

Cushing News

A publication of Cardinal Cushing Centers

St. Coletta Day School – Dec. 2017 Quarterly Newsletter



Cardinal Cushing Centers

**Page 2:
Graduate
Spotlight**

**Page 3:
Halloween
Festivities**

**Page 4:
School
Closing
information
and VOC
update**

**Page 5:
Bruins Party**

**Page 6: From
the Nursing
Department**

**Page 7: Sick
Child Policy**

85 Washington Street
Braintree, MA 02184
Phone: 781-848-6250
Fax: 781-848-0640
www.CushingCenters.org

School Happenings

Hello Families,

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving. Before the break our students and staff once again joined the Meeting House Montessori School in the gym for their Friendship Feast. All were able to enjoy a lunch of pizza and thanksgiving themed sides provided by our friends from MHMS.

On December 8th students attended the annual Moose Lodge party located in Braintree. Students got to see Santa, receive a gift and have a lunch of burgers and fries. Following the lunch they had a dance party. On December 20th Bank of America will be here for their annual Christmas party taking place in our gym. Served will be cake, cookies and juice along with a small present for each student. We would like to thank everyone who attended our open house in October and all the staff for the work and time put into making it a success. If anyone has feedback they would like to provide on the open house, or have ideas on what you would like to see at our next one, please email myself or Leah.

Keep an eye out for a flyer detailing the upcoming PAC meeting on January 22nd. This will be the first of four meetings discussing transitions.

Our last day of school before the winter break is December 22nd, with a noon dismissal. Students and staff return on January 2nd.

I hope you all enjoy the upcoming holidays and have a very happy new year!

Best,

Melissa Hayes

Good Luck, Alicia!

It's hard to liken the Alicia who started at St. Coletta Day School to the one who will soon walk out of our doors. She has grown in every aspect. When Alicia arrived, she was already a determined lady, fixated on her love for anything Disney related, and enthralled with the use of technology such as the iPads and computers. We knew that if her determination could be directed in a positive direction, that she would undoubtedly rise to the occasion. We could not be more proud of the young woman who is about to turn 22 and begin the next chapter of her life.

Throughout our program, Alicia has participated in vocational training which has allowed her to work at different jobs to discover what she enjoys. Alicia currently works at Central Supply in Hanover where she works in the shredding room. She enjoys this job, and is willing to go to work and stay on task to make sure that confidential materials are disposed of properly. She also works at Friends of the Unborn where she folds and sorts clothing. She has become adept at the routine and the job and is recognized for how comfortable she has gotten with the job since she started it.

Though we could have guessed from her early affinity for technology, Alicia likes to use the Smart Board in class. She loves to interact with stories and answer questions on the board, where she can cause the board to respond by touch. This has opened a whole new level of engagement for her, because she can make the experience her own. When the board isn't in use, however, she can be found coloring and drawing on the board, displaying her own artistic talent.

True to our hope, Alicia has demonstrated determination in building her skills at school and at work. She is determined to do well at work. She is determined to build relationships, and she is determined to keep advancing. Watching the strides that Alicia has made over her time at St. Coletta has been a beautiful experience. We know that she will only continue to show that determination after graduation, undoubtedly winning the hearts and respect of her community in the adult world.

Leah Salloway



We Love Halloween!

Students and staff enjoyed pumpkin picking and school wide trick or treating in October. We had some great costumes this year, like Dr. Zach and Cowgirl Allie!



School Closing and Delay Information



In case of a weather related school closing or delay, we will post on the major news channels listed as St. Coletta Day School, Braintree. *WHDH will no longer list closings on TV, but will do so on their website.

