

# TIGER TALES

January 2021



Volume 35, Issue 4

## Letter from the President:

Dear Matthew Thornton Families,

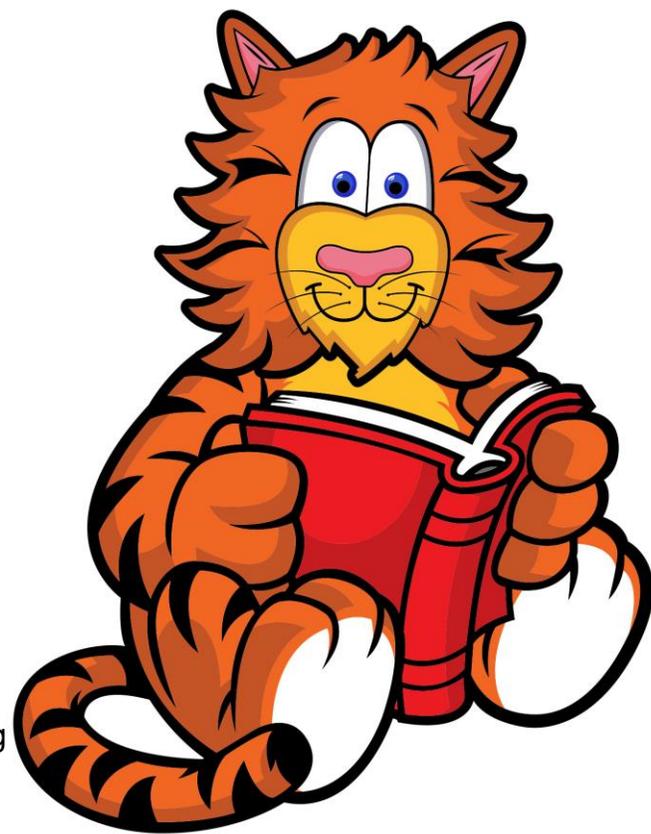
Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful and relaxing holiday break and enjoyed time with your family. We are looking forward to a new 2021!!

We want to take this chance to thank all the families who donated to our Community Outreach program leading up to the holidays. Despite being at home, we were still able to fill stockings and donate many items to the Stockings for Soldiers program, as well as providing hundreds of donated items for our Adopt A Family program. Thanks to you and your generous donations, the season was a brighter one for some families and our community. Special thanks to Courtney Tanguay for running this amazing Outreach Program! We would also like to thank everyone who donated items for our Hot Cocoa and Treats day for our own staff the last Monday before holiday break. We couldn't have done any of these things without our generous MT families!

We hope you can join us for our next PTA meeting on Thursday, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. We will have a Zoom PTA meeting so you can join us from your home!

We also have Ski Club starting on Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> for anyone who has signed up for that. There will be no bus this year, but you can meet at McIntyre from 4:30-6:30pm.

**Jen Rich, President**



**We hope everyone has  
a healthy January!**



## Principal's Corner:

Happy New Year, MT Families!

I think I speak for most of us when I say I am elated to say goodbye to 2020. 2020 challenged us in many ways, and it was an exhausting year that tested so many of our beliefs and expectations. That said, I was grateful for some of the things 2020 inspired—we got more time with our families, we learned new skills we never imagined, and we found different ways to celebrate milestones. I was continually impressed by students, their families, and our staff for all they were able to learn and accomplish during the many months of Covid effects. I can honestly say that MT was a source of great happiness and pride for me during 2020 because everyone impressed me with what they were willing and able to do. However, I do hope we can move on from Covid in 2021 and return some of our cherished traditions and a little bit of normalcy. I wish you all joy, health, peace, and optimism as we head into the new year.

Sincerely,

Amity Small, Your Proud Principal

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## Remote Learners

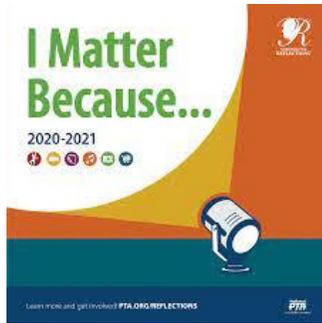
MT remote learners continue to be resilient, hard workers! Students and teachers appreciated the time over vacation to unplug and enjoy the snowy weather!

As we return to remote learning in 2021, we are looking forward to moving ahead with grade level curriculum. This is a great time of the year to make progress and see our students continue to grow and learn.

Kelly Juster

Remote Teacher





# Reflections

Chaired by: Deb D'Amore

Our Reflections program has been a great success. We have had some wonderful entries from our students this year based on the theme "I Matter Because..."

The National PTA Reflections Program is an art recognition and achievement program for students. It provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by a pre-selected theme, while increasing community awareness on the importance of the arts in education.

The judging for the Matthew Thornton entries is currently underway. We will announce the recipients for Reflections Excellence Awards in January.

