

Skinner Road School PTO Newsletter

April 2016
Volume 1, Issue 24

Sandy Simon, Principal

Principal's News



Upcoming Events

April 11th-15th-

*Spring break-
NO SCHOOL*

April 21st- PTO

Meeting 6:30pm

April 22nd- Gr. 2

*Walking Field Trip to
Dart Hill Park*

April 25th- Cardio

Club, 3-3:50pm

April 26th- Prof. Dev.

*Day- NO SCHOOL for
STUDENTS*

**April 27th- Walk To
School**

April 29th- STAR

*Assembly, 2:15pm,
Beginning of Torch Run,
Family Volleyball Night,
6:30-8pm*

**Twirling: April- 21st,
28th, 3-4pm**

Good News Club:

**April- 20th, 27th, 3-
4:30pm**

**Vernon Reads: April-
19th, 9:30am**

**Sandy Simon
Principal Skinner Road**

From the Principal's Desk:

It seems impossible that April is here already. Please take the time to go on the Skinner Road School web site and take the Climate Survey. This is your opportunity to give us feedback on how we are doing. Parents need to take the survey for each school that they have students attending. I thank you in advance for helping us reach our goal of 85% of our family's taking part in the survey.

SBAC Testing is underway for students in grades 3 -5. Standardized testing can be difficult for some students. As parents you can help ensure that your child puts forth their best effort:

1. Explain to him/her that the tests show how much he/she has learned at school. Encourage them to do their best work.
2. Ensure that your child gets a good night's sleep the day before the test. Limit activities that cause them to be up late.
3. Make sure that your child gets a good breakfast at home or encourage them to eat breakfast at school.

We want students to do their best work without causing them any stress. We thank you for your continued support.

Student Attendance

Student attendance at school is very important. The best way to ensure student success is to be sure they are at school.

With that being said, we understand the frustrated feelings regarding the district's attendance procedures. District policy requires parent letters be sent home when students reach their third absence, contact is made with parents at six absences, and a meeting is scheduled when students reach nine absences. This policy remains in effect if the student's absence is excused or unexcused.

We ask that you please keep in contact with our school nurse, Ms. Loso, when your child is home ill. If your child visits the doctor please ask for written documentation to share with us at school. The district is trying to adhere to the guidelines regulated by our CT legislature.





We are looking for Parents of Fifth Grade Students to help with the End of Year Celebrations. Please contact Christina Dwire at: christina.dwire@vernonct.org Please see attached Flyer...Thank you in advance!!!!

Spring Fling

SAVE THE DATE - Friday, June 3rd

5:30-7:30pm

HELLO!

Please join us in the library, Thursday April 21st, at 6:30 pm for our next SRS PTO Meeting!!

We are very thankful for the many parent volunteers that join us on field trips, attend special classroom events, and help out in our classrooms.

Please remember, all volunteers must complete the Volunteer/Chaperone Registration Form. After completing the form, we will contact you for a brief interview, and forward the documents to Central Office. Central Office performs a background check and notifies SRS to let us know when parents have been approved to volunteer.

This process applies to all parents that would like to volunteer - on an infrequent or frequent basis. It also applies to parents attending special events scheduled in the classrooms! Volunteer applications are available in the school office.

Be sure to 'Like' Skinner Road School on Facebook and "Follow" us on Twitter! Stay up to date with up to the minute posts, pics & reminders.

News from Mr. Uthgenannt

In Motion: PE NEWS

Jump Rope for Heart



In February, Skinner Road School held *Jump Rope for Heart* to benefit the American Heart Association raising \$3,982.75. Our school community helped a world of hearts, making a difference in the lives of many people. The money raised earned the school a \$200 gift certificate towards equipment from *U.S. Games* and our JRFH representative gave us 100 play ground balls for recess. Our two highest fund raisers were Odin Sharpe and Lexi Real.

Family Volleyball Night for Grades 3-5

April 29



On Friday April 29, 2016 from 6:30 to 8:00PM, students in Grades 3-5 and their parents can participate in a fun game of volleyball. Students will play against others in their grade level. However, if we have few sign-ups I might need to combine grade levels. **Everyone will have an assigned time to play within the hour and a half time frame.** The number of sign-ups will determine the duration of time played.

P.E. News Continued....

A Special Invitation to Parents: You Are Welcome Join Your Child On Our ACES Day Walk



I would like to invite parents to participate in our annual ACES Day walk at Skinner Road School. ACES is an acronym for All Children Exercising Simultaneously. The walk will begin at 2:30PM on Wednesday May 4, 2016. The 15 minute walk will take us around the school building using the sidewalks in front and the driveway in the back of the school.

