

# Cunniff School Summer Newsletter

August 2019

## Responsive Classroom

Last spring the Cunniff School held a logo contest asking students to interpret the newly established school rules. The rules are: *Care about yourself. Care about others. Care about the school.* We received over eighty entries and the Responsive Classroom building-based team selected five winning entries. Tom Bailey from LifeTouch, the company that hosts our School Picture Day, has volunteered to take these entries and is creating banners that we will display throughout the Cunniff School. We are looking forward to seeing the finished product and it is our hope that these banners will be ready for Opening Day.

Pictured are the winning entries submitted By: *Hanaa Rharib, Callum Pelton-Cairns, Johanna Jane-Leonardis, Julie Pipitone & Olivia Moylan, and Valentina Keuchkarian*



## New Music Teacher

We have hired a new music teacher. We welcome Mr. Garo Saraydarian who comes to us with a wealth of experience from the Winchester Public Schools. Garo is excited about joining our community and working with Cunniff students.

## Library, Technology, and Innovation Skills Teacher

It is with sadness that I announce Mrs. Walsh's resignation as the Cunniff School librarian. I met with Mrs. Walsh and she is enjoying summer with her family while pursuing other interests. She would like to support Cunniff as a substitute teacher and we look forward to working with her in this capacity. The position has been posted and interviews will begin to take place at the end of next week.

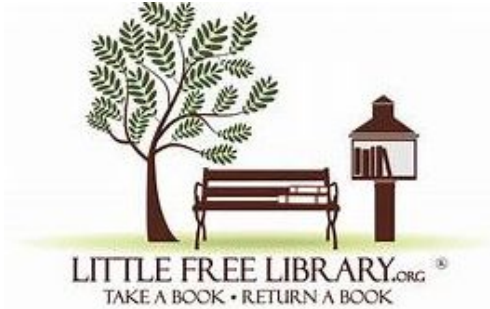
## Coaches

We welcome Joia Kirby who will be working half-time at Cunniff as a literacy coach. Emily Shaw will continue working with us half-time as a math coach.

## Little Free Libraries

We are looking forward to the addition of Little Free Libraries to the exterior of the Cunniff School. This will enable students to make and take book selections from each of

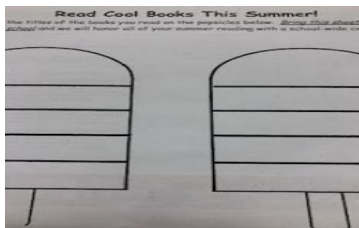
entrance locations on the Cunniff campus. A ribbon-cutting ceremony for each little free library will be scheduled and shared with families. Details to follow.



### Summer Reading

We hope students continue to take time to read during the summer. Opportunities to read a book aloud with a sibling, friend or family member count! Good reading habits make a difference and help students to meet with success in all content areas.

A reminder that students have been given a “Read cool books this summer...” sheet to list their summer reading titles. We will host a summer reading success school-wide celebration during the first week of school. Details to follow.



Mrs. Rono, Mrs. McCarthy and I will be hosting a Summer Book Giveaway on Thursday, August 8th from 2:00-3:00. We hope students stop by to make a new book selection and to enjoy a cool treat!

The faculty has taken time to read the text titled *The Power of Our Words* by Paula Denton during the summer. This selection was based upon continued work with our Responsive Classroom social-emotional curriculum.

### School Supply Lists

August is here and it is time to begin thinking about school supplies. Many teachers already sent home a supply list along with your child’s promotion slip. Teachers included information about the Staples Classroom Rewards program. Teachers can earn 5% back in rewards on every purchase students’ parents make at Staples from now until September 15th. For additional information, please visit:

<https://www.staples.com/classroomrewards>

For additional information regarding supply lists, please visit our Cunniff School HomePage:

<https://cunniff.watertown.k12.ma.us>

### Cunniff Gardens

Special thanks to Judy Fallows and her team of parents that have been taking turns watering the Cunniff gardens during the summer months.

### Important Back to School Dates

Tuesday, September 3 - School begins.

Thursday, September 19 - Cunniff Open House

Wednesday, September 25 - Early Release Day - 12:15 dismissal for students with Extended Day

Teachers will participate in professional development.

## RAPTOR

As part of the WPS district plan, we are adding an additional layer of security at Cunniff. RAPTOR is a visitor registration system that enhances school security. The safety of our students is our highest priority. Raptor will provide a consistent system to track visitors and volunteers while keeping away people who present a danger to students and staff members. Additional information regarding RAPTOR will be provided to parents and guardians, once school begins.