



September News

Well we did it – we have started the 2020-21 school year in person. Hats off to all that made this a real possibility. As I reflect back over the summer I am amazed at what was accomplished – thank you for having a vision, providing assistance to complete all the work and confidence that Acorn will provide a safe early learning experience for your child(ren) to the best of our ability. It was very reassuring to talk with Angie Hanscom, the founder of TimberNook, this weekend. She successfully ran camp this summer in Barrington and was very encouraging about our outdoor learning spaces and TimberNook.

I am honored and grateful to be part of a community filled with enthusiastic teachers, excited children and appreciative parents. It was so refreshing and heartwarming to connect with each of you last week during our Open Houses. I will admit I have the “first day jitters” but I know that Team Acorn is ready to take on the school year because the Acorn community has a “we can” attitude.

Read on to find out updates and ways to get involved and support Acorn through the year.

Sue Bendroth, Director

Come Join Acorn's First Jack-O-Lantern Jog!

Grab your sneaks and run for treats at our virtual Jack-o-Lantern Jog to benefit Acorn School!



Complete the race any time between October 17th and October 24th in the route of your choice, and sign up for multiple races if you'd like! Whether you are Fundraising for Acorn, or just registering the virtual race, 100% of all proceeds goes towards benefiting Acorn School's 2020-2021 operating costs.

Register before Saturday, September 19th and receive a FREE Acorn swag item if you're one of the first 30 people! Sign up today to claim your gift of either a t-shirt, coffee travel mug or adult water bottle.

Looking for a family fun Halloween activity?! Calling ALL current, alumni, and community families!

Participating children are welcome to attend our socially distant and super fun Closing Ceremony on Saturday October 24th, at Acorn School. Your child(ren) will be celebrated by receiving their medal and treats, and have some Halloween fun! They can come wearing costumes, or even decorate your car!! We'd LOVE to

see familiar faces and new friends in the community, so register for a race today and stay tuned for more details!!

Read More and
Register

School & Community Updates

Acorn School 2020

New Growth Comes From Deep Roots

Acorn School is embracing the adaptations needed to make the 2020-2021 school year spectacular. It is amazing to see how these necessary changes are sprouting new growth, while we also honor Acorn's roots and traditions.

Our treasured Acorn School Street sign, with its season-themed flag blowing in the wind, is a deep root in in our community. It is the visual school symbol that caregivers and teachers look for as we drive down beautiful Winnicutt Road.

In the mid 80's this sign was was designed by an Acorn parent, Abigail Phillips from Exeter, who has since died of cancer. She designed it with her daughter, her daughter's three carpool friends, and her daughter's new "crush" at school.

Part of Acorn School's evolution includes the installation of our new driveway sign, which was donated to the school as a gift. It includes our school logo which helps with visual recognition, our contact information, and provides opportunities for increased street visibility.

Acorn School's original sign has found a cozy home on our "Wheel House" shed, nestled in the carpool loop. This shed is also a new addition to our grounds, and shelters Acorn School's bikes.

Abigail's sign will now welcome families and teachers for years to come, right where her inspiration was sparked: her family's carpool crew. Her sign will remain a part of Acorn School's history, and our new growth.





The Woodland Theatre

The transformation of our Woodland Theater learning space is **COMPLETE** and ready to welcome students! We can't wait to see how this space continues to transform when students and teachers make it their own!

This is one of our 4 dedicated outdoor learning spaces, and classes will rotate to a different space weekly.

It has been an amazingly productive summer of growth and transformation. Acorn School continues to blossom and adapt, and we are ready to fill the new space with Acorn students!

A huge and happy **THANK YOU** to **SoClean** for your generous donation, which made this shelter structure possible for Acorn School! Your gift allows our students and teachers to have another sheltered outdoor learning space, for all weather elements! Thank you for your donation and making this dream a reality!

Construction was completed by Stratham based Wade Restoration & Remodeling (wadehome2019@gmail.com).





More Seating

The extra seating stumps are stacked by our new “Wheel House”, ready to be used in anyway our teachers and students need.

Also check out our updated Nook outdoor learning space. This sweet and cozy woodland space was carved out of Acorn’s front yard, just beyond our play structures.

A huge thank you to **Pace's Tree Service** for generously donating many many tree stumps & wood cookies, and for all of their time taken to cut, prepare, and deliver them to Acorn School. These tree stumps are essential to implementing natural social distancing techniques in our outdoor gathering spaces. The wood cookies will be used in so many creative ways this year, more to come on that!



100 Acorn Woods

Acorn School’s “100 Acorn Woods” TimberNook space now has a bog boardwalk and imagination platform. This new boardwalk and imagination platform will allow teachers and students to access bathrooms without having to trek through mud and water (unless they want to, of course!). It will also



open opportunities for children to explore, create, and play.

Bryce Sturtevant is a rising senior at Exeter High School and a Life Scout in Troop 185 in Stratham NH. He designed, fundraised, organized and created this project with his supportive scouting community. Bryce donated the leftover fundraised money to Acorn School, which will be used towards helping to fund Acorn's COVID preparedness costs, such as building outdoor shelter structures.

Congratulations on completing your Eagle Scout Project, Bryce! Thank you for enhancing our 100 Acorn Woods TimberNook space for our students and teachers!

Some magical elves left these heartwarming messages to welcome teachers and families on the first week back!



