



VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – February 6, 2015

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – Scholastic Art and Writing Awards - Thirty-four Rockville High School students are winners in the 2015 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards presented by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers. RHS students received 76 awards this year, including 10 Gold Keys, 25 Silver Keys, and 41 Honorable Mentions, the highest number of any participating high school in the state of Connecticut. An RHS student also received the only 2015 Gold Writing Portfolio Award in the state. In the past five years alone, submissions to this competition have topped 700,000 works, and students have been eligible for over 25 million dollars in awards and scholarships.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards competition continues to be the longest-running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in the U.S. and the largest source of scholarships for young artists and writers. In past years, the awards have recognized some of America's most celebrated authors and artists including Truman Capote, Sylvia Plath, Bernard Malamud, Joyce Carol Oates, and Andy Warhol. Gold Keys, the highest awards bestowed upon competitors, are now automatically forwarded to the national level of judging. Students whose works merit a national award are considered for scholarships, publication opportunities, and national exhibition.

Rockville High School 2015 Scholastic Arts and Writing Award Winners

Ashley Adams	2 Gold Keys/1 Silver Key/ 3 Honorable Mentions	Writing Portfolio/Poetry
Whitney Agyeman	Silver Key/2 Honorable Mentions	Poetry
Alize Barnard	Honorable Mention	Short Story
Maddie Beach	Gold Key	Short Story
Steven Bloniarz	2 Honorable Mentions	Poetry/Short Story
Skyler Bough	Honorable Mention	Poetry
Mikayla Brasefield	Silver Key/Honorable Mention	Poetry/Personal Essay
Sierra Buckley	2 Honorable Mentions	Poetry
Kaitlyn Carr	Silver Key	Poetry
Mallory Chabre	Silver Key/3 Honorable Mentions	Short Story/Poetry
Avery Christensen	Silver Key	Short Story
Alicia Daigle	Honorable Mention	Poetry
Alicia Dillman	Honorable Mention	Short Story
Andrew Foreman	Honorable Mention	Poetry
Erin Gonyeau	2 Silver Keys/Honorable Mention	Short Story/Personal Essay/Poetry
Madeline Hernes	Honorable Mention	Poetry
Joyce Hida	Silver Key	Poetry

George Janssen	Gold Key	Short Story
Caroline Jeffers	Silver Key/2 Honorable Mentions	Personal Essay/Dramatic Script
Kylie Kearney	3 Silver Keys/ 3 Honorable Mentions	Flash Fiction/ Poetry
Brianna Laskey	Gold Key/2 Honorable Mentions	Short Story/Poetry
Matt Maguda	2 Gold Keys/Honorable Mention	Poetry/Flash Fiction
Zach Maloof	Gold Key/2 Silver Keys	Critical Essay/Humor
Benjamin Nutt	Silver Key/Honorable Mention	Poetry/Science Fiction
Alex Ose	Silver Key/Honorable Mention	Poetry/Short Story
Brian Pacheco	Honorable Mention	Poetry
Deanna Pellegrino	1 Gold Key/3 Silver Keys/ 2 Honorable Mention	Flash Fiction/Writing Portfolio/Poetry
Cassandra Schambach	2 Silver Keys/3 Honorable Mentions	Writing Portfolio/Dramatic Script/Short Story/Poetry
Winona Scheff	Gold Key/Silver Key/Honorable Mention	Flash Fiction/Poetry
Trevor Seiders	Silver Key/Honorable Mention	Poetry/Flash Fiction
Keith Simmons	Silver Key	Short Story
Melissa Smajevic	Honorable Mention	Flash Fiction
Lily Vartanian	Honorable Mention	Science Fiction
Kenny Zheng	Honorable Mention	Flash Fiction

Athletics - Our girls indoor track team finished 10th out the 32-team field at the CCC Championship last Saturday, behind the double medal performance of Haley Hasty. Haley finished 3rd in both the 1000 meter and 3200 meter races, earning all-conference honors.

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – The VCMS Math counts team will be competing in the regional competition for Math counts at the University of Hartford on Saturday, February 7. The team consists of four team members who will compete as a team: Evan Apinis, Joshua Nicklas, Sara Bernabucci, and Hunter Pare. Three other VCMS students will compete as individuals: Caleb Roggi, Jacob McKinney, and Samantha Peters. The team coaches are Mrs. Roggi, Ms. Morello, and Ms. Semprebou.

Members of the Friends Club met on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 to take part in a community project. They made 38 baby blankets that will be delivered to Manchester Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Great job kids!!!

