

Friday, March 17, 2017

School Notes and Athletics

Mr. Bagnato, Principal

Congratulations to the 7th grade (Mannequin Challenge) and 4th and 6th Grade (Winter Carnival Participation) for winning some classroom Winter Carnival competitions. Their prize? Ice cream sundaes!

On Thursday we held our annual Pi Day Triad. This tradition was centered around the meaning of Pi. Ms. Kanoff and students ran the circumference and diameter of the entire student body to demonstrate what Pi is. Student triad groups used numbers of Pi to create equations. There were also songs and skits. Congratulations to all the participants. Charlotte memorized Pi to 191 digits, Cole was the fastest to recite the Greek alphabet, Eleanore, Heidi, Maddie, and Kailey won the Pi art competition. They all received Pie!

Also, our new music teacher, Jessica Pierpont started this week. Jessica lives in Chelsea and runs the Vermont Girls Choir out of Seven Stars in Sharon.



Athletics and Upcoming Events:

In the spring, the Newton School does not organize any sports. However, there will be two running programs organized through One Planet. These will start in April. Also, Theford Academy organizes track (grades 5-8), baseball (7/8), and softball (7/8) and allows our students to join. As soon as I get the schedules from TA, I will pass them along.

Kindergarten News

Ms. Kicza

[Forest Day KG Blog](#)

1-2 News

Ms. Longcore & Mrs. Robinson

K-2 enjoyed hearing books about Elephant and Piggie this week in anticipation of Monday's field trip to see the play "Elephant and Piggie's We Are in a Play!" starring these two characters. The play is based on books by a favorite kids' author, Mo Willems. We look forward to some music, laughter, and fun at this play! We thank the PTA for their support of our field trips!

3-5 News

Ms. Cote, Mrs. Hill & Mr. Walker

It's been another busy week in the 3-5 cluster. Following the snowstorm on Wednesday, the students participated in our school-wide annual PI Day celebration. Many students worked hard putting together skits, posters, or memorizing the digits of PI. It was a fun gathering!!

Along with this math activity, the kids have been learning about the devastating effects of the Flood of 1927. For the last quarter we have been studying Vermont history during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Through videos, story books, and texts, the students have gotten a taste of how the flood changed the lives of Vermont's citizens.

Middle School News

Ms. Kanoff, Ms. Tieff, Mrs. White

MS Trip Fund:

We raised \$464 at movie night held last Friday. Thanks to everyone who helped out.

The raffle is coming, the raffle is coming!!!

Next week, middle school students will be selling raffle tickets for their baskets - In the Kitchen, Marvelous Movie Time, and Pampered Pets. Each student will be receiving an envelope with 6 packets of tickets. The drawing will held on Friday, April 14th.

We still need adults and students to sign up for recycling. Please see the [Google Document](#). We have raised over \$4,000 so far from this fundraising project!

Middle School Play (Excalibur):

The cast was announced today and rehearsals start on Monday during flex. It's never to early to help your child start learning her/his lines.

Library & Technology News

Ms. Simone Pyle

In second grade tech time with Mrs. Robinson, we've started learning about digital citizenship, using Common Sense Media's [Digital Passport](#). We've discussed the importance of thinking before you share online, and the benefits of not letting yourself get distracted by devices like cell phones.



The students have their usernames so they can play the games at home (we've had some technical glitches with them on the school computers). We will continue to discuss topics such as being safe online, respecting intellectual property, and other areas of netiquette.

Health News

Nurse Ellen

There continues to be a stomach bug going around. If your child comes down with this, small sips of Pedialyte or peppermint tea have been helpful. Friendly reminder, suggest your children not share food or beverages. This GI illness seems to be lasting 2-3 days before children are feeling better. Any questions please call Nurse Ellen.

To get the prize for participating in Passport to Winter Fun: **Please turn back flaps in by Monday, March 19th** [See the attached info:](#)

[Local Resources for Families Information](#)

One Planet

Kiersten Harlow

We are pleased to announce that we will be offering an exciting new running program for girls and boy in grades 3rd-6th called Finding Our Stride. Finding Our Stride is a school-based, running program for youth in the Upper Valley. Their mission is to build fitness, self-esteem and teamwork through running. We welcome John Lloyd as our boys coach and Jessica Brown as our girls coach! Please see attached enrollment forms.

[Boys Form](#)

[Girls Form](#)

PTA News

Amy Donohue

The PTA is starting the search for 2017-2018 officers; in particular, the offices of President, Secretary, and arts committee members who organize arts-related events including the artist-in-resident. The PTA has enacted many enriching programs over the past 10 years since I've lived in Strafford which

takes many volunteers to keep them going, either through fundraising or volunteering time. It truly makes Strafford a pretty cool place to be a kid. These events such as Halloween, 4th of July, Winter Carnival, the spring Plant Sale and poinsettia fundraiser would not be possible without leaders organizing these events plus the many volunteers who make it happen. The funds from these events help raise money for other events the PTA sponsors such as the week long artist-in-resident, two culture or art related shows per student, the Hood Museum of Art program, props and scripts for student plays and many more events.

We live in an age where our time is a valuable commodity. I urge you to consider donating your time in a leadership role with the PTA so we can keep these wonderful programs in place.

Please join us at our upcoming PTA meeting to learn more Tuesday, March 21 at 6 pm in the Newton school library.

Please contact [Amy Donohue](#) with any questions.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

[TSA's Middle School Circus is back!](#)
[To learn more, click here](#)



[Horizons Summer Day Camp](#)

[Chelsea Summer Camp](#)

[2017 Summer Camps & Festivals](#)

[Earn-A-Bike](#)

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

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

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

- Phil Jackson