



VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – September 27, 2013

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – The Rockville High School English Department and the RHS Drama Club have some great news to share. Ms. Gabbi Mendelsohn’s drama club students and Mrs. Vicky Nordlund’s creative writing class have collaborated on the upcoming play, *Negative Space*, written by Christiane Lee with assistance from Brendan Kennedy, Julia Bonadies, Shayla Schoeneberger, and Catherine Bartol. *Negative Space* explores how the labels people give each other can confine those who choose to accept them. The drama club will perform the show in the RHS auditorium on October 4th at 7:00 p.m. In addition, the club members are hoping to take the show to VCMS. All of the students have been working very hard on this production and are to be commended for their dedication and talent.

The Rockville High School Marching Band came in 1st place in their division and 1st place overall at the US Bands Competition held at Fitch High School this past weekend. The Marching Ram Band received the highest scores from the adjudicators in all of the musical, visual, and overall effect captions.

In the Family and Consumer Sciences Department the Education Practicum and Independent Living students had a wonderful afternoon at Johnny Appleseed’s Orchard on Thursday. They enjoyed a wagon ride into the orchard to pick apples and pumpkins for upcoming class projects. The students have been learning all about apples and Johnny Appleseed, whose birthday is September 26. The Childhood Education students have spent the past few classes the Career Center, developing resumes, a personal philosophy, career profiles and researching career opportunities. Students have also been informed about the Early Childhood Career Cluster and are ready for their shadowing experiences over the next several weeks. Thank you to Mrs. Aducci and Ms. O’Sullivan for their assistance and expertise in assisting these classes with their assignments. And, thank you to the staff in the Vernon schools who have volunteered to have these students visit your classrooms.

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – We have had several of our clubs begin this week at VCMS: Math Counts, History Club, Book Club, Math Olympiads, and Cake Decorating. Also, soccer intramurals began on September 23 and will go until October 10. Students are encouraged to join in the fun, learning, and developing of new friendships that are offered through participation in these clubs.

Our big fundraiser of the year, the Magazine Drive, kicked off this week at VCMS. Students received individual packets and are in the process of selling magazines to various family members and friends.

CENTER ROAD SCHOOL – Center Road School had 88% of our students return their summer reading logs from the Governor’s Summer Reading Program. To celebrate, the students will have an assembly presentation in the gym today called “Zoology” from Forest Park.

The beginning of school testing has been completed and our Reading Department is underway with working with our students.

Our first social will be held on Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. sponsored by our wonderful PTO. It is our Ice Cream Social. Any students attending will receive a free ice cream sundae and parents/siblings/relatives will be charged \$3.00 per sundae. It is a great event, very successful and a lot of fun for everyone.

LAKE STREET SCHOOL – Student clubs started this week as extension opportunities for some of Lake Street School students:

Art club is a weekly opportunity for fourth and fifth graders, giving students the opportunity to further develop their creative expression. We look forward to enjoying their work around the school.

Fifth graders in the Lake Street School Pride Club exemplify our school values: Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation and Safety. These students serve as role models for the rest of our students. They will be facilitating our assemblies throughout the school year to perpetuate these character traits across our school community. We are fortunate to have such a strong group of student leaders!

Thank you to Peter Johnson for coordinating out Bus Evacuation procedures for all of our students, K-5. In the unforeseen event that they will need to evacuate the bus, students will know what to do!

MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – Ms. Lagun's second grade class made copies of their writing assignment about what they wanted to be when they grew up and sent them to Lt. Kelly at the Vernon Police department. Lt. Kelly had visited their class two weeks ago and they promised to send him some of their work.

Mr. Woods brought in a guest visitor to grade five on Friday. The guest visitor was his twin brother Mr. Jeffrey Woods who is a missionary in Africa. He spoke to the children about his experiences living in Africa. This was a great opportunity for our fifth graders.

Notices went home on Friday about our upcoming Maple Street Community School Program. Our programs will begin on Monday, October 7. Families are encouraged to sign-up for our first trimester programs.

NORTHEAST SCHOOL – Can you believe we've already finished our first month of school? The fourth grade sure has been keeping busy! We have explored different environments, discovered new habitats and created erosion at Belding Wildlife Center. It was great to be learning outside for the day. In Reading, the fourth graders are able to point out the theme in a story and use supporting details to back up their answers. Our Reader Response paragraphs are really something special! This week in Math we are starting our first round of centers! Students will be given support on skills they need extra help in and challenged when they are ready! It's been busy and we sure are having a great time doing it!! Northeast also celebrated some school spirit and all rocked our Blue and White colors.

SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – Skinner Road students and staff have had a busy week. On September 23 Grade four students went on a field trip to Belding. The students learned about insects and wildlife. On September 24th SRS had their open house. Attendance by parents and children was wonderful. During open house parents learned about the walk to school program, the PTO, PBIS, and numerous other school programs. A Short film of the Summer Reading Challenge was played in the gym. Parents were able to see the Wave of Friendship Quilt that was made by every class in the school. The quilt was a celebration of International Peace Day. On Friday STAR students were celebrated at an Assembly. 100 Students stayed after school for the dance marathon to raise money for The Liver Foundation.



VERNON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - Did you know that woolly bear caterpillars sleep for the winter? A whole family of them has taken up residence outside the doors of Vernon Elementary School. Budding scientists are researching them and discovering all kinds of interesting facts. Cicada shells have adorned one class's science area. This week also brought a visit from Mr. Todd Giansanti, a guidance counselor at Vernon Center Middle School, who shared lots of information about the middle school with our sixth graders.

The Vernon Public Schools, in partnership with family and community, is committed to provide a quality education, with high expectations, in a safe environment where all students become independent learners and productive contributors to society.