For the month of January, the V. C. M. S. Student Council collected almost 200 cold weather clothing items such as hats, gloves, and scarves. Donations were displayed on a volleyball net in the cafeteria for all to see. Students and staff brought in enough items to cover the entire net. These will be donated to the Hockanum Valley Community Council, just in time for the Arctic blast! This community service activity was named **Gator Gloves** in honor of former VCMS guidance counselor Mr. Kent Batchelder, who was known for his generous spirit and love for the Florida Gators. Special thanks to Sherri Nevins EPOCH Art for creating the signs to promote this wonderful event.



CENTER ROAD SCHOOL – Today is the 100th day of school, and to celebrate many classrooms had 100 day celebrations that included bringing counting games and songs. Classrooms were decorated with streamers, and many of our younger students were excited to wear their 100 day crowns during school.

This week Center Road School had our monthly meeting and we had a lot to be proud of.

In 5th grade we honored the 6 students who attended the Leadership Conference, and the students spoke to the school about all the wonderful things they learned during their conference.

In 4th grade we celebrated the fact that 93% of our students are reading fluently as measured by our winter universal screens.

The 3rd grade students were proud of their Fairy Tale writing, and shared with us a Fairy Tale they created based on the classic tale of Cinderella.

In 2nd grade the teachers honored the many students who have already earned 75 or more Road Runner Riches.

In 1st grade students shared with us how the actions and words of Dr. Martin Luther King are directly aligned with our Core Values at CRS.

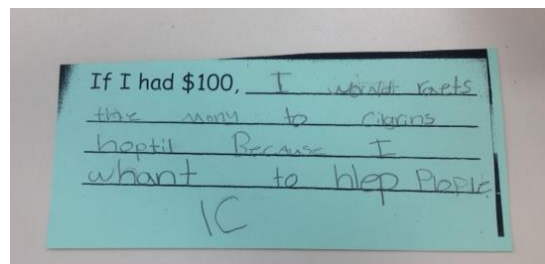
Kindergarten wrapped up the monthly meeting by sharing with us an exercise that they do on GO Noodle.com

We had an exciting week at CRS, and we are proud of all our hard working students!"

LAKE STREET SCHOOL – We are 100 days SMARTER at Lake Street School! Students in Kindergarten, First and Second Grade are celebrating ways to make 100. Kindergarten students made the number 100 with 100 items and listed 100 things they've learned. Item #1? Read!



First and Second Graders celebrated in the cafeteria by counting to 100 by 1's, 5's and 10's. They sang a 100 Day Song and went to 100 Centers. Among these, Students made Tally Ties, wrote what they would do with \$100. *"If I had \$100, I would raise the money to the Children's Hospital because I want to help people."*



MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – All students at Maple Street School are now participating in a 90 minute uninterrupted literacy block. During this time students receive small group instruction based on their reading level. Students also receive phonics and word decoding instruction during this time. In addition students are able to independently choose books and practice their reading skills. During this block the reading teachers push into the classroom to help teach some of the small groups.

We are starting the year off with a new focus on vocabulary instruction. Academic words such as, explain, infer, debate, define, etc. have been identified for each grade level. Classroom teachers are introducing two new words a week. All staff is consistently using and reinforcing these words. Students are excited to show their vocabulary knowledge

NORTHEAST SCHOOL – Wow! Even with all of this snow, we are still packing in the learning! Second graders have been working diligently on their nonfiction animal research reports. You would be in awe at the amount of research and information they have been discovering! Our Scientists have been working hard this week, too! Fifth graders have made new discoveries in the way that sound travels and the fourth graders are creating vehicles to test out different forces and motion. I bet some of these students will grow up to make some new discoveries on their own! Third grade is putting a modern twist on fairy tales and incorporating technology into their learning. I wonder how Cinderella arrives at the ball in 2015!

We can't wait for next week to continue our learning fun!

SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – First grade students at Skinner Road celebrated the 100th day of school by presenting their 100 day projects to parents and the entire school body. We were so impressed with the great projects we saw this year.



LOVELAND HILL SCHOOL - Ms. Petty's class is excited to be trying out a new free website called LearnZillion for brief enrichment lessons and videos. Although we have primarily been tapping from math so far, the site also has wide selection of ELA lessons. The students are enjoying it, and we will be working on *WriteAlong* lessons from this site in the coming weeks. On a similar note, two of four students have reached the required number of hours logged on C-8 Sciences to receive mid-year reports, and the results are very encouraging.



LearnZillion

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.