

The Newton School Newsletter

Friday, May 5, 2017

School Notes and Athletics

Mr. Bagnato, Principal

Thanks so much to all parents and families that appreciated the wonderful teachers at Newton School this week.

I apologize for not getting the newsletter out last week. As you all know life is busy and gets a lot busier between April Break and June 16th. There are many events being planned, some more exciting than others:

*Wednesday, May 10 and Thursday, May 11 the Middle School Play *Excalibur* will be held. We hope to see everyone at this 6-8 play. Evening showings at 7:00 pm.

*Monday, May 15th the 6th Grade will be traveling to VINS to present their projects at the VINS Science Symposium.

*Wednesday, May 17th and Thursday, May 18th is the Annual Art Show.

*Thursday, May 18th is Operation day's Work, where all 7th and 8th graders work in the community to raise money for a nonprofit.

*Friday, May 19th is Bike to School Day (more details to come)

Also, next week we start our standardized testing. All 3rd-8th graders will be taking the [SBAC](#) and 4th and 8th graders get to take the Science NECAPs. There is nothing for students to do to prepare except get plenty of sleep, exercise, and eat well.

There is more much more....all events should be on the school calendar.



Greening Up the Forest Classroom



Get Ready for the Play

K-2 News

Ms. Kicza, Mrs. Longcore & Mrs. Robinson

The first and second graders had our first spring explorer time outside this

week. We did a scavenger hunt to find out what signs of nature are around so far this spring, checked out the Kindergarten forest classroom, and then spent some time doing journaling in our plots in the upper field. So nice to get outside before the rain!

Kindergarten, first, and second graders started gardening again this week! Thanks to our new raised bed with a cold frame - thank you middle schoolers! - we were able to direct sow seeds. Kindergarten students planted early in the week on a cold, wet afternoon. They moved sticks, leaves, and weeds from the garden bed then planted salad greens and radishes. Later in the week first and second graders had a warmer day for planting salad greens. We look forward to eating these later in the year at our salad celebration! First and second grades also began several flower varieties indoors including morning glories, bachelor buttons, zinnias, and more. These will eventually go outdoors in our cut flower garden



K-2 Sing the Vermont State Song at the Senior Lunch on Wednesday.

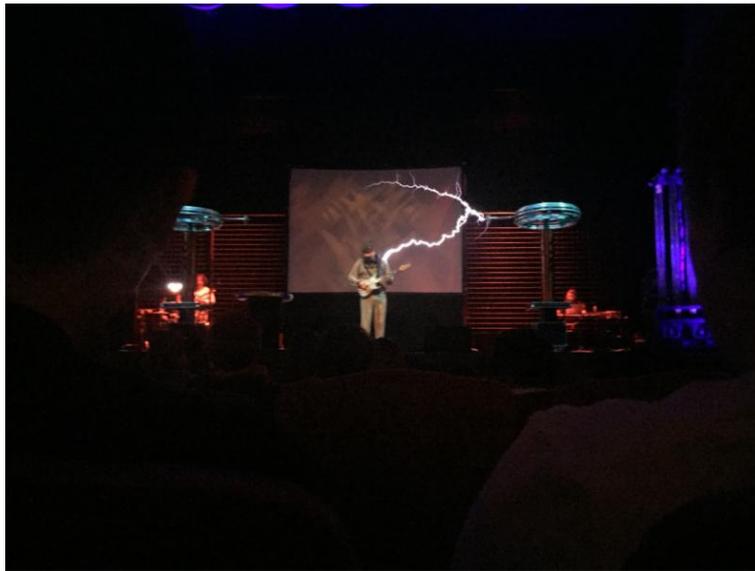


3-5 News

Ms. Cote, Mrs. Hill & Mr. Walker

This week students have been involved in learning more about Modern Vermont. On Tuesday they focused on Vermont attractions, and the reasons they are located where they are. Near the end of the week they studied and discussed Vermonter's relationships with trees over time, and how care of the trees in our state has changed since the 1800's.

The students went to an amazing performance called Araattack on Thursday, April 27th. . It was all about electricity. You can watch a review of the act at: <http://lebanonoperahouse.org/event/details/arcattack/>



Middle School News

Ms. Kanoff, Ms. Tieff & Mrs. White

The Spaghetti Supper is quickly approaching! Friday, May 19th the Middle School students will be hosting this supper to thank the members of the Town of Strafford Highway Department for all their hard work. The proceeds will go directly toward the purchase of a "Traffic Calming" sign. WE DESPERATELY NEED YOUR HELP!

1. Dinner items we are in need of include:

- **Non-meat pasta sauce**
- **Dinner rolls**
- **Desserts**
- **Non-alcoholic beverages**

2. Volunteers:

- **Help with food prep and set up from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.**

- **Help serving food and bussing tables from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.**
- **Help with clean up from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**
- **If you have any questions, please let us know! Thank you!!**

Library & Technology News

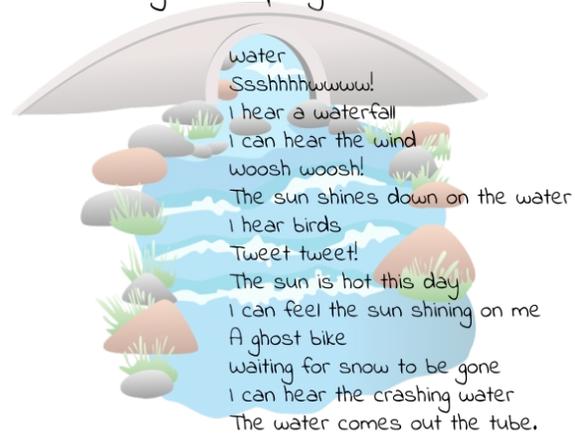
Ms. Simone Pyle

April is National Poetry Month!

