



VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – February 19, 2016

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - On Thursday, February 18th, members of the Rockville FFA fundraising committee hosted a fundraiser at the Red Robin Restaurant in Manchester. Many thanks for all who attended and supported our chapter through hearty appetites!

LIBRARY - All Vernon Public Schools provide access to the Britannica Encyclopedia Resources Online (<http://school.eb.com>) for all students and staff. In addition, VCMS and RHS have access to Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia, Cumbre (Spanish Encyclopedia), and Lands and Peoples reference books online (<http://go-high.grolier.com/> for RHS and <http://go-middle.grolier.com/> for VCMS).

Students and staff may check with their library staff for the ID and password needed when accessed outside of the school network. The links from within ASPEN should also allow you into these resources.

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL –



Students in Mrs. Cook's 8th grade Soundtrack Creation class are adding the visual elements to their Spooky Soundtracks this week. Using text taken from short stories by Roald Dahl or Edgar Allen Poe students narrated their scripts, composed an original soundtrack, and selected images to add to the story. Students used the iPad app Garage Band for the first stage of the project and then the app Sonic Pics to combine the narration, music and images all in one place. We are very proud of the students for the pride and ownership they have taken in this project.

Students on 6B are researching current events in social studies. On various Fridays, Mr. Rispoli has introduced different news articles to the class. The articles have generated class discussions. Now the students are researching to write their own current event article using the internet, newspapers and magazines. Students will then have an opportunity to share their articles with the class to create even more class discussions! Students will increase critical thinking and effective listening skills while being more aware global citizens!

Ms. Barber and Mrs. Tuller report that students in 7B Language Arts have been working on a Poetry unit! They've learned about figurative language and how prevalent it is in our pop culture. We have used song lyrics to identify sensory language as well. We are now applying our new skills by writing our own poems on anything ranging from what it's like to be a leaf to a dedication to a parent. Some students will share their poetry with the Team and a special guest in March.

7th grade students in Ms. Samsonenko's class are performing their music compositions to the class.

Students in the 6th grade Social Studies have started their unit on Europe. They have discussed what they already know and what they hope to learn. They are excited to use their map skills to identify the variety of landforms and waterways in the different sections of Europe. In March, students will be starting their research for their European country projects in both Language Arts and Social Studies

CENTER ROAD SCHOOL – The 5th grade students are collaborating with each other in preparation of their upcoming debates. Students are using their researching skills to find information to support their stand on a variety of topics. We all look forward to the final debates which will be happening soon.

The students in 2nd grade are beginning to use non-fiction text to perform research. This week students were learning about different Presidents, and practiced taking the information they learned and organizing it into a paper. Students were using graphic organizers to help them through this process.

The students at Center Road School met the Jump Rope for Heart Challenge! The students and staff raised close to \$5,800 this year for the American Heart Association, which was an improvement of \$1,000 from last year. As agreed upon, since the students met their goal, Mr. DeBellis went through with his part of the bargain and received a green Mohawk on Friday morning. The physical education staff is so proud of our students' effort this year!



LAKE STREET SCHOOL – Congratulations to Troy Enamait as the County Winner of the CT Fire Prevention Poster contest! Troy, a fourth grade student at LSS, will be celebrated at a luncheon with other County Winners in March. Way to go, Troy!

Leslie Johnson, esteemed writer, did some creative writing with Grade 2 students to create snowflake poems. Students learned to make analogies for snow with lace, eyelet. Students generated snow words,

such as sparkle, fly, share, whirl and sprinkle. Each student utilized these strategies to create their own poem as unique as a snowflake.



Grade 2 students showcased their mad writing skills at our PTO meeting on Thursday night. Eleven students read some of their recent writing to parents and teachers. We're very proud of them for their writing and for their initiative. Well done!



MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – A group of Ms. Lagun's second grades students created a "Thank You" card during indoor recess to show appreciation for our Kitchen Staff. The girls did this randomly, and were excited to present their card during lunch today.



NORTHEAST SCHOOL – This week was a short week, but there is always time for creative learning activities at Northeast! The 5th graders are reading articles to prepare for debates, 3rd and 4th graders are experimenting with technology, and 1st graders are finding out what it feels like to immerse a

“blubber” covered hand into freezing water! Now, first graders know first “hand” why polar bears and other animals have blubber.



SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL –



Skinner Road School Students at SRS had a busy week this week. Pictured is one of our K students working on letter sound cards. Students in grade five had a field trip to a recycling plant in North Haven. Next week Life Touch will be at SRS to take candid pictures for our year book.

LOVELAND HILL SCHOOL – This week students at Loveland Hill School discussed a movie they recently watched, Disney Pixar’s Inside Out. Students discussed how it is normal to experience a wide range of emotions, and how some emotions are uncomfortable and unpleasant even. Students have also been working on an Inside Out inspired project – creating our own Core Memory orbs. They will be displayed in the hallway when all classes have completed the project.



Next STEP - Job sites welcomed our participants back after 2 days off. Functional academic lessons this week have focused on following direction skills. The selected group recipe last week turned out to be Swedish Meatballs. All participants came to an agreement on the chosen recipe. The student led recipe for this week is Onion Cheddar Burgers. The Adult Daily Living (ADL) lesson is work routines.

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.