



VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – November 22, 2013

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – Three students (Katia Ruesta, Kiara Ruesta, and Brendan Kennedy) received The Superintendent's Award and three students (Bryan Bliet, Alyssa Condon, and Andrew Uzdejczyk) were recognized as National Merit Scholarship "Commended Students" at the Board of Education Awards Evening.

Mr. Matthew Kibbe entered Rockville High School in the Samsung "Solve For Tomorrow" contest that will engage and inspire students to apply STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, and Math) education to solve a real-world problem. In collaboration with the Technology Education, Science, and Math Departments, a proposal was made to design and engineer a portable, light duty, emergency power solution in the event of a short or long-term power outage using no fossil fuels. Rockville High School is now entered into the State finals along with four other schools in Connecticut!

Students from the Agricultural Education Department attended the National FFA convention in Louisville, Kentucky and won several awards. Students also competed and placed in chapter public speaking contests.

Students in the French ECE class participated in the French Immersion Day and Quiz Bowl Competition at UCONN.

Mrs. Loris Gilmore and her Culinary students prepared and served a delicious lunch for the Rockville High School Veterans on Veterans' Day.

The first Unified Bowling Tournament was recently held.

The Annual World Languages Fruit Sale is underway. Upcoming events include the Ag Ed Holiday Night on December 5 and the Ag Ed Holiday Centerpiece Workshop on December 11

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – The VCMS family participated in "Feeding Children Everywhere" last year. The following information is an update regarding the VCMS Soars for Hunger shipment. The shipment of meals for Uganda left the week of November 4. Feeding Children Everywhere's shipping company is reporting that the ship sailed from a NY port and is scheduled to arrive in Mombassa, Kenya on December 16th. From there the container will be driven to Kampala, Uganda, and it will then be received by All God's Children International for distribution to orphanages in Uganda. You might enjoy this website: <http://www.vesselfinder.com/>. The name of the ship the container is on is the Maersk Hartford. If you enter that in the website, you can track the shipments.

Happenings in the music department...MUSICAL SURPRISE The RHS Pep Band visited VCMS on November 14. This visit was meant to be a surprise for the VCMS 7th and 8th grade band. The 7th and 8th grade band students joined together after school to work together on a piece called Fire Dance. At the end of their rehearsal they performed for the RHS visitors. In turn, the RHS band members played some modern songs - Thriller, Dynamite, and Feel This Moment - for the VCMS students. It was a great afternoon of music, mutual admiration, and camaraderie!

Four of our students were invited to represent VCMS in the 2014 Eastern Regionals Music Festival. Sabrina Bailey (grade 7, alto) and Holly Fischer (grade 8, soprano) will be singing in the Mixed Chorus.

Emily Linton (grade 7, alto saxophone) and Kyleigh Percy (grade 7, clarinet) will be playing in the Concert Band. On the weekend of March 7th and 8th these students will join together at Rockville High School with other musicians from the eastern region to prepare a concert under the direction of a guest conductor. These students auditioned alongside many other student musicians in order to earn this opportunity and we could not be more proud that they are representing our school.

CENTER ROAD SCHOOL – CRS filled 28 large boxes of food with all the fixings for Thanksgiving dinner including stuffing, potatoes, gravy, rolls, vegetables, juices, apple sauce, pies, tins (all donated by our wonderful families/students), and \$500.00 in Stop & Shop gift cards donated by our wonderful staff for as many turkeys as the money can buy, **all donated to HVCC this holiday season**. We made a difference, “People helping people”! We had over 560 food items donated. Way to go CRS...

LAKE STREET SCHOOL – Kindergarten students learned about insects during their “Get Buggy” presentations. After learning about the different body parts, students sorted bugs by the number of legs they had (0 to more than 10!)

The hallways of Lake Street School are overflowing with donations to the HVCC Food Pantry! We are extremely fortunate to work with students and families that show such generosity to others.

MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – MSS Students are diligently working hard on the Fire Prevention Posters Event.

MSS Students wrote letters to the principal on their feelings of the school, what they like and changes that they would like to see in the future.

On Wednesday, November 20th, 2013 our 2nd graders went on a field trip to the Playhouse Place Theatre and had a fantastic time.

On Thursday, November 21st, 2013, MSS had picture retakes.

NORTHEAST SCHOOL – This week at NES has been wild!! We kicked started the week with our spirit assembly featuring our fabulous fifth graders reminding us to “Be Thankful” this holiday season. The fifth graders spent many recesses dedicated to choreographing dance moves and singing lyrics to the tune of “What Does the Fox Say.” The fifth grade show has been talked about for days!! Our week only got better from there. The first and second graders were fortunate to team up with Ms. Violette and her Maple Street friends to see a musical about Math based on books written by Stuart J. Murphy and read in school! To SUM it up the students are POSITIVE that the field trip was a great ADDITION to the year. Lastly we celebrated our school spirit by turning our hair into some of the wackiest dos around. Crazy Hair Day was a big hit; some hair was colorful, some hair was teased and some standing straight on end. Next week we will all be thankful for our everyday hair styles, and of course, the turkey!!!

SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – The week started out with a grade five field trip to Central Connecticut State College for our grade five students. While at CCSC students met with students from Coventry and East Hartford and participated in science activities.

Grade three students began a Cardio Club. The emphasis is on fun fitness. Activities are to prepare students for the Connecticut Fitness Test in Grade 4. The School Healthy Schools/Wellness team met to review our Healthy Generation Action Plan and to determine our priorities for this school year. The goal at SRS is to promote healthy activities for both students and staff.

Congratulations to all of the families who participated in the Ninth Annual Turkey Trot. Over 65 parents, staff, and students from all of the district elementary schools arrived at Skinner Road School on a beautiful Saturday morning to run, jog, or walk. This event is part of the Mayors Cup Challenge.

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.