

VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – May 17, 2013

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – RHS had their Junior Prom last weekend at the Riverview in Simsbury. It was well attended and everyone stayed until the end. There was a lot of dancing and plenty of food. There was a French fry, pretzel, popcorn and quesadilla bar. Everyone had a great time!

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – The VCMS seventh and eighth grade bands performed their Spring Concert to a great crowd! Mrs. Cook led the band and ensured an entertaining evening. The VCMS PTO and parents put on a staff appreciation event that was truly sweet! Many staff members commented on the great display of treats and expressed their appreciation of the PTO. Thanks!

CENTER ROAD SCHOOL –

- CCSS testing has been completed in Grades 3-5.
- Several extended day students have completed the necessary requirements to be on grade level with their peers and have exited the program.
- A fifth grade book club just wrapped from reading *Owls in the Family*. Students completed an owl pellet study.
- Several students met Tier III requirements and are now Tier II students in grades 2 and 3.
- Foundations Assessments for K,1 are ready for piloting.
- We are gearing up for our Summer Reading Kick-Off with the whole school.
- Mrs. Piscitelli and Mrs. Poglitsch are making adjustments to our site on the Vernon Public Schools website to assist parents in helping their children with reading.
- Our Grade 5 student's had their Panorama Photo taken. This is a sure sign for the end of the year.
- Our Chorus and Band students are diligently preparing for the Fine Arts concert on Wednesday, May 22nd.
- Gr. 4 had an intro to inventions with the Thomas Edison Assembly.

LAKE STREET SCHOOL – On Wednesday May 15th, eight LSS students attended Marine Science Day at UConn's Avery Point campus in Groton, CT with students from our four other elementary schools. Our students learned about Long Island Sound and Marine Science. Each student participated in a series of hands-on workshops in the morning. Our first lab was Lobster Biology and Fishery. All students were able to pick up live lobsters, learn about the lobster's life cycle and how lobsters survive. We were most fascinated to learn that a female lobster can lay as many as 10,000 eggs. We also learned about the lobster pots used to catch lobsters. LSS students were lucky enough to go out on the Project Oceanology boat as part of the afternoon session. This was a two hour ride in Long Island Sound and Fisher's Island Sound. Students helped to pull up a lobster pot, throw out a trolling net, and helped pull up the trolling net. Our lobster pot was empty, but our net pulled in many specimens to study and learn about. We pulled in a squid, a skate, spider crabs, black bass, a black fish, and flounder. All students were encouraged to dig in and help separate the sea creatures from the seaweed in

the live wells. We learned about each one from our guide, and students were able to interact hands-on with each sea creature. This was a wonderful learning opportunity for our students. The students took in every bit of information, and made us proud as they responded to many of the presenters' questions. I think Lake Street School has some future marine biologists.

MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – The MSS Student Showcase will take place on Wednesday, May 22 from 6:00-7:30. The Showcase features classroom projects, a hallway art gallery, a 4th grade recorder concert, and the Book Fair. Families are encouraged to come and enjoy the talents and accomplishments of students across the grade-levels.

NORTHEAST SCHOOL – This week, first graders from Mrs. Chep's and Mrs. Smith's classes exercised their expert questioning skills with a rock and some radishes. Using Tanny McGregor's ideas for building comprehension strategies, the teachers have been using concrete objects to demonstrate comprehension strategies. While focusing on questioning this week, students created questions about a rock and then a radish. Students developed questions before, during, and after tasting the radishes. Good readers think and question before, during, and after reading! Students then continued working on their questioning skills to improve their comprehension of reading a "just right" book.

SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – Skinner Road fifth graders went to Three Rivers Community College on Friday for a science curriculum field trip. Students learned about nursing, made kaleidoscopes, and saw a laser show. First grades went to the Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory as part of their science unit. Fourth grade students had the opportunity to participate in an after school Games Activity to promote physical health. Third grade students participated in an after school Cardio Club. All third through fifth graders have been working hard on the Smarter Balance Testing Pilot and the Common Core State Standard Alignment Test. In all grade levels and areas staff and students are working hard and celebrating the positive growth that our students are accomplishing.

VPS GOOD NEWS



VERNON REGIONAL ADULT BASED EDUCATION

FREE 2013 SUMMER CLASSES*

* For adults (17 years and older) in our 14-town region

WHEN: July 1 to July 31, 2013

WHAT: FREE GED and ESL CLASSES

WHERE: Rockville Learning Center, 33 West Main Street, Vernon (near Rockville Hospital). Park in lot behind our building and walk up stairs. Only handicapped parking with a permit is allowed on the main street.

TO REGISTER: Contact **Shari Beaupre**, our administrative assistant, at 860-870-6000 ext.139 or sbeaupre@vernon-ct.gov

GED: Prepare for the GED exam, which is an alternative route to a high school diploma. Class meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 11am—2:30pm (beginning on 7/1/13 and ending on 7/31/13). An orientation appointment is required, contact Shari Beaupre.

ESL: Strengthen language skills, explore U.S. culture and civics, and make new friends. Class meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 11am—2:30pm (beginning on 7/1/13 and ending on 7/31/13). Contact Shari Beaupre.

www.vrabe.org

We look forward to welcoming you into our program!