The first Wednesday in May is always ACES Day to celebrate National Physical Fitness and Sports Month along with National Physical Education Week. Students across the nation and around the world participate in the same event at their school. ACES Day is considered the world's largest exercise class. In an effort to promote family fitness, it would be awesome to see parents walk with their child. Hope to see you there!!

Field Day Wednesday June 1



Students will be having fun doing various activities. Parents are needed to help at stations. This year we would like to try having parents run the stations with the help of the teachers. Teachers would rotate with their classes to the various stations. Please contact the PTO/Mr. U., if you are interested in helping. Thank you in advance!

Greetings from the Math Corner!



Help reinforce your child's math skills in a fun way over vacation with these activities:

- Play Yahtzee, Dominoes, BINGO, or card games.
- Sort objects like buttons, legos, animals, cereal or other food. Challenge your child to find more than one way to sort each group.
- Bake letting your child help measure ingredients. Let them play with the measuring cups over the sink to find out things like how many $\frac{1}{4}$ cups fit in 1 cup.
- Create 2D and 3D geometric shapes with marshmallows and toothpicks (or straws).
- Play 20 Questions with numbers. Player 1 chooses a secret number between 1 and 100. Player 2 must guess the number by asking yes or no questions. "Is it bigger than 30? Is it even? Is it a square number? Is it divisible by 3?"
- Plan a fun outing by creating a budget for day. Let your child list all of the costs for the day. Then practice counting out the money when it's time to pay.
- Math is all around us. What other fun activities can you come up with?

Please feel free to contact us if you have any math questions or concerns.

Tammie Mangold
Math Intervention Gr 3-5
Tammie.Mangold@vernonct.org

Dina Murray
Math Intervention Gr. K-2
Deanna.Murray@vernonct.org

The Bully Busters Blog

By: Clover, Maryam, Paige, Daisy, Mariah, and Eternity

Bullying is:

Verbal Bullying:

Teasing
Name calling
Threatening to cause harm

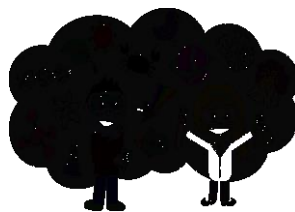
Social Bullying:

Leaving someone out on purpose
Telling others not to be friends with someone
Spreading rumors

Physical Bullying:

Hitting/kicking someone
Tripping/pushing
Taking/breaking someone's belongings





Science Fair

The 27th Annual Skinner Road School Science Fair - Invention Convention was held on Friday, April 1st. Over 90 students in grades K-5 displayed their scientific knowledge and the scientific method. Projects taught us about rocks, the water cycle, states of matter and electricity. Water can walk and flowers can change colors. A special thank you to our RHS volunteers who helped with the science fair and taught us about chemical reactions and surface tension. The Engineer Design Challenge was a huge success as students built towers out of some very unusual materials. The Invention Convention solved some nagging problems about kitty litter, book marks and flashlights. Congratulations to Caitlin Chatterton, JT Dwire, and Morgan Geisinger who will represent Skinner Road at the State Invention Convention at UConn on April 30th.

Skinner Road School Twirlers



The Skinner Road School Twirlers had a visit from UConn Feature twirler, Gabriella Medvick. Gabriella shared with us what twirling has allowed her to do. She also told us her secret to success, Practice. That she says applies to everything you do, in order to get better you must practice. We performed our dance twirl for her, then she taught us some fun new tricks, then she performed. Wow!



Yearbooks For Sale – Place your order today!

The yearbooks are still on sale!! Order your child's color-paged yearbook now! Only \$23.00 and they will receive it in June. The SRS PTO only orders a limited number of yearbooks so please order and pay now before they are sold out. Order forms are available in the office or you can order on-line at YBPAY.lifetouch.com with our school code 8061316.

Coming Soon.....



SRS STAR Olympics

May 13th - May 31st

Torch Relay Begins on April 29th

Opening Ceremonies - May 13th

Closing Ceremonies - May 31st

You can be an Olympian! You can earn a Gold Medal!

April is Autism Awareness Month!

The eighth annual World Autism Awareness Day is April 2, 2016. Every year, autism organizations around the world celebrate the day with unique fundraising and awareness-raising events. How will you celebrate? At Skinner Road School, we are supporting individuals with Autism by wearing BLUE on Friday, April 8th 2016!!! Please join us with your blue clothing too!

Find out which major landmarks around the world will light up blue in 2016 by going to autismspeaks.org.

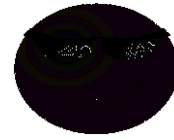
Sarah LaPere M.S.

Skinner Road School

School Psychologist



Thank you to all the families that volunteered and supported the bookfair. SRS PTO expects to receive almost \$600 from the fair, which will come right back to support SRS activities!



