

Friday, January 27, 2017

School Notes and Athletics

Mr. Bagnato, Principal

Last Monday all parents should have received their child's report card. If you have not, please contact the office as soon as possible.

Getting a report cards can be a celebration, a stressor, or a combination of both. While a "grade" might seem permanent, it is important for children and their guardians to view them as a snap shot that helps us reflect and set goals. In order to improve achievement, we should help students not identify themselves as "good" or "bad" at a subject, but rather see how they can improve or further challenge themselves. When reviewing the report card with your child, you may want to refer to [this guide](#) to phrase the conversation.



Casey interviewing fellow Vermonter, Hannah Kearney (Justin) in Talk Show Interview (3-5 Cluster).

Athletics and Upcoming Events:

Mon Jan 30	3:15pm – 4:15pm	⊕ 3/4 Girls Basketball Practice 🗓️ 📅
	4:20pm – 5:20pm	⊕ 5/6 Boys Basketball Practice 📅
	5:25pm – 6:25pm	⊕ 7/8 Girls Basketball Practice ✕
	6:30pm – 7:30pm	⊕ 7/8 Boys Basketball @ Rochester 6pm
Tue Jan 31	3:15pm – 4:15pm	⊕ 5/6 Girls Basketball Practice 📅
	3:30pm – 4:30pm	⊕ SNAP 📅
	5:25pm – 6:25pm	⊕ 7/8 Girls Basketball Practice 📅
	5:45pm – 7:15pm	⊕ 3/4 bball @ South Royalton 5:45 girls and 6:45 boys - South Royalton
	6:30pm – 7:30pm	⊕ 7/8 Boys Basketball Practice 📅
Wed Feb 1	3:15pm – 4:15pm	⊕ 3/4 Girls Basketball Practice 🗓️ 📅
	5:00pm – 7:30pm	⊕ 5/6 Basketball vs Thetford girls 5pm/boys 6pm - Rosa Tyson Gym 🗓️
Thu Feb 2	3:15pm – 4:15pm	⊕ 5/6 Girls Basketball Practice 📅
	3:30pm – 4:30pm	⊕ SNAP 📅
	4:30pm – 5:30pm	⊕ 7/8 Girls Basketball @ MVC 4:30 pm
	5:00pm – 7:30pm	⊕ 3/4 Basketball girls 5pm/boys 6pm - Rosa tyson Gym
	5:45pm – 6:45pm	⊕ 5/6 Boys Basketball @ MVC 5:45 pm
Fri Feb 3	12:30pm – 4:00pm	⊕ Ski Program - Dartmouth Ski Way 📅
Mon Feb 6	3:15pm – 4:15pm	⊕ 3/4 Girls Basketball Practice 🗓️ 📅
	4:20pm – 5:20pm	⊕ 5/6 Boys Basketball Practice 📅
	5:00pm – 8:00pm	⊕ 7/8 bball @ Bethel, girls 5pm, boys 6:30pm - Bethel

For more basketball information please go to our [Google Calendar](#)

K, 1,2 News

Ms. Kicza, Mrs. Longcore & Mrs. Robinson

This week the Kindergarteners, first and second graders started our Person of the Week activities. Each day for a week there is a special song, or activity to recognize one person from each homeroom. We do things like share special photos, have snack with Mr. B, an interview, and a compliment circle. We also have their photos posted in the cafeteria so others in the school can see who is being recognized each week.

KINDERGARTEN FOREST DAY BLOG

3-5 News

Ms. Cote, Mrs. Hill & Mr. Walker

Students in Ms. Cote's reading class have been close reading poetry by Jack Prelutsky. In Scranimals, two children explore an island in the sea where animals are part one animal and part another animal or plant. For example, they see a porcupineapple which is a porcupine crossed with a pineapple. The reading can be funny and quirky. Some of the words in the poems are very challenging to figure out through context so children use the dictionaries as well

Middle School

Ms. Kanoff, Ms. Tieff, Mrs. White

Here is some evidence of how math is used in the real-world. Check out the snow day calculator at www.snowydaycalculator.com

The snow day calculator is a complex tool. It helps us figure out if we are going to have school the next day when inclement weather is forecasted. This creative and very useful app was created by a sixth grade boy named David Sukhin in 2007.

Sukhin lived in New Jersey at the time (he's now a junior at MIT) and the app covers every state in the U.S.A. There is even one for Hawaii, but every time you type in Hawaii's zip code it's a zero percent chance of a snow day.

He figured out the math calculation by using the following data:

- How many snow days you have already had this year
- Where you live (zip code)
- Whether the area in which you live is in a city or is rural
- Whether you attend a public, private or boarding school

We suspect that the math used in Sukhin's algorithm includes algebra, probability and statistics.

Here is what you receive back from the program, once you enter the data:

Limited

No chance due to low precipitation chance.

0%-55%:	Little to no chance of anything, but possible.
55%-75%:	Delay Likely.
75%-87%:	Possibility of No School.
87%-99%:	No School or Possible Early Dismissal.

So, we're hoping that the next time we check, it says there is a 99% possibility of no school. Yeah!