Unfortunately, we are unable to have our annual Town Wide Art Exhibit this year. A slideshow of the entries will be made and sent out soon after the award winners are announced. The New Hampshire PTA is still planning on having a state-wide exhibit, but this year it will be held virtually. This exhibit will be held in March; more information will follow in the next couple of months.

Thank you to everyone who participated, as well as to the teachers and staff who assist in promoting Reflections each and every year. It is truly a wonderful program and our students do a fantastic job representing Matthew Thornton.

For questions or comments, please contact the Reflections Chairperson, Deb D'Amore at [debellben1315@gmail.com](mailto:debellben1315@gmail.com)





## Friendly Reminders from the Nurses Office

We hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season, and your children feel rested and ready to return to school!! As I'm sure you are all aware, the cases in our town have been increasing especially following the holidays, and we must all do our part to help stop the spread. If you have been identified as a **close contact** to someone diagnosed with Covid-19, then you are at risk of developing Covid-19 yourself. You must **STAY HOME** for 10 days and **AVOID** other **PEOPLE** and follow these attached guidelines from NH Division of Public Health Services:

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/self-quarantine-covid.pdf>

If you should develop symptoms, (common symptoms include: fever or chills, cough, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle aches, new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, and headaches) you should **stay home** and isolate and contact your Primary Care Physician for testing. Attached are the guidelines for isolation, where you must stay home and avoid other people including those you live with.

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/self-isolation-covid.pdf>

We would like to wish our Matthew Thornton families a safe and healthy 2021! Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns and remember to keep your child home if they are not feeling well and let us know what their symptoms are.

**Many thanks!**

**Kristen Hughes, Sarah Brown, & Marilyn Sullivan**





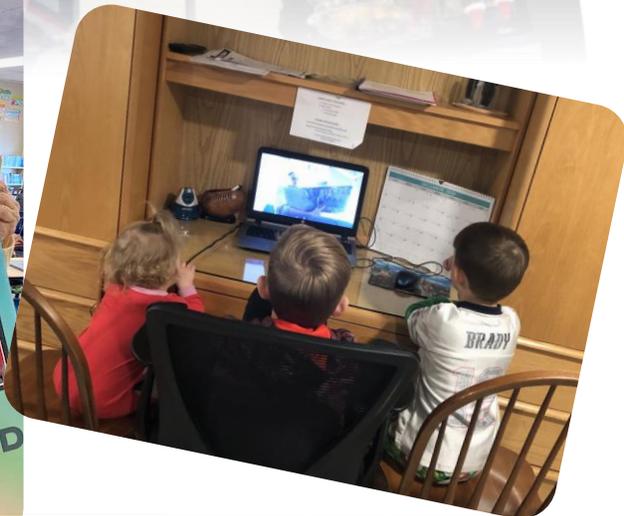
**Choose Love Formula** (Courage + Gratitude + Forgiveness + Compassion-in-Action = **Choosing Love**).

Scarlett Lewis, founder of the Choose Love Movement, presented a podcast that many of the staff viewed throughout the district. Scarlett has made social emotional learning her mission in order to honor her son's final message of, "Nurturing, Healing, Love" with all students. She talked about how the lessons of Choose Love help to build a life skills tool belt that is essential for positive, healthy connections. Please know that her website also offers information for parents who might want to know more and share Choose Love at Home too.

She also talked about her belief that when we are "kicked out of our comfort zone" we have the opportunity to move to a place of growth. Well, being kicked out of our comfort zones certainly seems to describe 2020. May we all find growth, spaces for joy, and spaces for hope in the New Year. We are so grateful for our Matthew Thornton students and families.

By Nancy DeLew





# January Calendar

January 4	Classes Resume Remote
January 6	Books and Beyond Collection Date
January 8	Friday Dress Day: Favorite Sweatshirt Day
January 9	School Resource Officer Appreciation Day
January 14	PTA Meeting from 6-7—virtual
January 15	Friday Dress Day: Winter Blues Dress Day
January 18	No school / MLK Jr Day
January 22	Friday Dress Day: Favorite Flannel
January 28	Ski Club Group Picture - 2:45 courtyard or cafe
January 29	Friday Dress Day: School Pride
January 29	Trimester 2 POP Virtual Assembly

*Matthew Thornton will be attending Snowsports Club at McIntyre on Thursdays from 4:30pm to 6:30pm beginning January 7th, 2021 Lessons will take place on Jan 7th, Jan 14th, Jan 21st, Jan 28th, and Feb 4th.*



Tiger Tales is a monthly publication of the Matthew Thornton PTA and is sent out to parents and guardians of every student.

To advertise in the next Tiger Tales, there is a \$15 monthly charge. If you're interested in advertising in next month's or every upcoming issue for the scholastic year (discounted price!), please contact me at my [email](#).

Jenn Brooks, Editor, Tiger Tales