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KES Newsletter

Volume 12

February 15, 2013

Dates to Remember

February 18-22
Winter Recess/No Classes

February 24
3rd Annual Downhill for
Diabetes @ Pico

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
Killington School District
Meeting @KES @4:30 PM
Community Lasagna
Dinner @5:30
Town Public Information
Meeting @7:00
Childcare Available
4:30 -8

March 5
Australian Ballot Voting
@Town Office Polls open
7AM-7PM

March 6
WCSU Band Showcase
Snow Date

March 7
4 Winds Training

March 17

New England Common Assessment Results

The New England Common Assessment results (NECAP) indicate that students at Killington Elementary School (KES) continue to perform very well. This test is administered statewide to students to measure individual school's progress under the federal No Child Left Behind Act. At KES, we also use assessment results as one indicator of individual student progress over time. Testing is done in third through sixth grades over several days.

In the area of reading, 92% of KES students performed in the proficient and proficient with distinction categories, compared to 73% statewide. When we take a closer look, 51% of students scored in the proficient with distinction category, this compares to 20% statewide.

In the area of mathematics, 85% of KES students performed in the proficient and proficient with distinction categories, compared to 65% statewide. Again, a closer look indicates that 47% of students performed in the proficient with distinction category, compared to 21% statewide.

In addition to the reading and mathematics assessments, fifth graders were assessed in the area of written language. According to results, 100% of our students performed in the proficient and proficient with distinction ranges, compared to 51% as a statewide average. Again, a closer look indicates that 64% of students performed in the proficient with distinction category, compared to 14% statewide.

Small schools must interpret scores from year to year with caution, as tests are statistically unreliable in small group administrations. The NECAP is one piece of data, among many, worthy of consideration when evaluating the success of a school. However, solidly for the last eight years, KES students have performed exceptionally well on the NECAP assessment. Let us recognize and applaud our teachers' expertise and perseverance in providing a high quality education to all children. Let us also commend so many of our parents for working with us in a team effort for their own children and for those they take under their wings in many and various situations.

Individual student test results will be mailed home at the end of the month. Please contact Mrs. Pepe if you have any questions.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

Killington Elementary School has been selected to represent schools across the state by participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). NAEP, given by the U.S. Department of Education, tells us what students in the United States know and can do in specific subject areas. Results are published in a report card called The Nations' Report Card, which provides reliable student achievement information to educators, parents and other citizens. On January 30th, Killington Elementary School's

fourth graders took part in NAEP, ultimately providing information to show what school children in our state and across the country have learned.

Safe School Update

Local law enforcement officers, Lieutenant Charles Cacciatore, Sergeant Mark Perkins, and Town Constable Whit Montgomery, joined the KES community for a safety drill last week. All three officers felt that the drill went smoothly and effectively, and children and staff follow a solid plan. We expect to continue with drills in the presence of law enforcement officers throughout this year as we analyze our procedures and make determinations about needs.

The Gift of Reading Aloud

Give your child the gift of growing up with regular, routine read-alouds in the home. Whether it's a bedtime read aloud, an after dinner read aloud, or any other time, make a read aloud a part of your day. My own children remember and appreciate the thousands of hours we spent together with read alouds, and they recently shared with me that this time we spent together created a special childhood memory for each of them. Your child will feel this way, too.

Besides creating fond memories, what more can sharing read alouds do for your child? When started at a very young age, regular read alouds will give her a head start in the acquisition of language skills. Language and literacy skills will grow stronger, vocabulary will increase, imagination will be greater, and she will enter school ahead of the game.

Do you stop reading aloud once your child learns to read? Not at all! Please continue to read aloud right through the upper elementary school years. Read books your child enjoys. Read, read, and reread. Children usually like repetition and benefit from this in many ways. Use different voices and sound effects as you read. Be creative. Stop occasionally and reflect on the story. Wonder aloud what might happen next. Pause, and let your child do the same if it comes naturally. Whatever you do, do not make this instructional time for your child. Keep it light and entertaining. Be creative, and most of all, have fun! If you have fun as you read aloud and make it an enjoyable routine, it is much more likely that your child will want to become a passionate, lifelong reader. Give your child the gift of regular, routine read alouds!

Loren M. Pepe, Principal

The Biggest Winners



On Monday February 11th, the Killington Elementary School sixth grade class went up to The Killington Grand Hotel to see a presentation from two former contestants from the hit TV show, The Biggest Loser. We saw Jackie and Dan Evans, a mother and son duo from Biggest Loser Season 5. While on the Biggest Loser Dan and Jackie lost a total of 225 pounds and changed their lives forever. They talked about how they were overweight before the show and weighed a combined weight of 500 pounds, and how the show helped change their lives. They learned to eat right and exercise. The Evans announced that the Biggest Loser Run-Walk, a half marathon in Killington where participants will actually be taking a chair lift ride, will be coming to Killington on July 28th. The goal is to help our population stay fit. Sixth graders received free tickets for the Run - Walk and the Kids' one mile Fun Run Race. We can't wait to participate in this event!

Quinn Alper, KES 6th Grade President

We thank Seth Webb, Killington Town Manager, for including KES in the media event and are grateful to our volunteer parent drivers, Britt Crompton, Jamie Segarra, Michelle Coates-Girard, and paraeducator Patty MacLauchlan for transporting the 6th grade students.

3rd Annual Downhill for Diabetes

My name is Lynn Pratt and I am a fellow Vermonter living in Pawlet, Vermont. My seven year old daughter, Ashley, is a Type 1 Diabetic. My husband and I have started a non-profit charity organization, Donations for Diabetes, to raise money to help find a cure for this disease. We have held this event for the past two years and it has been a huge success. Last year alone, we raised over \$14,500, and we would like to top that this year! I hope you will help us with this effort.

Our 3rd Annual Downhill for Diabetes ski and snowboard event
will be on Sunday, February 24th, 2013
at Pico Mountain Resort in Killington, Vermont.

Participants will raise money to ski or snowboard, similar to a donation walk, just Vermont style! The purpose of this event is to raise money to continue funding research and ultimately come up with a cure for this disease! One hundred percent of the proceeds from this event will be donated to JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation).

If you would like to become more involved with the event and form a team of either students or faculty from your school, please get in touch with me for more details. You can also come out and join us as a single skier/boarder

or even a non-skier! We would love to have you come out and ski/snowboard with us, and you can win some great prizes and merchandise as well!

You can see all of the details on our site:

<http://www.donationsfordiabetes.org/>

Second Line Parade

KES students participated in jubilant dance as they joined the Second Line Parade on Fat Tuesday in the KES gym. We thank John & Michelle Durney (and their band) for immersing us in the culture of Mardi Gras' music, costumes, and dance.

Beauty and the Beast Auditions

The Chandler's summer youth musical, presented on July 4,5,6, & 7th, is Beauty and the Beast. Auditions will be held on Sunday, March 17, at the Chandler Music Hall in Randolph, VT and are open to children ages 7-18. The deadline to register to audition is March 11. Contact Betsy Cantlin, betsycantlin@comcast.net.

Killington Elementary School

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