The kindergarten class composed a poem using sounds, words, and phrases that came to mind while we sat outside in the spring sunshine! Every student contributed a line to the poem, and help determine the order of the lines.

First grade is currently working on their own poems, inspired by Emily Dickinson's "A Narrow Fellow in the Grass". We hope to share those in the next few weeks!

Kindergarten Spring Poem



Hot Lunch News

Mrs. Gretchen Hewes

News from the Lunch Room

Welcome Back! We hope everyone had a great vacation. We were so lucky to come back from break to discover our freezer full of fresh local beef for the students to enjoy in our hot lunches for the rest of the year. We would like to send out a huge THANK YOU to Al S. for his generosity and continued support of our lunch program.

This week our fruit of the week was....Watermelon! The kids sure were excited about that.



Watermelon had its origin in Africa dating as far back as 2 B.C. Watermelon seeds were found in the tomb of Pharaoh Tutankhamun (King Tut).



Watermelons can have pink flesh as well as a vibrant yellow flesh. They are delicious and usually a staple at summer barbecues. As to continue with the tip of the hat to our upcoming summer vacation we will continue to showcase melons for the next few weeks. Next week our fruit of the week will be Cantalope!

As we are in the home stretch of our school year please be sure that all lunch balances have been paid in full no later than June 23rd. Billing will go out again for the 4/10/17 - 5/12/17 period and our last billing cycle will be 5/15/17 - 6/16/17. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. My email address is ghewes@newtonschool.org

Congratulations to Lucy Proulx, Grand Prize Winner for Passport to Winter Fun. She is an LL Bean Outdoor Discovery Course Winner! Well done Lucy!

Newton has two cases of Hand, Foot, and Mouth disease, a common viral childhood illness. Hand, foot, and mouth disease is in this area of VT at this time. This is a mild illness of young children. Kids may have fever, feel unwell, have a sore throat and may have blisters in their mouth, on hands and feet. The symptoms resolve after a few days.

Ibuprofen/acetaminophen can help with discomfort, popsicles/ice cream is soothing for mouth blisters. Rinse after meals with warm water.

Any questions call Nurse Ellen

Art News

Janet Cathey

Mark your calendars for May 17, 4:30 - 7 pm: Student Art Show at Barrett Hall. There will be art upstairs and downstairs, some interactive art, simple family art activities to do together, and a scavenger hunt!

K students are experiencing the "art magic" in print making. They are learning how they can make many copies and many colors from one single drawing.

1/2 students are appreciating the Strafford Town road crew by drawing from observation pictures of the work machines they see in town.

3/4/5 students are continuing to sculpt with paper while asking the question: "where do artists get their ideas?". Their goal is to come up with their own ideas and create a W.O.W. (Wonderful Original Work of Art). W.O.W. art comes from thoughtful, careful work, feedback, and improvements.

6th grade students have chosen many pathways to make abstract paintings. Some of the inspirations are: aerial photographs, patterns on the bottom of their shoes, and music of their choice.

7/8 Ceramics students have made modern coil pots. Not simple, many of these coil pots show considerable skill, experimentation and imagination.

Image 1: Parker's print

Image 2: Harley's painting



One Planet

Kiersten Harlow

We had a wonderful and busy week at One Planet! Even though the weather was rainy Tuesday and we didn't get to work in the garden, Paul came with an amazing project. The kids made their own Dream Catchers! They were all so different and beautiful. Rob brought some Lego STEM for them on Wednesday and Matt with his creativity on Thursday. Friday we partnered with the PTA and had a wonderful time making cards. Thank you to the PTA for reaching out to us.

We are still looking for CIT's for our summer program.

Summer camp registration opens to out of town residents Monday.

Stay tuned for our next field trip...

[Newton Summer Camp Registration Form](#)

PTA News

Amy Donohue & Shannon Varley

PTA Officers needed!!

The PTA is looking for individuals to serve in the offices of Secretary and President for the 2017-2018 school year. Terms are for one year and run August 1-July 31. Offices are well organized for anyone looking to contribute to the many programs that the PTA organizes can easily transition into. Please

contact [Kate Reimanis](#), [Laura Ogden](#) or [Pat Kelly](#) if you are interested and would like to learn more about what the commitment involves. Elections will take place at the next general meeting

Bike to School Day - May 19th

We are looking for parents to walk and bike with kids, both from the upper village and from the Catholic Church just past Coburn's. We will also need parents to contribute breakfast items for kids once they get to school.

Contact [Hilary Linehan](#) if you'd like to help.

PTA Plant Sale - May 20th - 9:00-12:00

We need volunteers to make phone calls to local gardeners asking for a donation of plants and local gardening businesses for a donation to our raffle. We also need parents to setup and cleanup. Please contact [Kate Reimanis](#), if you are able to help.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

[Maker World Week, June 19-23 @ Seven Stars](#)

[Creative Preschool Cow Bingo](#)

[Kid Links Annual Dinner featuring Kim John Payne "Being Your Best When Your Children Are At Their Worst"](#)

[Ravenswood Week Long Camp](#)

[Strafford One Planet Summer Camp](#)

[Horizons Summer Day Camp](#)

[Chelsea Summer Camp](#)

[2017 Summer Camps & Festivals](#)

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

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

Greg Bagnato, Principal
243 Vermont Route 132
South Strafford, VT 05070
Phone: 802-765-4351/Fax: 802-765-4785

Stay Connected



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

- Phil Jackson