



Town of Bedford

97 McMahon Road

Bedfordps.org

Superintendent Update

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Wednesday, December 23, 2020

Hello Bedford School Community,

As we enter the December vacation I wanted to take a moment and wish everyone a restful vacation. On Monday we endured the shortest day of the year. From here on out we will begin adding minutes of daylight each day until June.

It seems appropriate to share the last stanza of "Year's End" by poet Richard Wilbur with you as 2020 comes to an end. To read the complete poem please visit [Year's End by Richard Wilbur](#)

These sudden ends of time must give us pause.
We fray into the future, rarely wrought
Save in the tapestries of afterthought.
More time, more time. Barrages of applause
Come muffled from a buried radio.
The New-year bells are wrangling with the snow.

I also wanted to wish those who are celebrating a Merry Christmas. 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>

At the same time I want to wish all those who are celebrating a Happy Kwanzaa. 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>

And finally, I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year. May 2021 bring us relief from COVID-19 and a more just and equitable world.

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

Wishing you continued health,

Sincerely,

Philip Conrad
Superintendent