Third grade news:

Third Grade has been busy working on our Biography Unit. Students have read the true stories of many famous Americans including Ruby Bridges, George Washington Carver, and Eleanor Roosevelt. Hartford Stage gave us an exciting program on theater and books. We learned all about Wilma Rudolph, the first African American to win 3 Gold Medals at the Olympics. Students were also given a copy of her story, Wilma Unlimited. In math we have finished our fractions unit and are now working on area. Students are having a great time tiling and they have made the connection to multiplication. Rocks will be our next science unit and in Social Studies we are working on our map skills. Students also are completing the state testing, SBAC this month. Be sure to get a good night sleep.



Thank you to all the families and staff that attended the free Family Movie Night last week, featuring "The Lorax" in honor of Dr. Suess. You made it a really fun night and it was great to see such a large turnout. About 100 people attended. Photos are posted in the entryway by the main office - be sure to check and see if you made the board! The Popcorn Machine and supplies were donated by Taylor Rentals, pre-popped popcorn was donated by 99 Restaurant, and bottled water was provided by The PTO. A special Thank you to Mrs. Simon for doing the popping!

The SRS PTO is putting together the budget and planning for next year, and we need your input to do it right! If you filled out or took home the parent participation survey at the Family Movie Night event, thank you. You can turn them in through your child's teacher. If you have not taken the survey, please take a minute (or less) to complete the 6-question survey at the link that follows:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3LG93ZC>.

The SRS PTO is looking for officers (all positions are available) and parents and staff to participate in the April meeting, which is scheduled for 6:30 pm on Thursday, April 21st. The more parents and teachers that participate, the better the PTO can be. Feedback and suggestions are always welcome at srsptoct@gmail.com.

Stay tuned for information on a future fundraising event at Chuck E. Cheese and sale of Mixed Bags!



April Showers Bring May Flowers.....

Skinner Road School PTO is sponsoring its 12th annual Plant Sale! It is time to think spring and plants/flowers make great presents for Mother's Day! We will be selling individual cups, 4 inch pots, and hanging baskets that are grown from Dzen Garden Market. Prices range from .50 cents to \$20 dollars. The flowers will also be sold on May 5th and May 6th during school hours. Flowers will also be sold at the Fine Arts Night on May 4th, following the performance. This is a fundraiser, so all proceeds will go directly to SRS PTO. Checks can be made out to SRS PTO.

Volunteers are needed! Several people are needed on May 4th, the afternoon that plants are to be delivered to school. We will start unloading the truck around 3:45pm. The delivery takes place in the back of SRS near the Art room. We will also need volunteers on May 5th and May 6th during the school day to assist with student purchases. You can sign up for half hour/hour blocks or as long as you would like. The Plant Sale will take place from 9am until 3pm on those days. If interested, please fill out the form below or email Mary Ford at ML4RD@comcast.net for more details. Thank you in advance!!!

Please fill out and return to the office by April 29th.

YES, I CAN HELP WITH THE PLANT SALE!!

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

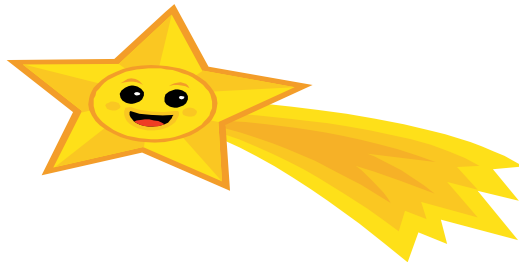
EMAIL _____

DATES/TIMES AVAILABLE _____

News from PBIS:

*We expect all our students to be STAR students at school.
Please remember to encourage this at home as well!!*

S- Safe
T- Truthful
A- Academic
R- Respectful



Student Council News

We have started the Mentoring Program and it is going great! We will continue to improve SRS as we continue to have many great ideas!



Box Tops for Education Update!!

We have collected **\$1,005.00** in Box Tops we are so close to achieving our \$1,100 school year goal!! Please keep collecting and submitting those Box Tops.

This is an awesome program and you can log onto www.boxtops4education.com to learn more. From this site, you can track our school earnings, review the list of products and manufacturers that participate in this program, print off coupons for some of the participating products and enter into sweepstakes to give our school more chances to win additional box tops which means money for our school.

Please remember to ask your friends and family to save their Box Tops for our school and keep sending in Box Tops.

Please contact me at smiles143@comcast.net if you have any questions or suggestions.

Denise Schmidt

Skinner Road School Box Tops for Education Coordinator



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Sandye.simon@vernonct.org



Lost & Found

Please remember to check occasionally!!!
There is a box at the end of the hall by the café...

Vernon Public Schools Mission Statement

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 can become independent learners and productive contributors to society.

Superintendent of Schools - Joseph Macary
Assistant Superintendent - Robert Testa
Director of Personnel - Karen Giangregorio

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