j.baker@hwschools.net.

The Department of Public Health advises parents of the following info: In the event that your child has symptoms suspicious of COVID-19 and needs to be tested please be advised that the Department of Public Health recommends a PCR (molecular) test as opposed to an antigen test. The PCR test is currently considered the "gold standard".

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, October 19
FOW Halloween Happening tickets go on sale - via [Friends Site](#)

Tuesday, October 20
Family Flu Clinic - 3:30-6:30pm
[Link to Register](#)

Friday, October 30
FOW Outdoor Halloween Happening 5-8pm

Monday, November 2
Friends of Winthrop Zoom Meeting 7pm

Tuesday, November 3
No School - Teacher Workshop
(Change from original calendar)

Wednesday, November 11
No School - Holiday

Thursday, November 12
Due Date: Acord Food Pantry Winthrop Donations (125 boxes of crackers)

Wednesday, November 25
Early Release - Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, Nov 26/Friday, Nov 27
No School - Thanksgiving Break

Tuesday, December 1
Cohort A & APL Students - School Picture Day

Thursday, December 3
Cohort B & APL Students - School Picture Day

Mandatory Flu Vaccinations: The state of Massachusetts has mandated that students in grades K -12 receive a flu vaccine by December 31, 2020. The rationale is to prevent an influenza outbreak while simultaneously dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. Currently there are two exemptions: a medical exemption which requires a physician's note and a religious exemption which necessitates a note from the parent/guardian. Together we can stay healthy!!

Flu Clinic sponsored by the Hamilton BOH & AFC Urgent Care
Tuesday, October 20, 3:30-6:30pm @ Winthrop School
Ages 4-64. Use this [link](#) to register. **Vaccine is free to everyone.**
Please bring insurance cards. Wear short sleeves. Questions email:
Hamilton Board of Health cle@hamiltonma.gov

Afterschool Coding Club:

What is Coding Club? The Coding Club is a 45-minute weekly zoom meeting, in which high school mentors are able to connect with middle and elementary students as they learn coding and skills related to coding. **Why Participate in Coding Club?** Coding club is a great opportunity for students of all ages to form a community with peers and learn a new skill. Coding is becoming an increasingly important skill as technology advances and the future job market looks for coding literacy. Furthermore, coding can be a fun activity for children of all ages in which they improve their creativity, communication, and problem-solving skills. Given the current pandemic, we strive to form a virtual group in which children (both hybrid and remote) can have fun while learning outside of the classroom! **Times: Monday and Thursdays 3:30-4:15**
Complete this [Coding Club Form](#) if interested.

Acord Food Pantry Thanksgiving Food Drive: This year the Winthrop community has been asked to donate 125 boxes of crackers (Triscuts, Ritz etc). Students can bring their donations to school. Remote APL families can drop their donations off at Winthrop during school hours. We will be accepting donations until Thursday, November 12th.

Friends of Winthrop: Please see the [Friends of Winthrop Newsletter](#) for information about signing up for the Winthrop Family Directory, volunteering to help with this year's Halloween Happening, and other important Friends news!

Follow Winthrop & Mrs. Shediak on Twitter
[@WinthropEagles](#) [@ShediakC](#)

Safe Arrival Line/Dismissal Changes

In person days, please call the safe arrival line 978-468-5344 to report your child absent or tardy. Please call the front office @ 978-468-5340 for dismissal changes.