



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 – April 4, 2014

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – The Rockville High School “Cupcake Extravaganza” was held on Thursday, April 3rd. Hundreds of people from the school and community attended and raised over \$2000 to benefit the Hockanum Valley Community Council. The successful event was orchestrated by Family and Consumer Science Culinary Teacher Mrs. Lori Gilmore. Six student/faculty teams competed: Renee Rogan and Miss Shuttleworth, Jessica LaRose and Mrs. Reilly, Erin Gonyeau and Mrs. Hoffman, Becca Landry and Mrs. O’Sullivan, Melissa Works and Mrs. Clark, and Alicia Dillman and Mrs. Nordlund.

The judges awarded the following prizes:

1 st Place	Renee Rogan & Miss Shuttleworth
2 nd Place	Becca Landry & Mrs. O’Sullivan
3 rd Place	Erin Gonyeau & Ms. Hoffman

Thank you to the countless volunteers and supporters of this event!

Erin Brownell, a junior at Rockville High School, has been selected as one of the thirty Governor’s Scholars of Connecticut for 2014. Erin was chosen from an entry pool of more than 150 of the top juniors in Connecticut’s high schools.

Seniors Gabe Rogan and Andrew Uzdejczyk have been selected to be on the State of Connecticut Math Team. They earned this honor by being among the top 50 scorers on a state-wide administered test. They will travel with the team to Penn State University at the end of May to participate in the American Regions Mathematics League Annual Competition.

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – VCMS held its third and final special advisory activity day on Friday, March 21. The Egg Drop Challenge encouraged each of the seventy-seven advisory groups to work together to create a means to keep a raw egg intact after being dropped from a significant height.

Each Advisory group received a plastic shopping bag filled with the exact same materials: 1 white large chicken egg- raw NOT boiled; 4 paper Dixie cups- 3oz. size, 10 straws; 25 wooden toothpicks; 25 popsicle sticks; 10 cotton balls; 1 ziplock sandwich bag; 1 meter of string/yarn; scotch tape; 6 rubber bands; 10 paperclips; 1 sheet of newspaper.



After being given fifty-five minutes to construct their egg saving device, all Advisory groups made their way to the gymnasium to witness the dropping of the eggs. When all was said and done, the following groups received recognition for the ingenuity:

1st place- "Most Eggonomical" - Mrs. Wilson; 2nd place - Mrs. Redekas; 3rd place - Mr. Schwartz Humpty Dumpty Award for the most spectacular break - Mrs. Green Eggelicious...aesthetically pleasing - Ms Torres Honorable mention (category made by the judges) - Mrs. Schubert - her parachute did not deploy but the egg stayed intact!

What a great time everyone had...this morning provided opportunities to display teamwork, encourage communication, problem solve, and have a great time interacting together as a school.

CENTER ROAD SCHOOL – This week our 5th grade students showed off their creative minds, during our annual Invention Convention. Parents, grandparents, past students, and current students all joined together Thursday night and Friday morning to see over 75 different inventions from our students. This year marked the 25th year in a row that Center Road School has participated in the Invention Convention competition. The teachers were overly impressed this year with the students because 100% of our 5th graders created and presented an invention!

The 3rd grade students have officially completed the SBAC testing, and are giving the test rave reviews. Although the test is challenging, the students love completing the test on the computer. Next week our 4th grade students are going to begin the SBAC testing.

LAKE STREET SCHOOL – Several students and families from VPS elementary schools joined together at LSS last Saturday for our annual **Lion's Leap**. We donned our walking and running gear to talk and laugh as we enjoyed the neighborhood loop. Thank you, Peter Johnson, for coordinating our event.



Second Graders are enjoying their Field Trip to Nature's Art on Friday. Students will see dinosaur replicas, follow the dinosaur prints on the nature trail and excavate in a cave for archeological finds!

First graders in Mrs. Jones' Class presented their animal research project to their Kindergarten peers in Mrs. Bolduc's class. Students presented animal facts they found in their research. Did you know that...

- a frog can have 4,000 babies?
- frogs have eyes on top of their heads?
- a saw shark saws its prey?
- a grey whale is the length of two school buses?
-

Kindergarten students were a terrific audience and gave comments and questions after the presentation.

MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – On April 2nd, the teachers and the students at Maple Street and Skinner Road celebrated family reading together by hosting a family literacy night for students in grades K-3! This event was unbelievable! We had over 180 people attend the storytelling evening and enjoy a pizza dinner! Stay tuned for other reading nights at the end of April!

MSS 4th grade students were busy completing the second part of the ELA and Math SBAC exams this week. Thanks to all the MSS staff members who have been helping out.

NORTHEAST SCHOOL – This year, Northeast School is partnering with RHS high school students and parents to provide after school programs to engage students beyond the school day. Kindergarten through 5th grade students have been participating in a weekly art/crafts program led by a NES parent along with several RHS high school students. Mr. Benyei, our Social Worker and a RHS student have been facilitating a Chess Club for 4th and 5th graders. We also have the Mad Science program exposing some of our students to the world of science with hands on experiences and the Vernon Reads volunteers are here weekly in the library to read with first through third grade students. The excitement continues beyond 3:02p.m. at NES!

SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – Skinner Road students and staff were excited to find out that SRS is receiving national recognition from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation as a Bronze Level School. To receive this recognition the school has to engage in healthy activities for the staff and students. This year the SRS staff completed a health survey. A trainer was hired to work once a week after school with interested staff. 98 percent of the students participate twice monthly walking to school. Each of the buses drops students off at designated spots and the entire student body walks to school together.

The third grade students finished the SBAC Testing this week and our fourth and fifth grade started the test. All of the students have worked hard and have shared that the testing while difficult is more engaging and better than the CMT's, When given the option of stopping the test or continuing to work, our students have asked to continue.

This week K - 3 SRS Students, Parents, and Staff, joined Maple Street Students, Parents, and Staff for an evening of Storytelling by Jim Harriman. The event was made possible by a grant that was written by the Rockville Library. Over one hundred and eighty people enjoyed a pizza dinner and many laughs. In three weeks the library will be hosting a second series of book readings with Mr. Harriman.

VERNON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Last Friday students and staff at Vernon Elementary School enjoyed playing in their very first school wide basketball game. Sixth grade students planned the event and spent time in each classroom reviewing the rules with a focus on what good sportsmanship is. This event was a huge success and everyone is looking forward to a spring kickball game. Go VES!



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.

