



March 11, 2022

Family Newsletter

*Essential information for all the
Union Memorial School families.*

Snow Creations: Click [here](#) to watch the Snow Creations video (it's around two and a half minutes long). The winners in the **random drawing** for a book of their choice are:

Kindergarten → Cora Lawson

First Grade → Graeme Clace

Second Grade → Jack Reed

The students met with Ms. Hebert to pick their books and the PTA paid for them. Thank you, PTA, for sponsoring this fun winter event.

Spring Book Fair: The Spring Book Fair is the week of March 21-25. Students will be able to browse and purchase books in person this week. Families may purchase books through the digital fair anytime this week. Be looking for more information from Ms. Hebert soon.

Mask Slideshow: Click [here](#) to see the "Mask Optional" slideshow that was shared with students this week. If you click on the "show speaker notes" choice in the "view" tab, you can see the verbiage used for each slide.

Family Skate: The Family Skate is officially happening. Preregistration paperwork was sent home earlier this week. It is open to all UMS families at the skating facility next to Essex High School from 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM on Saturday, March 26.

Diversity Lessons: We are going to continue the series of diversity lessons we started last year. These lessons were created by a group of UMS teachers under the guidance of the district's Diversity Equity and Inclusion Coordinator, are developmentally appropriate and are aimed at raising awareness among the students. The second lesson we will be teaching this year is:

Lesson 2: What is Race?

This lesson addresses the Social Justice standards: *I like being around people who are like me and different from me and I can be friendly to everyone.* The students will learn what race is (an idea made up hundreds of years ago that we still use to put people into groups based on skin color, where they or their ancestors come from or how their face is shaped). They will hear about some respectful terms to describe racial groups and will discuss how people are different and the same in ways that can and cannot be seen. If you want to continue the discussion at home, ask your child about what they learned about the history of race and how people are different in ways that can and cannot be seen.

Respectfully,

Chris Antonicci
Principal

UPCOMING DATES

March 18	In-Service (no school for students)
March 21-25	Spring Book Fair
March 26	Family Skate (4:30 PM – 6:30 PM)
April 6	Early Release (12:45 PM dismissal)