

# KES Newsletter

Volume 11

February 1, 2013

## Dates to Remember

### February 4

2nd grade to  
Marsh Billings  
Rockefeller National  
Historic Park @ 10AM

Stargazing  
@ The Pomfret School  
@6:30 PM

### February 5

100th Day of School

### February 6

Grades 3-6 to CSC  
Dance Works Chicago

### February 7

Four Winds Training

### February 8

Dress as your favorite  
book character day @KES!

4th Annual Chocolate Fest  
@ 6PM @ Sherburne  
United Church

### February 9

Gaming Day 12 - 2  
@ Sherburne Memorial  
Library

### February 18-22

Winter Recess/No Classes

### February 25

Killington Parks & Rec.  
Basketball Banquet @ KES  
Dining Hall 5-7 PM

### February 27

WCSU Band Showcase  
@WUHS  
Rehearsal @ 3:30 PM  
Showcase for Parents  
@6PM

### March 1

KEEPERS Meet @8:15 AM  
KES Dining Hall

### March 3

Family Snowshoe @  
Mission Farm 1-3 PM

### March 4

Inservice/No Classes

### March 6

WCSU Band Showcase



## iPads in the Classroom

Killington Elementary School educators spent a day immersed in technology integration with a focus on the iPad at a recent teachers' inservice day. Presenter, Ed Bianchi, shared new apps for teachers to use with this device to differentiate instruction, personalize learning, and assist with implementation of the Common Core State Standards. The iPad is a versatile teaching tool that is being used to enhance and support learning opportunities throughout the curriculum.

## Killington Safety Poster Contest Winners

Congratulations to all fourth graders for their recognition in the National Ski Area Association (NSAA) and Killington Resort and Pico Mountain's Safety Poster Contest 2013. The following students earned awards for their posters:

Wilbur Abrams III - Best Safety Message Winner  
Peter Sell - Best Safety Message Runner-up  
Brinley Johnson - Most Creative Winner  
Joey Ranberg - Most Creative Runner-up

All four posters gain entry to NSAA's national level poster contest. Winners for this contest will be announced in April. All of our fourth graders' posters are on display near the National Safety Awareness tables at Pico and Ramshead lodges. We extend one last thank you to our fourth grade teacher, Maria Garland, for participating in this contest each year and entering creative, original safety posters!

## Life Lessons in Snow Forts

Who would think that a snow fort would provide so many opportunities for life lessons? Listen to your children talk about their recess time building, living in, and demolishing snow forts and you will hear how they plan, problem solve, negotiate, and compromise. These snow forts provide some opportunities for children to develop the social and emotional skills they need throughout life.

The first step to building the snow fort often requires leadership and teamwork. Once the fort is constructed, students seem most interested in determining its use: house, igloo, cave, zoo, etc. Then the role-playing begins and decisions need to be made about jobs within the fort, much like decisions about who will cook dinner, earn pay, clean the house, and take care of Fido. Through this cooperative play, children learn to share responsibilities.

Like real life, snow fort-life usually presents some dilemma. Sometimes the dilemma may simply be that the children do not agree on who will be the dog and who will be the fort watchman. Other times it's a more serious matter. Some of our students recently shared that they were "fired" from one snow fort and had to seek out a different fort. Most of the time, our

Snow Date

students work these problems out themselves on the playground, all a part of the game and a big part of the life lessons that occur naturally at recess as children interact with each other and learn from their imaginary play in the snow fort.

**Team KES @ 2012  
Killington Spartan  
Race  
Quick Link**

### **Big Friend/Little Friend Breakfast with Frosty**

Kindergarteners and their sixth grade "Big Friends" enjoyed a holiday breakfast earlier this month with special guest, "Frosty the Snowman!" Thank you, thank you to MB Neisner for making a delicious breakfast for everyone to enjoy and for transforming into "Frosty" much to the delight of our young students.

**KES Community Cupboard  
Food Drive**

**2-4-13 through 2-8-13  
Needed:**

**Canned meals  
Peanut Butter  
Tuna Fish  
Kids' Cereals**

### **Ottawaquechee Health Foundation Grant Awarded to KES**

Thanks to KES School Nurse, Jamie Sudol, KES recently received a \$1040 grant award to help students participate in the Trailblazer Program this school year. The grant was awarded to KES through the Ottawaquechee Health Foundation.

***Loren M. Pepe, Principal***

### **Health Room News**

#### **Keeping Students Healthy**

In an effort to keep our students healthy, the nurse, or staff covering the nursing office, will determine if a child is too ill to be in school. If we feel that your child is highly contagious or is too ill to function in class, she will be sent home to regain health and lessen contagions to others. We understand that the majority of parents work and picking up a sick child may be very inconvenient; therefore, it is a good idea to have a plan in place for such occasions. Network with friends and relatives who may be able to help you out if your child is sent home due to illness.

#### **Health Insurance for All Children**

Vermont has health insurance available for all children through the Dr. Dynasaur program; therefore, every child should have medical and dental insurance in this state. If your child does not have health insurance, please contact the Vermont Campaign for Health Care Security Education Fund at 1-866-482-4723. They will provide you with application forms and assist you with the process. They can also be contacted at [www.catamounthealth.org](http://www.catamounthealth.org). We do not want our students to go untreated for lack of insurance. If you feel that your child needs to see a doctor or dentist, and he needs insurance, please contact me or Mrs. Pepe. Let's work together to keep our children healthy.

Jamie Sudol RN, School Nurse

### **February is Discover Languages Month**

Here are a few good reasons to learn a second (or third) language:

Studies show that learning another language helps students strengthen their understanding of their native language by increasing their vocabulary, building an awareness of the structure of language, and improving reading skills. Learning another language has cognitive benefits, as well. Studies show that multilingual people have improved executive functions. Executive functions are an umbrella term for the cognitive processes that regulate, control, and manage other processes such as planning, working memory, attention, problem solving, verbal reasoning, inhibition, mental flexibility, and task switching.

Older bilingual people enjoy improved memory, and memory decline appears to occur later in life than it does with monolingual people. In addition, bilingual Alzheimer's patients showed initial symptoms of the disease an average of five years later than monolingual people, and symptoms are less severe.

Senora Elena, Spanish Educator

### Snowshoe At Mission Farm

On Sunday, March 3rd, from 1-3 PM, Church of our Saviour, Mission Farm Road, Killington, will sponsor a free snowshoe event on groomed trails surrounding the church. All ages are welcome and families are especially encouraged to join the fun. Equipment will be provided if needed; however, come prepared with layered winter clothing.

The trek will include commentary on "What to Look for in the Winter Environment." The three snowshoe loops include: a flat terrain along the meadow and Ottauquechee River, or a moderately challenging snowshoe with some hills and flat areas, 17 or a challenging climb through the trees with great views. Depending on age, ability and choice of trails, the snowshoe will take approximately one hour. Refreshments will be served after the outdoor activity in the guest house opposite the church.

In the event of inclement weather, the snowshoe event will be held the following day, Monday the 4th of March, from 1-3 PM. Please check Church of our Saviour's website for last minute information. If winter does not cooperate with adequate snow, the snowshoe will be a hike on the same trails. For questions, call Betsy at 802-672-3179. We look forward to seeing you at Church of our Saviour on March 3rd.

### Fourth Annual Chocolate Fest



Fourth Annual CHOCOLATE Fest  
Friday, February 8, 2013

6:00 pm @ Sherburne United Church of Christ  
4173 US Rte 4, Killington  
A meal of homemade soup, salad and breads provided  
Everyone is invited to bring something made with  
chocolate to share for dessert.

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