



VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – June 6, 2014

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – Rockville High School held its annual Top Ten Scholar Luncheon on Thursday, June 5. Each Scholar was asked to invite a staff member who has had an important impact on their education. Every year the Luncheon is a celebration of student and teacher excellence for RHS and the Vernon Public Schools.

This year's Top Ten Scholars and their invited guests are:

Matthew Bilmes & Ms. Christina Black

Matt will attend the University of Connecticut.

Bryan Blied & Mrs. Victoria Nordlund

Bryan will attend Dartmouth College in New Hampshire.

Emily Burg & Mrs. Sara Jane Reilly

Emily will attend Eastern Connecticut State University.

Alyssa Condon & Mr. Jonathan Graham

Alyssa will attend Belmont University in Tennessee.

Maria Meier & Ms. Amy Matyseck

Maria will attend the University of Connecticut.

Dominique Moore & Mrs. Elizabeth Barr

Dominique will attend Brown University in Rhode Island.

Jacqueline Ose & Mr. Darcy Davis

Jacqueline will attend the University of Connecticut.

Patrick Purcell & Mr. Peter McCann

Patrick will attend the University of Connecticut.

Kiara Ruesta & Mrs. Margaret Youmatz

Kiara will attend Manchester Community College.

Andrew Uzdejczyk & Mrs. Tricia White (retired)

Andrew will attend Boston College in Massachusetts.

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – On Monday, June 2, VCMS students were treated to our annual "slime your teacher and administrator" event. The entire school gathered to watch and cheer as TEN very brave faculty members were doused with SLIME!



CENTER ROAD SCHOOL – The students in grades K-2 had their annual Field Day this Friday. All students participated in 13 stations including Cleanup Your Backyard, Oscar's Garbage Can, Water Relay, and Parachute. All students also enjoyed a Popsicle and water break for their hard work.

The ducklings have hatches in two of our 1st grade classrooms. The entire school had the chance to visit these ducks as they hatched and got to see them swim in a pool that was setup for the ducks to play in.

The 2nd grade enjoyed the emergence of butterflies from their chrysalis. They were then set free. Over 40 butterflies hatched during this exciting science project.

LAKE STREET SCHOOL – Storyteller, Carolyn Martino visited our Pre-K students on Tuesday. She engaged students in a telling of a tailor who loved his coat so much, he wore it every single day. The one who didn't love it was the tailor's wife. The students joined in the telling with lots of expression and laughter!

Fifth grade students were celebrated in LSS's annual STAR Breakfast on Thursday morning. STAR stands for service, teamwork, achievement and responsibility. Students were celebrated with the President's Award, Citizenship, Daughters of the American Revolution, among others. One student's artwork was selected for the Sean Aldi Award, which is named after a Lake Street School student. This artwork will hang in a place of honor for the 2014-15 school year, and join previous winning pieces in the gallery in the cafeteria.

Friday is a beautiful day for Field Day! Students in grades 3-5 are participating in a variety of athletic events and games with their peers. Thank you to Mr. Johnson and all of our wonderful parent volunteers who make this annual tradition possible! Field day for K-2 will be Tuesday, June 10th.

MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – It has been a busy week at Maple Street School in Second Grade! Our students are wrapping up our fairytales unit by discussing different variations of the same fairytale from different cultures. We are also demonstrating great acting skills in Reader's Theater, acting out fairytales like "Cinderella" and "The Three Little Pigs" for our classmates! We had an eventful field day and showed great sportsmanship, team work and caring hearts. In Writing, we have written Haikus, Acrostic, and Free Verse poems and students are currently in the publishing phase. In Math, we have learned how to multiply and divide objects into equal groups. We will be reviewing calendar, clock, and money skills using word problems in the next week.

On Thursday, June 5th, 40 fifth-grade MSS students, 3 teachers, and 11 parent volunteers went to Boston, Massachusetts. We had several opportunities to extend our learning about the American Revolution and the Colonial Period. Students toured the USS Constitution "Old Ironsides" and discovered what life was like on a US Navy ship during the late 1700's and early 1800's. Students concluded their time in Boston by attending the Boston Tea Party Ships and Museum, during which they participated in a town hall meeting on the eve of the Boston Tea Party, threw the tea overboard off of a replica ship, learned some of the stories behind the actual tea party participants, viewed one of last surviving boxes of tea that was thrown over the ship

that evening, and watched the events leading up to the “shot heard around the world” including Paul Revere’s famous ride. Students left with a much better understanding of these important historical events.

In First Grade at MSS, we have been busy writing our very own series books. Students have been creating their own characters and writing adventures for their characters. They have created some wonderful stories! In reading, students have been discussing the big ideas of stories and thinking beyond the text. This has been an awesome challenge for them which they love to tackle! In math, we have been reviewing concepts taught over the course of the year through the use of games and other partner activities. In science, students have been learning about the life cycle of the butterfly. We have been reading and doing activities surrounding the life cycle of the butterfly.

NORTHEAST SCHOOL – Thanks to our rockin’ Northeast School PTO, Northeast students enjoyed some amazing enrichment activities this week. Through a grant, the PTO organized a performance by Shakesperience Productions. This educational theater group told the exciting story of *The Sword and the Stone* that incorporated an anti-bullying message. The whole school was mesmerized by the remarkable show. The PTO also funded a unique program for our entire third grade. For an hour each day this week, the students were visited by instructors from the Hartford Stage. They worked on their acting skills and learned how to engage in collaborative discussions and how to adapt their speech to a variety of contexts. We are all looking forward to seeing the students perform the play “Wilma Unlimited”.

SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – Monday students from RHS came to SRS and worked with the student council to clean up the school grounds. It was exciting to see the student alumni come back to SRS. Students shared some of their favorite memories. On Tuesday SRS had another walk to school day. While slightly overcast the rain held off and we had a wonderful walk. On Friday grade three walked up to Zen’s where they had the opportunity to tour the garden center and learn about planting.

Students in all grades have been working hard and are taking our end of the year benchmarks in reading, writing and math. This year has been an exciting year with the introduction of Readers Workshop. We look forward to starting Eureka Math next year in grades K – 2.



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.