



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 – November 21, 2014

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – ATHLETICS - On November 19th RHS Senior Haley Hasty signed a National Letter of Intent to continue running cross country, indoor and outdoor track next year at The University of Connecticut. In a great show of unity, many administrators, staff, students, and athletes came out to witness the signing and show their support. Haley has been a wonderful ambassador for Rockville High School!

SCIENCE - The molecular gastronomy club met for the first time this week. This club is for students who are interested in both cooking and science. This week's project was making an apple-less apple pie, using the science of taste to trick your brain into believing you are eating apples. The club meets Wednesdays afterschool in room 123.

“NO SHAVE NOVEMBER” - “No Shave November”, in support of men’s health awareness, is underway. So far, students and staff have raised \$400 for charity!

DRAMA - The RHS Drama Club is so excited to be working on the fall show, *SeedFolks*. The upcoming shows will be on Friday, December 5th and Saturday, December 6th at 7pm. Please come and support the wonderful cast and crew!

ALLIED HEALTH - Congratulations to the Allied Health I Class for completing the Heartsaver Adult CPR course! This class of 18 juniors participated in this training at the Vernon Public Safety Building on November 12th.

BOOK CLUB - The RHS Book Club, along with the Young Adult Literature Class, had a Skype session with Ava Dellaira, author of *Love Letters to the Dead*, a young adult novel that both groups had read. She was very engaging and the students all enjoyed this opportunity.

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – Family Science Night, presented by UConn Future Educators, was held on Thursday, November 13 from 6:30-8:00 pm. Parents and students alike navigated throughout the science classes at VCMS learning through experiments and participation ALL about science. There were several activities and even door prizes for students in attendance.

The VCMS talent show was performed on Friday, November 14. There were thirty student participants and fourteen extremely talented and BRAVE staff members. The evening was enjoyed by an audience of 230 people.

This year twelve VCMS students prepared for the Eastern Region Middle School Music Festival Auditions. These students travelled to Colchester CT in early November to audition against other students from the Eastern Region of CT. If their audition score qualifies them to move on, they will participate in a weekend of music making alongside top musicians from our part of the state. Under the direction of guest conductors, the festival will take place in March at Rockville High School. Mrs. Samsonenko and Mrs. Cook are proud of these twelve brave students and the preparation they did as part of this outstanding enrichment opportunity.

VCMS's Student Council was able to collect 4,000 items for the Food Drive! A HUGE thank you to everyone who supported this wonderful cause. We would like to also congratulate the homerooms that

brought in the most items. In the sixth grade, Mrs. Fabuien's homeroom collected 265 items. In the seventh grade, Mr. Coll's homeroom contributed 336 items. And in the eighth grade, Mrs. Roggi's homeroom brought in an amazing 394 items!

CENTER ROAD SCHOOL – On Tuesday the CRS staff held a Literacy Night for students in grades K-2. During this event parents listened to a presentation while their students enjoyed a story in our new library. After, each grade level did an activity with families and then enjoyed a delicious pizza dinner. Over 80 families and 200 people attended this outstanding activity. A special thanks to the Rockville Public Library for setting up a booth and attending the event.

CRS is starting a coat drive and after the first three days we already collected over 30 coats. Thank you to all the families who already have donated. All coats are being donated to Cornerstone

LAKE STREET SCHOOL – We are showing our Lion Pride at LSS! LSS students have collected over 440 food items for the HVCC Food Pantry! Each day, members of our fifth grade Pride Club organize items and revise our daily count. Our front entryway is overflowing with donations. Our Lion Pride is tremendous!



Mrs. Cipolla's class is working hard to be accepted into the Kind Kids' Club by completing random acts of kindness. Here they are surprising our office with a note of appreciation!



Friday morning, Lake Street School had school wide Dens. Students, K-5, went to their Dens with a mix of K-5 peers. The focus of this morning's Den is being thankful. Students and Den leaders discussed what we are thankful for. At the top of everyone's list is our family and friends. (And pumpkin pie!) Each member wrote their thanks on a turkey feather to attach to their Den turkey. Look for these in our hallways next week!

MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – On Thursday Maple Street School held a Math and Fitness night. Many families attended making the event a success! There were four stations through which participants rotated. These included: long jump & jump rope, tangrams, computer games, and a healthy food presentation. Families were able to do some math while exercising and learning about good nutrition. Students and staff enjoyed the fun activities.



NORTHEAST SCHOOL – Students at Northeast School kicked off the week with a spirit assembly. To soften the blow of the arctic air, students celebrated Warm and Fuzzy day. Third, fourth and fifth graders spread warm and fuzzies by sewing fleece blankets. The blankets were donated to the Hockanum Valley Community Council (HVCC), which provides the needs to residents of Vernon and the Tolland County area.

Students continue to participate in the computerized NWEA testing. The results of this assessment will help educators promote student academic growth and achievement.

What a turnout for our first Family Math Night! Led by our talented math interventionist, Ms. Violette, as well as many dedicated staff, students showed-off their brain power and creativity in various activities. From puzzles, shape designs and gumdrop towers, families learned just how fun math can be!



SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – Skinner Road School had their first Special Education Parents group for students in Mrs. Zylberman's Prek Class and Ms. Malchow's First Step Program. The group will meet once every two months and will bring speakers in to discuss current issues in special education. All in attendance had a wonderful time and look forward to the next meeting.

On December 6, fifteen SRS teachers will be taking part in the Vernon Parks and Rec Artic Plunge. Students get to vote if Mrs. Simon can wear a wet suit under her costume by bringing in change and putting it into one of two jars in the café. All of the money collected will go towards student scholarships to the Vernon Parks and Rec Summer Program. Skinner Road School won the Best Costume and most money donated last year. This year we challenge all of the schools to try and beat us. We are going for "Most Spirit", "Best Costume", and most money raised.

LOVELAND HILL SCHOOL - LHS students have completed the NWEA/MAP testing. We would like to thank Mr. Johnson from the IT Department. He was able to help update the browsers on our student computers which we didn't think was possible due to their age!

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.