



# 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)

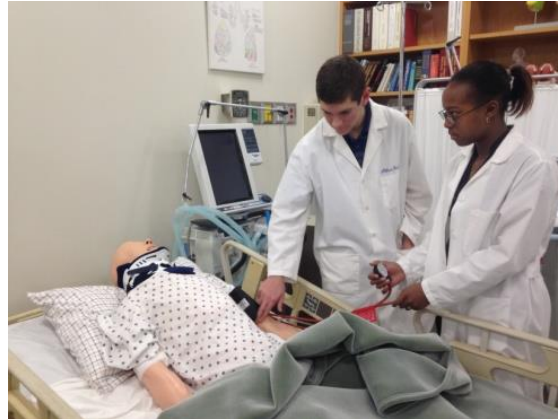


## GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – December 12, 2014

**ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – Rockville FFA** - Please help support the Rockville FFA! Red Robin in Manchester will donate 10% of your bill to the Rockville FFA on December 18<sup>th</sup> (valid between 5pm and 9pm). Coupons are available from the Ag Ed Center or Main Office at Rockville High School.

**Education Practicum and Independent Living Class** - The Education Practicum and the Independent Living students went on a field trip on December 9<sup>th</sup> to Angellino's Restaurant for lunch and shopping in the plaza. Students practiced skills learned in class for ordering from a menu, good table manners, and figuring the tip. The second part of the trip required the students to purchase toys for the "Toys for Tots" Drive. Three teams were given a limited budget and purchased items from stores in the Tri City Plaza. The results included several bags of toys which were deposited in the boxes in Mr. Rockett's office!

**Allied Health** - The Allied Health I Class completed its final group job shadow of the year on December 5<sup>th</sup>. The class participated in a series of lecture/lab activities at Manchester Community College given by professors and college students in the fields of respiratory therapy, occupational therapy, dental assisting, health and exercise science, surgical technology, radiation therapy, and radiography. Upon completion of this course, the students in the Allied Health class will receive college credit from MCC.



**Student Recognition** - Adam Arnold, a senior at Rockville High School, had his first comic strip published (see the website below). Congratulations Adam!!

<http://beyoumediagroup.com/2014/12/01/up-and-coming-artist-artnold/>

**NHS Annual Toy Drive and Staff Teddy Bear Collection** - Boxes of toys and teddy bears were collected during the Annual Toy Drive, sponsored by the National Honor Society, and the Staff Teddy Bear Collection! All toys and bears were donated to the Cornerstone Holiday Party for Children.

**VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL** – On December 10<sup>th</sup>, the eighth grade class visited Symphony Hall in Springfield, Massachusetts to attend the Chamber Theater's production of *ENCORE!!* Included in this show were theatrical adaptations of several literary classics including Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven" and "The Tell-Tale Heart," and Washington Irving's "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow." Language Arts classes will utilize this shared experience when discussing "The Raven" and analyzing tone and mood.



All VCMS eighth graders are taking part in CT History day this year! Last year was the first time that Vernon schools participated in CT History Day as part of an after-school enrichment activity. The History Day Club was run by Mrs. Lee and Mrs. McManaman and was open to 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. One student went on to the regional competition. This year, in addition to having the History Day Club as an after school activity open to any student, the 8th grade social studies department decided that all 8th graders would work on a CT History Day project. It is an exciting way to offer a challenging assignment that is tailored to each student's academic and interest levels. All participating students watched an introductory PowerPoint and video presentation and should now be narrowing down their topic of interest. We are hoping to bring at least thirty students to the regional competition this year.

**CENTER ROAD SCHOOL** – After one week of our annual toy drive, the students at CRS have already filled our sleigh, and are on their way of filling another sleigh for this worthy cause.



Center Road School was a hopping place this week with our winter book fair, as well as parent / teacher conferences. On behalf of the staff we want to thank all the parents for their continued support of the school by attending the conferences. These continue to be a wonderful way of making a strong home and school connection.

The NWEA/MAP testing is complete, and after the initial look at data it reveals that Center Road School students are ahead of the national norms in reading in every grade level. We are so proud of our students.

**LAKE STREET SCHOOL** – It's an exciting week at Lake Street School! Parents and teachers are engaged in conferences to discuss individual student progress over the first trimester. We are enjoying our Book Fair, hosted by our generous PTO! Is there anything better than browsing through books?



**MAPLE STREET SCHOOL** – This week at Maple Street School in Mrs. Goldsmith's First Grade Class had an extraordinary learning experience to truly prepare them to be 21st century learners! They participated in the global movement called The Hour of Code. The Hour of Code celebrates Computer Science Education Week and provides every student the opportunity to learn computer science through engaging, developmentally appropriate tasks. For one hour students will learn basic computer science/math/language arts/ problem solving/logic/creativity and life skills to set them apart from their peers! Students reached their learning target: which was enhancing problem solving skills and creativity by learning basic computer science functions. With the support of Karen Lipski, VPS Technology Integration Specialist, Mrs. Goldsmith's class was able to create a learning experience that involved collaboration and problem solving. For more information please visit [hourofcode.com/us](http://hourofcode.com/us).



**NORTHEAST SCHOOL** – Grade five students were the main attraction at our Spirit Assembly this week. They talked about Random Acts of Kindness and the creation of a “Chain Reaction of Good Deeds”. For

the next few weeks, all students who want to participate will write down on a strip of paper a good deed that they have done. These strips of paper will be stapled together as links and then will be attached to a school wide chain that will be put up in the hallway. This creates a visual of our school theme this year- Be Kind, Work Hard.

Wednesday was wacky with the amazing transformation that Crazy Sock and Slipper Day created! School spirit was at an all-time high with so many rocking socks and sweet slippers! This fun day was followed by an evening of pampering for PreK parents. Moms were given haircuts, manicures, raffle prizes and of course – pizza. This was a relaxing night for preschool parents!

Teachers are excited about meeting with parents for report card conferences Thursday and Friday to share their students' accomplishments. Our students are working hard and it's beginning to show!



**SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL** – It has been a busy week at SRS. The PTO has sponsored a Scholastic Book Fair.



Students and parents stopped in during report card conferences to purchase books. All funds collected by the PTO are used to support programs at school. Every year an Author comes and talks to the children about the books they have written.

Mr. Uthgennant has been running the Cardio Club for grade three and Games Galore for grade one. The grade level PE activities fill up quickly. Students enjoy learning new games and how to stay active.

**LOVELAND HILL SCHOOL** - The students in Mrs. Piazza's class have recently finished reading *The Tiger Rising* by Kate DiCamillo in Language Arts. They had previously read another book by the same author, *Because of Winn Dixie*. Students have now begun reading the book *Stone Fox* by John Reynolds Gardiner. Each of these books have an animal as one of its main characters. These books have aligned well with our current science unit on Animals. We've been learning about food chains and will soon be focusing on animal adaptations.

*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.*