



**Celebrating Excellence**



**Mrs. Terry Gerrish**  
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March 26, 2021

Dear Dewing Families:

I am pleased to recognize that April 5 will mark an important date in this school year. While many of our RLA students will continue to learn from home, most of our K-2 children (including over 30 current RLA students) will begin to attend school Monday through Friday from 8:45 - 3:05. Teachers and staff have been busy preparing for our children to arrive. It almost feels like the first day of school!

Along with the excitement is sure to be some nervousness; we're prepared for that, and will do everything in our power to help your children have a safe, happy, academically productive time with us. We will take things at a speed that is right for your children, to help them acclimate, learn and play - while still practicing all the mitigation strategies we have in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Daily rhythms will change...you may have a tired little one at the end of the school day.

You will receive communication from a few sources. Be patient with us; we're trying to think of everything families will need to know going forward. Please let me or Alexis know if we've missed something that is important to you. In the meantime, here is some logistical information, in no particular order of importance.

- Look for new Arrival and Dismissal information from Mrs. Bosworth. This information will also be on our next SMORE/newsletter.
- Bus seat assignments and routes will change. Please check your child's Aspen account next week to be sure you have a bus and seat assignment - especially if your child is riding the bus for the first time. If you do not see a bus or seat assignment, please send an email to Mr. David Libby. ([dlibby@tewksbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:dlibby@tewksbury.k12.ma.us)) He will coordinate with us to help you.

*TPS Mission Statement:*

*To educate and challenge all learners in the Tewksbury Public School Community while supporting their development as well prepared and productive members of a diverse global society.*

- During the weeks of April 5 and 12 there will be an increased police presence as members of the Tewksbury Police Department assist us with traffic management.
- Students who are changing homerooms (RLA to In-Person or vice versa) will receive a separate email notice with the name of their new teacher and homeroom number. You can expect that teacher to contact you before April 5.
- Students should bring to their classroom any curriculum materials they have at home back to school. This would include Journeys Readers Notebooks, Writers Notebooks, GO Math books, math tools/manipulatives, Foundations tiles and magnetic boards. **It is not necessary to return a borrowed Chromebook laptop at this time.** Students may continue to use them at home until the end of the school year. We will arrange for a drop off time in June.
- Parents of students who take medication or have other medical issues should contact/confirm with Nurse Jill ([jrobinson@tewwksbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:jrobinson@tewwksbury.k12.ma.us)) about any necessary doctor's orders or medication that has to come to school.
- **School lunches are FREE THROUGH THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.** Students who order lunch will also receive a free (breakfast-type) snack that will be packaged separately and brought to classrooms each day.
- Thanks to your generosity and through the efforts of our PAC, there is now a water bottle filling station in the main school hallway. Students are welcome to re-fill water containers they bring to school, timing of course coordinated by their teacher. (Most classrooms continue to have water bubblers in them.)

Spring has arrived. Days are warmer and longer. We can open our windows and think about bringing classes outside to learn and play. There are still many rules and guidelines we must follow to stay healthy and safe, but we are happy. Our school will be almost full soon. We will continue to practice kindness. We will continue to share our strength. We are Dewing, and we remain Tewksbury Tough.

Sincerely,

*Terry*

Terry Gerrish  
Dewing Principal

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