



VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent
30 Park Street • P.O. Box 600
Vernon, CT 06066-0600
Fax (860) 870-6005

Website: www.vernonpublicschools.org



GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – January 8, 2016

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – ENGLISH - Congratulations to Alexandra Ose who is one of the winners of the prestigious Hartford Stage Write-On Playwriting Competition. Alex is a student in Vicky Nordlund's creative writing program. Every year, student playwrights are invited to develop their own 10-minute plays at Hartford Stage. Winners of the Write-On Annual Young Playwrights' Competition work with a professional playwright in intensive writing workshops to polish their scripts and will see professional actors perform their play.

Caroline Jeffers and Joyce Hida have been named finalists in the Arisia Student Writing Contest for their outstanding science fiction short stories. They will receive a free weekend at the Arisia 2016 Convention. At the convention, Caroline and Joyce will have the chance to win first, second, or third place for their short stories.

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – Right before our holiday break, the Annual Holiday Share Elves worked hard to keep the shelves stocked with hundreds of great items! Students had an amazing experience spending their SOAR cards (earned for Safety, Organization, Achievement, and Respect and Responsibility) and shopping for their family and friends. Some students were caught being kind and sharing SOAR cards with friends who may have needed a couple more to get that "special something" for someone special in their lives. The Holiday Share is a great event at VCMS!

Miss Rinaldi's Spanish classes recently performed plays in their target language. Students wrote their own scripts. They asked questions, responded and carried on conversations. The plays, and the students, were truly fantastic.

CENTER ROAD SCHOOL – This week Center Road School met for their monthly school wide meeting. This month each teacher passed out "Teacher Awards" to one student in their class who has been showing great effort throughout the year. The teachers had many difficult decisions to make, but in the end 24 very deserving students received this honor.

Our students have started the 2016 year without missing a beat! Our students are still working hard following our core values, and earning road runner riches. The students at CRS receive special tokens for every 25 riches they earn. Some of our students have already earned 100 road runner riches!

LAKE STREET SCHOOL – LSS is off to a terrific start to 2016! Students and staff are refreshed and jumping into their work with enthusiasm.

This week, third grade students have been learning theater techniques through the inspiring story of Wilma Rudolph. Hartford Stage representative Krista De Vellis is working with students,

who are learning about tableau and acting techniques as they explore decisions Wilma had to make at a young age. Each student received a copy of Wilma, Unlimited, courtesy of Hartford Stage.



What does school spirit look like? Red and White all over at LSS on Friday! Our Pride Club students presented our monthly assembly, showcasing our expectation of Cooperation. We'll be looking for top cooperative students to participate in Camp Cooperation in March. Leo made an appearance, to the delight of our students.

MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – Students at Maple Street School have transitioned back successfully after the holiday break. Students have been exhibiting the core values of Being Safe, Everyone cares, Always respectful, and responsible.

Students across the grade levels have also been hard at work learning about fairy tale adaptations, mythology, informational writing and narrative writing.

We are happy to announce that starting on Monday, January 11th selected students will have the opportunity to participate in an afterschool homework club. There students will be able to receive additional assistance and support with their homework.

NORTHEAST SCHOOL – NES is back in full swing after a well-deserved break! Students in grades 3, 4 and 5 are fine-tuning their music performances in anticipation of their Winter Concert on Thursday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m. Third grade students celebrate food in wonderfully wacky ways with the musical ***Let's Eat!*** and also remind ourselves to be thankful for the bounty we regularly enjoy at least three times a day. The fourth and fifth grade chorus will also be making its debut.

Fifth grade band students will be making their performance debut. Each instrument section of the band will play before the entire band performs their final selection. They have been working real hard and are anxious to “show off” what they have learned with Mrs. Stein.

For the culmination of their study of habitats, students in grade 3 are presenting a ***Habitat Day*** on Friday from 1:30-2:30 and have invited their parents & friends to view the different types of habitats that they have been studying. They have invested a lot of their time and effort into this project and are excited to share it with their visitors.

SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – Welcome back to school! We hope everyone had a great winter break. SRS students have been working hard. We will be doing our second round of NWEA testing starting January 11. Our ESL Students are working on Lexia, phonics, and will be starting their annual English language assessment next week. SRS currently has 38 students from 13 different countries. On Saturday January 16th SRS is having a Fundraiser at Jack and Allies Book Store. Jack and Allies is at 520 Hartford Turnpike in Vernon. Rumor has it STAR our mascot will be there.

LOVELAND HILL SCHOOL – LHS would like to thank the buildings and grounds and custodial staff for the work they did over the winter break. Our school looks great thanks to all of you! Happy New Year!

NextSTEP – Next STEP students had a very active end to 2015. The annual Holiday Shopping Trip on 12/18 was a big success. Each student stayed within their budget and bought thoughtful presents for loved ones. Claire Dziadul from Claire’s Casual Jewelry was kind enough to visit Next STEP on 12/21 and to provide all of the needed materials for each student to create a necklace to bring home. On 12/22, Next STEP traveled to East Windsor High School to visit their transition program and to meet their pen pals in person. This was a very fun and social activity for everyone. The start of the New Year has been going well. Job sites are very pleased to have students back. The cooking lesson of the week is Macaroni and Cheese and the Adult Daily Living Lesson (ADL) is organizational skills.