Channel 4 (CBS) *no longer offers text alerts

Channel 5 (WCVB)* offers email alerts <http://www.wcvb.com/weather/closings>

Channel 7 (WHDH)*offers text alerts <http://whdh.com/text-alerts/>

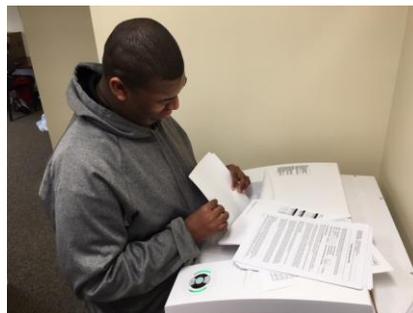
Channel 25 (FOX) *offers text alerts <http://www.fox25boston.com/weather/closing-login>

VOC Program Updates

We have added three more St. Coletta students to the Hanover worksites in the last few weeks. These are students who have recently turned 16 and include: Hannah and Elise, Shredding in the new office area, and Samantha working in Central Supply. Emerson has starting working at Independence Manor. Ethan Z. started working at Savers in Hanover.

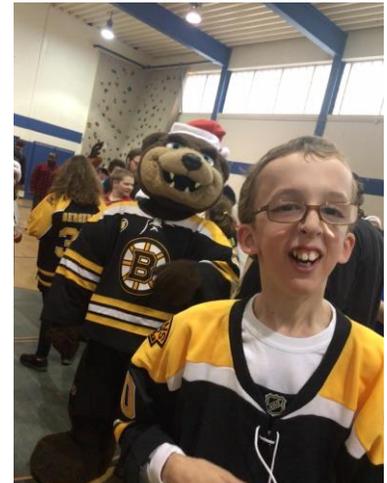
Great job, everyone!

Karen Conway



Bruins Party at the Hanover Campus

Many of our students attended the annual Bruins Christmas Party at the Hanover Campus on Dec. 5th. Students were met by some special visitors including; Santa and Mrs. Claus, Frosty, Rudolph, The Bruins Ice Girls, Bruins Mascot and Bob Sweeney, executive director of the Boston Bruins Foundation. Following was a dance party in the gym with snacks and drinks. As you can see, everyone had a great time!



Tips and Strategies from our Nursing Department

With winter around the corner and the cold weather already here, our nursing department would like to remind everyone to dress in warm layers including hats, gloves and winter coats. It's always easy to take a layer off when in school, but going outside and transitions to transportation exposes us to the elements.



At school we teach and encourage proper hand washing and assist students with their hand washing as needed to help stop the spread of germs and viruses. This is a great skill and precaution to carry over at home as well.



If your child is exhibiting signs of a cold and cough, it's important to encourage rest when possible to give the body time to heal and to drink lots of fluids to stay hydrated and flush out germs.

If your child is exhibiting signs of a cold, please use your best judgment when deciding if your child should attend school.



If you have any questions or concerns about our sick policy or other health related topics, please feel free to contact our nursing department. St. Coletta has a student sick child policy to help keep everyone as healthy as possible. Please review on the following page.

We thank you for your help in keeping our school a safe and healthy environment for all our students and staff!

St. Coletta Sick Child Policy

Tips for Parents from the School Health Office

Many parents ask, "When is my child sick enough to stay home from school?"

This is not always an easy question to answer! We hope that these tips can help!

A child who is sick will not be able to perform well in school and is likely to spread the illness to other children and staff. We suggest making a plan for childcare ahead of time so you will not be caught without a comforting place for your child to stay if he/she is ill.

Our school policy states that you should not send your child to school if he/she has:

- Fever in the past 24 hours
- Vomiting in the past 24 hours
- Diarrhea in the past 24 hours
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Strep Throat (must have been taking an antibiotic for at least 24 hours before returning to school)
- Bad cold, with a very runny nose or bad cough, especially if it has kept the child awake at night
- Head lice – until your child has been treated according to the nurse or doctor's instructions

If your child becomes ill at school and the teacher or school nurse feel the child is too sick to benefit from school or is contagious to other children, you will be called to come and take him/her home from school. It is essential that your child's teacher have a phone number where you can be contacted during the day and an emergency number in the event you cannot be reached. Please be sure that arrangements can be made to transport your child home from school and that childcare is available in case of illness. If your daytime or emergency phone number changes during the year, please notify your child's teacher immediately.

Please call the school's Health Office if you have any questions or concerns.

Rachel Adams, RN - School Nurse

Braintree St. Coletta Day School