

School Community Newsletter — April 1, 2022

1066 Front Street, Manchester, New Hampshire 03102

Phone: 603.945.9151 | Fax: 603.228.9629

www.sparkacademynh.org

PARENT SUPPORT COMMITTEE NEWS

Drumroll please: Spark Academy's inaugural calendar raffle fundraiser is now live! There will be a winner drawn every weekday for the month of May with prizes to include theater tickets, gift baskets, and more – even CASH! Tickets are \$10 each and we are asking every Spark student to sell at least ten tickets. Calendars with attached entry forms and collection envelopes were sent home with students this week. Entry forms and payment should be turned in to Mrs. Larochelle no later than Friday, April 22. If you want to sell more, please do!! You may photocopy the calendar/entry or request more



copies from us. Just be sure your student returns a completed entry form and payment for every ticket sold. Thank you for your support!

The next meeting of the Parent Support Committee will be held over Zoom on Thursday, April 7 at 6:00 PM. If you are interested in attending, please email Katie McQuaid at katiemcquaidnh@gmail.com to request the meeting link.



SOLIDWORKS PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Congratulations to Katie (Bean) Lidman, Nate Kaneland, and Tyler Timlin, all of whom are now Certified SOLIDWORKS Associates (CSWAs)!! There will be another chance for certification in a month or so. Thank you to Mr. Dan Larochelle for making this opportunity available to Spark students.

CAREER FAIR OPPORTUNITIES

UNH Manchester Career & Internship Fair
Wednesday, April 13th 4-7pm

UNH Manchester

88 Commercial Street in Manchester

Dress for success and bring copies of your resume.

******Masks are required*******

NH's Capital and Southern Regions Virtual Job Fair is

on Tuesday, April 5th from 11am-1pm. There will be positions of varying levels in multiple industries. Please visit this link for more information and details on how to register, if you are interested. Please contact Ms. Minery if you have any questions.

https://business.nh.gov/nhesjobfair/Home/Posting/53f2fab3-def1-44bc-a91f-a68a4d645655

SPAX SAR

THE NEXT CHAPTER FOR DAVINCI

It's an exciting time for our second year students as we begin the process of determining which college classes they will be taking next year! Individual conferences with DaVinci cohort and their parents are being scheduled now.



NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE WORKS

School leadership continues to develop new opportunities for Spark students! We visited Summit Packaging Systems in Manchester to discuss creating a partnership, we talked with Cirtronics Corporation in Milford about future development of paid internships, and we set up a school tour next week for Optics 1 Inc. in Bedford.

SPARK STUDENT AMBASSADORS

In conjunction with members of Student Council, we are starting an initiative to prepare some of our students to represent Spark Academy for tours, Info Nights, shadow

days, and other occasions when we want to reach members of the public. We will begin taking applications soon.

CYBER SECURITY SYMPOSIUM

This week some of our students had a chance to sit in on presentations at the MCC Cyber Security Symposium. We hope they found it interesting!

IMPORTANT DATES

April 7	Third Quarter grades close
April 7	Info Night for Prospective Families 6:30PM
April 11	NO SPARK CLASSES (teacher workshop day)
April 20	Info Night for Prospective Families 6:30PM
April 22	Calendar Raffle entries & money due
April 23	Build-a-Bed at MCC (Note: this is a Saturday!)

TUTTLE THOUGHTS

Today is April Fools Day and its traditions include playing hoaxes or practical jokes on others, often yelling "April Fools!" at the end to clue the subject in. But in a time when

April 25-29 Spark Spring Break – no Spark classes





students don't always understand the difference between joking and bullying, this can be very serious. Please take some time and review these definitions. We ask that you talk with your child or others about the difference.

JOKING is saying funny things or playing tricks on people to make them laugh. Joking is between friends; is not directed AT individuals or groups; makes all people laugh; isn't meant to be mean, cruel or unkind; doesn't make people feel bad; and stops before someone gets upset.

<u>TEASING</u> means to make fun of someone by playfully saying unkind things to the person; it can be friendly but can turn

hurtful quickly. Teasing can include small physical bumps and pushes as well as minor insults.

<u>BULLYING</u> happens repeatedly and can include name calling, taunting, insulting, gossiping, excluding people, kicking, hitting, making someone look silly on purpose,

spreading rumors, cruel phone calls or text messages or making fun of someone. It can extend to online environments. Spark Academy is a safe place for **all** and teasing and bullying is not accepted. A lot of times we use the excuse that "it was just a joke" in an effort to downplay or make things better. It is more important not to do or say it in the first place. As we continue to move forward as a school, we want to focus on making others feel better and not worse, and performing acts of kindness. Please help us in creating a culture that shows it is more important to support others than it is to get a laugh. Laughs last a minute, kindness lasts forever.



Have a great weekend!

John Tuttle Director