Acorn Family Photo Session with Blessed Day Photography

Only a Few Spots Left!

*Open to Everyone- You Do Not Have to be a Current Acorn Family to Participate.
All Community Welcome!*

Don't miss your chance to have a professional family photo shoot just in time for holiday gifts, cards and updated home photos!

Mini photo session includes 15 edited pictures, photo gallery and photo rights to print photos as much as you want...for only \$150.

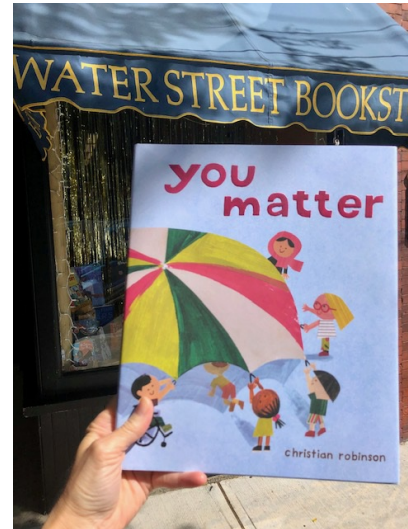
Register Now

Acorn Book Club x Water Street Bookstore

This month our featured book is
***You Matter* By: Christian Robinson**

"In this full, bright, and beautiful picture book, many different perspectives around the world are deftly and empathetically explored—from a pair of bird-watchers to the pigeons they're feeding. Young readers will be drawn into the luminous illustrations inviting them to engage with the world in a new way and see how everyone is connected, and that everyone matters."

Click here to read more about this month's book. Call Water Street Bookstore at (603) 778-9731 to order your book.



(Acorn Book Club will not meet to discuss recommended books, however if families want to connect to discuss on their own that is strongly supported!)

Acorn Apparel is Now Available!

Let's get in the Acorn Spirit! Currently offering t-shirts, sweatshirts and accessories. Adult and child sizes are available along with a variety of sizes and colors. These make great gifts and are super comfortable! See link below for more information.

Learn
More



Parents of Acorn

Are you looking for a way to get involved with Acorn School in various ways? Join the "Parents of Acorn!" It's a great way to meet more families and support Acorn School. If interested in joining send an email to parentsofacorn@gmail.com

Acorn Board

Would you like to help run the school you love so much? Learn how a nonprofit preschool is run and help make positive change lasting for years to come! Apply to join the Acorn board. We are a group of Acorn (past and present) parents who come

together monthly to support the school using skills we're each passionate about (marketing, finance, fundraising, grounds, etc). We're looking for a new member to join and hope you'll consider it! If interested in learning more about the Acorn board or to apply, send an email to Sarah Koff at sarahwkoff@gmail.com

Important Dates:

September 27th

Acorn Family Photos with Blessed Day Photography

Week of October 5th

Parent Night

October 10th

Acorn Family Photos with Blessed Day Photography

October 12th

No School

October 13th

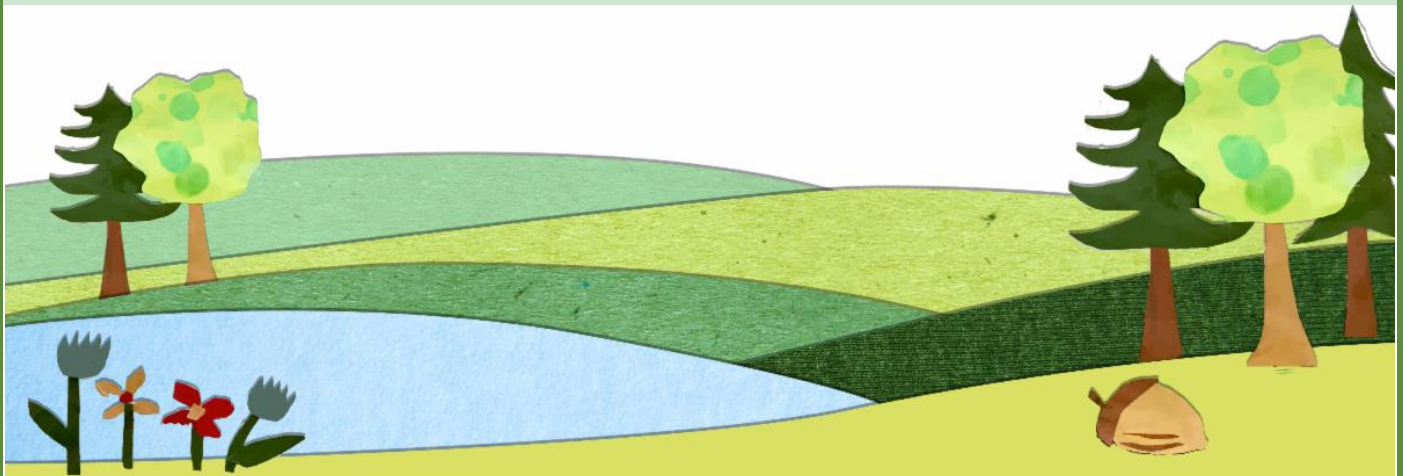
No School- Tentative Teacher Development

October 17-24th

Jack-o-Lantern Jog

October 24th

Jack-o-Lantern Jog Closing Ceremony for Children Participants



Acorn School

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