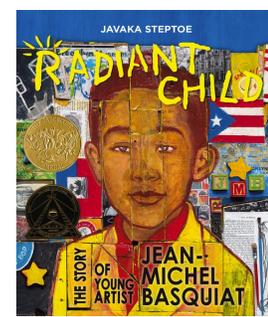
Aaron Romano and Paul Scull

Library & Technology News

Ms. Simone Pyle

The Association for Library Service to Children have announced the winners of the Caldecott and Newbery Medals!

The Caldecott, awarded for exceptional work in picture book illustration, was given to Javaka Steptoe for *Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat*.



Kelly Barnhill was awarded the Newbery Medal for *The Girl Who Drank the Moon*. The Newbery is given to the author of a distinguished work of children's literature.

Look for these titles on the library shelves soon!

Health News

Nurse Ellen

Passport to Winter Fun, if your child would like to participate please turn in the front flap of the booklet by Monday, January 30th.

Newton still has a stomach bug going around as well as a virus causing fever, headache and a cough. Please make sure your child is better before he/she returns to school. This prevents others from getting sick and your child from getting a secondary infection. There are cases of flu in Vermont. It is not too late to immunize your child against the flu. Please call Nurse Ellen if you have a questions/concern.

[Local Resources for Families Information](#)

Spanish News

Ms. Bea Pratt

Hola! This past week, Spanish class has been reviewing their video conversations and interviews as well as making reflections on their writing pieces. We are looking forward to learning more Spanish to describe physical and personality traits early next week.

If you and your student are looking for more ways to practice Spanish while waiting, Duolingo.com or the Duolingo App is a fun way to practice the language on the go. After you set up an account you can choose your language and keep practicing. Just a tip, but force yourself to use the microphone and practice repeating the words for better pronunciation.

señorita Pratt

PE News

Mr. Casey Grimes

K,1,2 cluster have been working on fitness training. Learning and practicing pushups, curlups, mountain climbers, sprinting, jumping rope. We are getting stronger and faster.

3,4,5 have also been working on our fitness training.

6,7,8 have also been fitness training.

We all will be doing our fitness testing over the next few weeks.

The students ***need to bring in their winter clothing*** because it will be getting colder. I have a number of students who are not bringing a change of shoes and the school needs to keep the gym clean for the basketball teams.

The students that do not have shoes will not be able to participate in PE class due to safety concerns. There are a number of pairs of shoes at the school but not in every size. So I urge parents to make sure their children have a second pair of shoes.

7/8 Elective - Outdoor Adventures Winter Edition

Outdoor Adventures is working outside building whatever comes to their minds out of snow. We are also going to be building/making a broomball court so that we can broomball it up after fitness testing.

Have a great weekend and think snow!!

Hot Lunch News

Mrs. Gretchen Hewes

I am so excited to report that along with our school gardens we also will be given a generous donation from some of our community members next year. I was able to meet with Andy Rowles and Kemba last week and we have been putting together a list of the veggies to be grown and donated to the school for our Hot Lunch Program. Andy has already donated fresh onions and potatoes to the program this year.

We are so lucky and fortunate to have such passionate people in the towns of Strafford and South Strafford.

For our Fresh Fruits and Veggie Program I am looking for ideas for some fun and different fruits to introduce to the kids over the next quarter. Please feel free to contact me with any ideas of fruits and/or veggies you would like to see the kids trying. My email address is ghewes@newtonschool.org



One Planet News

Ms. Kiersten Harlow

The week has gone by so fast with the snow day on Tuesday! On Thursday, we decided we might need to do a "take two" with the rock candy. We discussed ideas about why it was doing what it was doing and what we might do differently next time.

We also made our own ice cream! It was an exciting process with a workout included. We used Ziploc bags, one with ice and sea salt, the other with half and half, sugar and vanilla. The kids then had to "shake their bags" for about 10 minutes and then were able to enjoy the ice cream they made on their own!

PTA News

Mrs. Amy Donohue & Ms. Shannon Varley

Mardi Gras!

The PTA is collaborating with the Universalist Church and One Planet on the upcoming Mardi Gras event to make masks after school on Thursday, February 9th 3:00-4:30. We are in need of two volunteers to help with this fun event. Please contact [Amy Donohue](#) if you are able to help.

Next PTA Meeting - February 7th, 6pm, Newton School Library
We will be planning Winter Carnival (March 10th, 11th, & 12th) and Town Meeting Lunch (March 7th). We need many volunteers to help with these events, please come to the meeting to see where you can help or email [Amy Donohue](#) if you can't attend the meeting but would like to help.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

[Girl Scout Meeting February 1, 2017](#)

[Community Discussion - Drug Use Prevention](#)

[Earn-A-Bike](#)

[Winter Break Camps](#)

[2018 Paris France, Switzerland, The Alps and Germany](#)

[Revels Kids 2017/Revels Kids 2017 Traditions of Zimbabwe](#)

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Stay Connected



"The strength of the team
is each individual member.
The strength of each
member is the team."

- Phil Jackson