



**Town of Bedford**

97 McMahon Road

[Bedfordps.org](https://www.bedfordps.org)

## Superintendent Update

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**Friday, December 23, 2022**

Hello Bedford School Community,

### December Break

Happy Hanukkah to those in the midst of their celebration. The festival of Lights began on Sunday, December 18, 2022, and will conclude on Monday, December 26, 2020. For more information about Hanukkah navigate to <https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/hanukkah>

Merry Christmas to those who are celebrating the holiday. Christmas, which occurs on December 25th is an important holiday for Christians throughout the world. In the United States, it may mean a Christmas Tree and Christmas Cards as well as a very special Midnight service. To learn more please visit <https://www.history.com/topics/christmas/history-of-christmas>

Happy Kwanzaa to those who are celebrating the holiday. Kwanzaa, which is celebrated from December 26th through January 1st is a celebration of African-American culture that includes the lighting of seven candles in a Kinara. The holiday created by Dr. Maulana Karenga was inspired by traditional African harvest festivals. For more information please visit <https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/kwanzaa-history>

Happy New Year! December 31, 2022 marks the end of the year in the Gregorian calendar. The Gregorian calendar we use today was introduced by the Vatican in Rome under Pope Gregory XIII in October 1582. The Gregorian calendar is based on the solar year and replaced an ancient Roman calendar that was based on the lunar cycle of the earth's moon.

The pope also used the opportunity to decree that each year would officially begin on January 1 instead of April 1 as had been the custom under the old lunar calendar system. This decision had no actual astronomical basis and was influenced by the ancient feast celebrating the Roman god Janus, the god of doorways and beginnings. For more information about the history of New Year's eve navigate to <https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/new-years>

As 2022 comes to an end, It seems appropriate to share with you an old favorite. [Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening](#) by [Robert Frost](#). I love that Frost is from our corner of the world and that he describes so well the pleasure of pausing and enjoying the beauty around us. I hope you take the time to do so during our December break.

[Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening](#)  
by [Robert Frost](#)

Whose woods these are I think I know.  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.  
My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farmhouse near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.  
He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.  
The woods are lovely, dark and deep.  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.

Wishing you and yours a wonderful vacation and a Happy New Year!

As always, thank you for your patience, your participation, and your continued commitment to our schools.

Sincerely,

Philip Conrad  
Superintendent