



# 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](http://www.vernonpublicschools.org)



## GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – October 17, 2014

**ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – Commended Students** - Six Rockville High School Seniors have been recognized as Commended Students in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2015 competition by taking the 2013 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSATNMSQT). Congratulations to Brandon Bartol, Erin Brownell, Haley Hasty, Zachary Maloof, Trevor Seiders, and Gregory St. Germain!



**English Department** - Congratulations to Erin Gonyeau and Samantha Westwood, who were both winners of the prestigious Hartford Stage Write-On Playwriting Competition. Erin and Samantha are both students 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 as part of Hartford Stage's Brand:NEW Festival of New Work. The festival will take place in the spring.

**Athletics** - Rockville High School's Haley Hasty is the new CCC Girls Cross Country Champion! Haley won the CCC girls race Wednesday at Wickham Park. Congratulations!



**Career Center** - Congratulations to Cassie Schambach, who was recently named as the new Fire Intern for the Manchester Fire Department. Cassie will hold this position for the fall semester. She will work alongside her mentor to learn the role and responsibilities of a fire fighter.

**World Languages** - Spanish classes have been learning about different Hispanic personalities and their contribution to our society by doing presentations in class to commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month.

The International Club hosted our visitors from Germany last Wednesday. Students had the opportunity to learn about life in Germany and also learn about each other.

**VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL** – Team Everest students are currently working on an interdisciplinary project. While reading *Seedfolks* by Paul Fleischman in language arts class with a point of view lens, students are also exploring the novel in science class focusing on the plants and garden in the story. To supplement the ideas presented in class, students visited Garden Barn and learned about how people can start their own home garden. Students will use evidence from the text to create a map of the community garden in the novel. As well, they interviewed three people about their motivation for gardening. Students also will create a chapter for the book adding themselves into the story, add their garden plot to their map, and find a recipe that uses the crop they would grow.

SOAR Academy at VCMS had its first meeting on October 7th. SOAR Academy is an after-school enrichment program open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. In October and November, students will be exploring science and food. During our first meeting, students challenged the urban myth that Pop Rocks and Coke can make a person's stomach explode. Though the Mythbusters disproved the legend, our data proved differently! Any students who are interested in this new opportunity should see Mrs. Wolfgang.



**CENTER ROAD SCHOOL** –Field trips are in full swing this week at Center Road School. On Thursday the 2nd grade students took a "walking" field trip to visit Vernon's Police and Fire Station. When there, students had the chance to talk to policemen and firemen about their jobs. In addition, students had a tour of the building and had the chance to see the inside of an ambulance and fire truck.

Today the Kindergarten students are taking their annual trip to Hurst Farm. While there students will have the opportunity to pick turnips, feed cows, complete a hay maze, and then go into a pumpkin patch to pick their own pumpkins. All Kindergarten students came in very excited as they awaited their first field trip as CRS students.

In 1st grade students are improving their writing skills and learning to add detail to their writing. Students are learning to use the 5 senses to make their writing more descriptive for the reader. Currently students are creating autumn stories, and doing a wonderful job using descriptive words to make their writing come to life.

The Discovery Center returned today to provide 5th grade students with another 3 hour workshop on tolerance and respecting diversity. Students will be participating in meaningful conversations, as well as activities to help them understand the importance of being respectful to all typed of people.

**LAKE STREET SCHOOL** – It's Hat Day at LSS! Students and staff are contributing \$1.00 to wear a hat in school. All funds are going to the Wounded Warrior Project, in honor of all of our community Veterans. We're enjoying seeing the variety of head wear: ball caps, kings, witches, princesses and birthday caps to name a few! Here's Mrs. Caron's class!



Mrs. Barry's second grade and Mrs. Cipolla's First Grade celebrated the completion of their first writing units with Special Writing Celebrations in class. Students had an opportunity to rotate among their peers and read their finalized writing pieces. These celebrations are wonderful opportunities for peer and adult feedback, and a chance to say Well DONE!

**MAPLE STREET SCHOOL** – Maple Street School staff and students are continuing to demonstrate October's core value of caring for others. Students have done this by volunteering to clean tables in the cafeteria and assist their classmates throughout the day. Each morning Ms. Trantolo shares these examples with the school during the morning announcements.

In addition Maple Street School is looking great! Teachers are filling the bulletin boards and hallways with quality student work. Student's writing and artwork can be seen throughout the building. It is evident that students are demonstrating effort and taking pride in their work.

**NORTHEAST SCHOOL** – This past week all Northeast School students, Pre-K through grade 5, participated in the Bus Jump on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Students reviewed bus safety and practiced exiting the bus.

The School Governance Council had its first meeting on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Goals for the year were set and the committee looks forward to a productive year ahead.

The PTO had a very well attended meeting on October 14<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting the first school dance was scheduled for Friday, November 7. Parents can bring their students who may wear their costumes.

**SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL** –



Over 30 Students, Staff, and Parents braved the rain wind and cold to run the Hartford Marathon this past Saturday. The crowd went wild when the team crossed the finished line in a blur of green and orange. The Team ran a Friendlies Fundraiser on Tuesday night to raise money for Apraxia.

Mr. Uthgenannt is running a Family hike on October 18<sup>th</sup> at Belding Area. The hike will start at 10:00 a.m..

**LOVELAND HILL SCHOOL** - The students in Mrs. Piazza's class have begun using the C8 Sciences computer program on a routine basis. Students are enjoying the brain challenging activities the program provides. The program's built in reward system is an additional bonus.

*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.*