January 26, 2024 Dear Link Families:

This was a very busy week at Link!

Please join me in congratulating our Grade 5 students as they presented Exhibition 2024 on Wednesday. (Which was UNESCO's International Day of Education.) Grade 5 students have the opportunity to participate in a unique collaborative experience in their final year of our elementary program, which is called the Exhibition. Exhibition provides students a vehicle in which to explore, document, and then share their understanding of a topic of global significance. In addition to in-person presentations, our students have embraced the use of technology and also used a padlet to present the Exhibition - which enables a far-reaching audience, as these pallets can be accessed from the Link school website. This year our theme for Link's Exhibition is "Think Globally, Act Locally." In addition to the presentation of research, each group project has chosen an Action to put the research to work for others, and those will be shared once all the details have been set. Many thanks to the teacher mentors and Mrs. Fox, our Coordinator, for all the work they did to assist the students.

Congratulations are also in order for our music teacher, Mrs. Kimmel, and those grade 3 and 4 students who were selected and joined her for the Rockland County Music Educators Association general music festival last Saturday morning. Elementary schools from all districts in the county joined forces as they spent time in workshops then participated in a performance opportunity. Thank you all for representing Link so well!

Please keep on the lookout for information about some school-wide events that will help us promote and celebrate increasing our students' independent reading time. This is a research based fact that is simple - children who read (or are read to) do better academically. Once a child learns to read an entire world opens up to them, and we want to encourage and inspire a love of reading!

On February 9th, our K-2 students will celebrate the 100th Day of School (can you believe it?); and grade 5 students will acknowledge their 1000th Day of School! Teachers will share more information as that date approaches.

Link's PTA has been active with securing fundraisers, programs, and other activities that support and enhance school programs. Upcoming assemblies include a hand-on drumming experience and a clay artist-in-residence! Please look for the flyers that come home, and visit the PTA webpage for additional information (dinalinkpta.org).

I hope everyone enjoys the weekend. The temperatures will certainly be warmer than what we experienced last weekend! My plans include trying to get out for some longer walks with the dog (weather permitting). I hope you are able to do things you love with those you love. Sincerely,

Mary Bish, Principal