



VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – June 7, 2013

ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – The Fire Technology class recently visited the Connecticut Fire Academy, UCONN FD and Hartford FD training academy on a field trip. In addition, the Fire Tech class was recently videotaped by WVIT- NBC doing a story about a unique high school class that is the only one of its kind in Connecticut. The Town of Vernon Fire Department assisted doing a simulated emergency extrication drill by cutting up a car. It was a lesson in real-world emergency response. The pre-taped video was televised this past Wednesday (pm) and Thursday (am) by Channel 30 news. The Fire Tech class will have Det. Wayne Opdenbrau (RHS Class '96) of the CT State Police in class next Wednesday giving a demonstration about using dogs to assist with arson investigations. Congratulations to Rockville High's Ethan Hotchkiss. Ethan, an avid technology education student, applied for and was granted a paid internship with CL & P to practice work as a lineman this summer. He will get on-the-job training with experienced crewmembers. What an exciting opportunity for Ethan.

Rockville High School was treated to the Annual Symphony Band & Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert on Tuesday evening. The extraordinary student performances showcased the quality of their work and achievements, under the direction of Mr. Davis for Symphony Band and Mr. Hutchinson for Jazz Ensemble, as they totally impressed and moved the audience to the standing ovation at the conclusion of both bands. Forty-Four varied awards were presented to RHS Art & Music students at the Vernon Board of Education Special Awards Ceremony, Monday evening, June 3rd. Superintendent of Schools, Mary Conway and the Vernon Board of Education recognized each of these students, and presented them with certificates, along with students who have won awards from throughout the district for an evening of celebration. RHS & VCMS Art students partnered for a grant funded field trip to the New Britain Museum of American Art. Together in groups they were led on tours of the museum with docents, viewed the Tiffany Exhibit and participated in a stained glass art making activity.

VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL – On Wednesday, June 5, the VCMS student athletes were recognized at Sports Awards Night. Students from all sports teams were recognized for not only their participation but also for their teamwork. Awards were given for each team's most valuable player (MVP), an athlete who hands down was the glue that helped the team to be competitive with other schools. One athlete from each team was also recognized with the "coach's award", which recognizes a player who demonstrates, teamwork, hard work, dedication, and good sportsmanship. At the end of the evening, students are also honored with "3 Sport" award if they played on a team during each season. It was a wonderful evening for the student-athletes and their families!

The VCMS Relay for Life Team will be participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event tonight at South Windsor High School, rain or shine! Please come join us for a walk around the track as we celebrate, remember, and fight back against cancer!

CENTER ROAD SCHOOL – Gr. 4 and 5 went on a field trip to the Wadsworth Museum with their art teacher, Mrs. Gag. They learned about the different artists and the type of art they create. The students enjoyed this trip. It is Mrs. Gag's last field trip as she is retiring.

Gr. 2 had a visit from Motoko. This assembly told stories from Japan as grade 2 students study Japan. They learned a few words in Japanese. Everyone enjoyed this program.

On Friday, CRS has a Tropical Spirit Day, everyone is asked to wear something tropical - a fun day to kick off the summer season. Also, we will have our retirement party honoring Lois Hornyack, Anita Newberry, Maureen Pybus and Debra Gag for all their years of service to the children and the Vernon BOE.

LAKE STREET SCHOOL – On Friday June 7th, Lake Street School held its annual STAR (Service, Teamwork, Achievement, Responsibility) Reception. Students were recognized in the following areas; outstanding academic achievement, citizenship, visual and performing arts, and physical education. Both students and families as well as teachers attended this special reception to recognize the numerous talents of Lake Street School students.

MAPLE STREET SCHOOL – On Wednesday, 2nd grade students enjoyed a trip to Mystic Aquarium. For many students this was their first experience visiting an aquarium. 2nd grade teacher, Kelly Browne, won a mini grant to enable our second graders to have this opportunity to build their background knowledge. On Friday, 5th grade students set off on their yearly trip to Boston. The rainy weather changed their specific plans a bit, but the group still approached the day with great excitement and enthusiasm. Former 5th grade teacher, Barbara Brahaney, came back to help chaperone.

NORTHEAST SCHOOL – Our fifth graders worked diligently on researching countries. They displayed what they learned and added food and artifacts that represented their country. The culminating activity was a country expo for parents and visitors. Traditional country foods were highlighted such as ...alligator...milk tarts, bobusau cake and khatai cookies.

Our second graders practiced their talents this week and put on a show for their parents today. There were many enjoyable acts such as dancing, singing, joke telling, soccer skills and a staring contest. We might have a few candidates for "America Has Talent".

Our fourth graders were introduced to band instruments. There was a demonstration and students were able to try out the instruments. Now they have a big decision to make as to which instrument they will learn to play as fifth graders.

The entire school is busy collecting non-perishable food items for the local pantry and books to share with the community.

SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – *Skinner Road School is a collaborative community of learners where our expectations encourage each individual to reach the highest level of excellence. Our school fosters an environment where individuals feel comfortable, wanted, valued, accepted, and safe. In partnership with family and community, our mission is to provide students with a strong educational foundation that will prepare them for success in life.*

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.