



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 9, 2015

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – Career Center - Senior Cassie Schambach recently completed an internship through the Manchester Fire Department. Cassie was noted for being conscientious, motivated and professional. Congratulations Cassie!

Family and Consumer Sciences - Students from the culinary department made a variety of soups and breads as part of the "Empty Bowls" movement. Staff was invited to a luncheon where they made a donation in exchange for soup. HVCC and Foodshare each received a check for \$400 to help feed the hungry in our community.

Unity Team - The Unity Team is a group of students who want to improve the school climate at Rockville High School by encouraging acceptance and a positive attitude among our students. Our activities to date have included increasing awareness about bullying by disseminating information about bullying and its effect on students via school announcements. We also created large banners which were displayed in the cafeteria and in other places around the building. Students were encouraged to support each other by signing one of the cafeteria posters that said, "I'm Only Human". Our other activity was to create a short survey about the types of activities students enjoy and what types of activities they would like to see here at school in order to improve their connection to school. We administered the survey in December and will be tallying our results soon. We are also going to participate in the Rock-a-thon this month. Unity Team welcomes new members, so please see Mrs. Hoagland or Mrs. Duarte for the date of our next meeting.



VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – Starting next week on January 12th, VCMS will be starting a new project called, "Gator Gloves" in honor of former guidance counselor Mr. Kent Batchelder, who had an obsession with the University of Florida Gators to which the school will be collecting new cold weather gear to help keep people warm during the winter season. Two artistic EPOCH Art students in 7th grade, Mr. Justin Garceau and Ms. Yaznery Rodriguez-Hernandez were busy this week making a sign for this great event.

CENTER ROAD SCHOOL – The students at Center Road School started 2015 off in a positive fashion with a wonderful monthly meeting on Monday. During the meeting many teachers celebrated all the hard work the students have done so far this school year. The students seemed all excited to be back, and finished the meeting with a spirited school song.

Today the students at Center Road School showed their school and grade level spirit by wearing certain colors for our Color Wars Spirit Day. Each grade level was assigned a different color to

wear to school to see which grade has the most school spirit. As you can see from the pictures below, it will be hard to decide which grade had the most spirit as many students came to school ready to support their grade!



LAKE STREET SCHOOL – Third grade students in Mrs. Merrow’s and Mrs. Parent’s classes learned the difference between solvents, solutes and solutions in *Mixed up Matter* by High Touch / High Tech. Students were introduced to Ooblick, a concoction of corn starch and water. Students observed to determine if the ooblick is a solid or a liquid, as it has properties of both! Students learned that Ooblick was named by Dr. Seuss in his book, *Bartholomew and the Ooblick*. Students had a wonderful time! One student shared, “I’m gonna dream about science!”

Lake Street School is *Going for the Gold!* Students and staff will award a ‘gold medal’ to anyone who exhibits an act of kindness. Our medals will be displayed on our Olympic board outside of the gym. The initiative was introduced at our School Wide Morning Meeting. Our entire school danced the Chicken Dance as our culminating activity!



Six of our fifth grade students attended the Leadership Conference today at Asnuntuck Community College. The students attended breakout sessions which focus on the acquisition of four leadership skills: productive thinking, decision making, creative problem solving and communication. We look forward to our students applying these new Leadership skills to their role as student leaders at LSS!



MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – Maple Street School is off to a great start in 2015! Students returned with a positive attitude and were ready to learn. Our fifth grade students continued reading non-fiction. In the photo they are working collaboratively to identify the main idea and details.



Our second grade students are working hard to learn spelling patterns. Here students complete their word study activities independently.

Not only are the students working hard academically, but they are also practicing our core values. This group of kindergarteners was demonstrating respect in the lunchroom.



NORTHEAST SCHOOL – The students here at NES have made a smooth transition from vacation and back into school mode! Kindergarten students are currently learning about different kinds of shapes and being able to identify them. The first grade has been exploring non-fiction while reading and writing.

Our third graders have been learning about habitats – combining reading, writing and science. Students in third grade have been working as a group to transform their classrooms into two different habitats: under the sea and the rainforest. They look fantastic!

The fifth grade sent 6 students to a leadership conference held by the Connecticut Association of Schools today. This conference focused on ways to be a positive leader in school and society. What an exciting trip for these students!!

SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – A group of fifth grade students attended the Grade Five Leadership Conference at Asnuntuck Community College today. The purpose of the conference was to provide students with the opportunity to develop leadership skills. Students participated in hands on activities designed to foster leadership skills in productive thinking, decision making and communication in conjunction with other students across the State of Connecticut.

The book "Recess at 20 Below" was read to the entire school. This is a nonfiction book about a class in Alaska who live in one of the coldest places in America. The book brings to life all of the extremes of winter playtime in the Far North and made us feel a little warmer.

It was a great first week back from vacation. Students were excited to be back at SRS and worked hard all week.

LOVELAND HILL SCHOOL - Before the holiday break, Loveland Hill School had a wonderful celebration luncheon (see pictures) that included a Gifting Event. Staff brought in a variety of items, and students went "shopping" for the loved ones. Staff helped students wrap their items as well. Students also made very cute reindeer head decorations.

In the classroom upon return from break, students went about creating Bouncing Bubbles (see pictures). Ashley created a double bubble that looked just like a snowman. They were also busy making wintery art scenes depicting snow owls, and completing a Nutrition unit by making no-cook healthy chicken wraps in class, which they shared with staff.



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.