



VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – May 8, 2015

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION - The results of the Fill the Tractor Food Drive have been calculated. After school on Friday, May 1st, several FFA members and Ag teachers transported almost 800 donated items to Hockanum Valley! Another busy week: Students and staff planted approximately 300 Christmas trees at our Christmas tree farm in Vernon, the Floral Design class created 40 corsages and boutonnieres for the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, and the 2015-2016 Rockville FFA Officer team was elected. The new team will be installed at the annual FFA Awards Banquet which will be held on May 28th at A Villa Louisa in Bolton.

GSA - RHS held a Day of Silence on Tuesday, May 5th. It was extremely powerful as each student was acting in memory of an individual who had been silenced (murder, suicide) due to sexual orientation or gender identify. The action of being silent is done in an effort to raise awareness of the horrific and under reported acts of violence done to people in the transgender, gay, or lesbian community. At the end of the day on Tuesday, students gathered to "break the silence" and to discuss their experiences that day. GSA is raising money to donate to homeless shelters that support the LBGQTQ community. 40% of all homeless youth in CT are LBGQTQ.

UNIFIED SPORTS - On April 29th the State Unified Sports Banquet was held at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville. Each year one mentor and one athlete are nominated for an award. This year the award went to Adam Arnold and Wynona Scheff. The event was attended by over 800 people from other schools, parents, sponsors, and special guests. Vernon had a great showing at this event including Patti Buell, Steve Phelps, Todd Giansanti, and Mary Knowlton. We wish to thank Patti Buell, Andy Rockett, and Lois Possell for helping support more athletes and families to attend this event. A great time was had by all and the speakers for this event were amazing! The speakers included George Synott, President of Unified Sports, Dianna Wentzell, Commissioner of Education, Ted Kennedy Jr., whose aunt, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, started special Olympics in CT, Mr. Hoffman, who is a sponsor of Unified Sports, and finally, a couple whose autistic son was killed in the Sandy Hook shootings and have now partnered with Unified Sports.



POETRY - Kylie Kearney received an Honorable Mention for her poem in the Nancy Thorp Poetry Contest held at Hollins University.

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – On Friday, May 1, 2015, the VCMS Drama Club under the direction of Mrs. Deborah Halpryn, presented their spring performance, Alice in Zombieland. The school was inhabited by zombies and the occasional missing body parts. The cast and crew worked tirelessly to present a show enjoyed by all!!! Great Job everyone and a job well done.



CENTER ROAD SCHOOL –On Wednesday all CRS students participated in ACES, which stands for All Children Exercise Simultaneously. This is a nationwide event where all students have the opportunity to exercise from 10:00-10:15 a.m. This year all students performed a fitness walk around the perimeter of the school. This fitness walk was also to help raise money for Juvenile Diabetes. The weather was excellent, and it was great to see all of our students and staff physically active.

Today the 4th graders hosted a Mother’s Day Lunch during their lunch time. Many mothers and families came to this event, and the students had the opportunity to express how thankful they are for their mothers and families.

LAKE STREET SCHOOL –Officer Michelle Landry, also known as Officer Friendly, visited all of our students this week. Officer Landry talked with students about various issues to promote character and safety. Here, Officer Landry talks with third grade students about the importance of character:

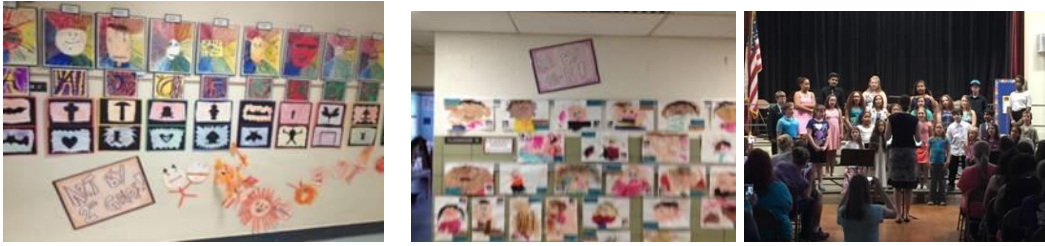


The LSS Annual Science Fair and PTO Book Fair/ Ice Cream Social took place this Tuesday evening! Students in grades 3-5 were able to showcase results of their science experiments. Topics included how an elevator works, benefits of solar panels and the impact of a hockey stick’s flexibility. We ate a LOT of ice cream and bought some terrific books! The evening was a fabulous collaboration of the PTO and LSS!



Second grade students celebrated the completion of their ‘All About’ books with a Writing Celebration on Friday. Parents came to hear students read their books and write compliments. We learned that a pinniped is a mammal that has four fins and sea lions are born in a ‘rookery’! The students did an awesome job with their writing!

MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – Maple Street School held its annual Fine Arts Night on Thursday, May 7th. The school’s hallways were displayed with all the fabulous art work that the students created. The band and chorus also performed. The students did an exceptional job. Many families were in attendance to support their children.



NORTHEAST SCHOOL – The fifth grade has been very busy here at NES! They are working hard to prepare for the Wax Museum by researching and writing biographies about a chosen famous person from history or modern times. The duck eggs have arrived in Mrs. Pelletier's class and should be hatching in the next few weeks. Stay tuned! On Wednesday, every student participated in Project ACES (All Students Exercise Simultaneously) by being active from 10:00 am to 10:15 am. This event is held throughout the country, as well as in other countries in the world! The third graders are using their persuasive writing skills by writing letters to Mrs. Greene in an attempt to convince her to allow them to go on a field trip to the Mystic Aquarium. Will they convince her?

SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – SRS Students in grades K – 5 were excited to enter the Mobil Sky Dome Planetarium on Thursday. Once in the planetarium they learned about the different planets and were able to see what the sky would look like at midnight in Vernon. Each grade level spent 50 minutes inside the dome. On Tuesday SRS had their Spring Concert. The Band and Chorus did a great job.

SRS has been celebrating Walk To School Week this week. On Tuesday and Friday the bus company dropped the students off and we walked to school together. The entire school had an assembly where some lucky students won outdoor play baskets. Students had to write an essay explaining to a friend why it was fun to play outside or draw a picture (for the younger grades).

SRS did a Hat Day to benefit the People in Nepal. 154 dollars was donated to Americares. Last week students collected two large boxes of art supplies which were donated to CCMC.

LOVELAND HILL SCHOOL - This week, Loveland Hill School got busy raising funds for Special Olympics Connecticut. Dennis Camp, our esteemed security staff, organized a softball tournament on May 2, at Rockville High School. Ms. Petty's students made posters, and volunteer players signed up. Dennis raised over \$500 in this one day event. Our sincere thanks to all of those who participated, came out to support the teams, and donated generously. Special thanks to Dennis for being civic minded and caring about others in our community.

Ms. Petty's class wrapped up their unit in Erosion and began a new unit on the study of The Oceans. Students are learning about different types of waves, currents like the Gulf Stream, and undersea land forms. They were surprised to learn that the crustal earth below the oceans has many features we would recognize on dry land, such as volcanoes and trenches.

Loveland Hill is gearing up for the end of the year assessments, and students feel like they will do well showing how much they learned throughout the year. We don't need to wish them luck, because we know how smart they are!!



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.