



# KES NEWSLETTER



Volume 3

[www.kesvt.org](http://www.kesvt.org)

September 28, 2012

**Vermont School Guidance Counselor of the Year Mary Hoag!**-To a standing ovation, our guidance counselor, Mary Hoag, accepted an esteemed award as Vermont School Guidance Counselor of the Year! We feel tremendous gratitude to Mary as she helps our students combat life's many stressors, both internal and external, allowing them to remain open to learning opportunities at school. As one student put it, "I'm like a steel trap, but somehow Mrs. Hoag is able to untie me like a knot." We thank Mary for giving our students tools and strategies to cope, not just on the days she is with us, but tools and strategies they take with them as they move on in life's journey. Please join me in extending a warm and well-deserved "Congratulations" to Mary Hoag!

**Student Assessments Approaching**-Killington Elementary School (KES) students in grades three through six will soon participate in the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP). Reading and mathematics are the main areas of focus in this assessment. Written language is an additional focus for students in grades five and eight. Please encourage your child to put forth good effort during these assessments.

Parents can help. Make sure your child has adequate rest and a good breakfast every day, and especially on test administration days. Please mark your calendars for October 9th through the 18th, with two additional days for fifth graders: October 8th and 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pepe or your child's teacher.

**KES Kids at the Spartan Race**-Sixty-three KES students participated in the kids' Spartan Race at Snowshed in Killington on Saturday, September 22nd. Many of our students emerged from the race with dirt and dust from head to toe and great big smiles on their faces. The feeling of success and newly formed confidence in themselves filled the air! Great job, KES Kids!

Meanwhile, throughout the day, KES parents worked the lemonade stand fundraiser, doling out water and lemonade to the adult Spartan racers. Funds earned are earmarked for the following school initiatives: Trailblazer Ski and Ride Program, KES Technology Fund, and the Principal's Sunny Day Fund (to help students in need). Thank you to everyone who made this fundraiser a success, especially Joe and Courtney Desena, the KEEPERS (our KES Parent Group), and all of the parent and school volunteers able to join us on this day!

**Parent Group Extends Warm Welcome to All**-We are hoping to welcome some new faces at the next meeting of the KES Parent Group, the KEEPERS, on Friday, October 5th at 8:15 am! An agenda will soon be e-mailed to all, and everyone is encouraged to join us. Agendas and meeting minutes are also available at the KES front desk. The KEEPERS carefully scheduled meetings last year in both the morning and evening hours to determine what worked best for our parent community. It became clear at mid-year that we had greater participation from our parent community with the morning meeting schedule. Therefore, the KEEPERS planned this year's meetings to be held on the first Friday of each month at 8:15 AM in the KES Dining Hall. We ordinarily host these meetings with coffee and muffins available to all.

**Program Presentation Night**- Thank you to those parents in attendance at Program  
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## Dates to Remember

### September 28-30

Pico Mountain Ski Swap

### October 4

Grade 4 to Starbase  
Grade 2 to MBRNHP, Woodstock

### October 5

KEEPERS Meeting @8:15 AM @ KES

### October 5-7

Killington Ski Club Sale

### October 8

Grade 5 NECAP Testing

### October 9, 10, 11

Grades 3-6 NECAP Testing

### October 10

Fire Safety Day Grades K-3

### October 15

Grade 5 NECAP Testing

### October 16-18

Grades 3-6 NECAP Testing

### October 19

Teacher In-Service/No Classes

### October 22-26

Red Ribbon Week

### October 23

K,1, & 2 to Pentangle @ noon

### October 24

School Picture Re-take @8:30 AM

### October 26

KES Haunted House  
End of First Marking Period  
KES School Board Meets @1:00 PM

### November 2

KEEPERS Meeting @8:15 AM

### November 12

Parent/Teacher Conferences/ No Classes  
KES FREE Winter Gear Swap

### November 16

Grades 3-6 to CSC @9:00 AM

### November 21-23

Thanksgiving Recess

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Presentation Night on Tuesday, September 18th. Children know when their parents and teachers work closely together. This teamwork serves as a motivating force for children at KES to reach their potential.

**Environmental Learning Continues at KES**-The magic and mystery of life cycles will unfold as students study cycles in nature throughout the upcoming year in their Four Winds Environmental Learning lessons with parent volunteers. The following titles will establish focus for each monthly lesson presented to students: Insect Life Cycles, Traveling Seeds, Birds on the Wing, Animals' Winter Ways, Maple Sugaring, Trees in Winter, Galls Galore, Songbird Songs, Flower to Fruit, and Dandelion Cycles.

Thank you to Beth and Peter Hike for coordinating all efforts and thank you to the following individuals for preparing and delivering new and exciting lessons to our students: Jennifer Iannantuoni, Jennifer Page, Mary Hogstrom, Courtney Desena, Laura McKenna, Mona Colwell, Shari Borzekowski, Annie Masillo, Susan Clarke, Wilbur Abrams, Mary Sell, Jane Aiken, and Michelle Coates-Girard.

**Here's To Your Health: A Series of Five Seminars**

The first of five seminars sponsored by the Ottauquechee Health Foundation will begin at 6:30 PM, Tuesday, Oct. 9, at the Norman Williams Library, Woodstock, VT. *Confident Parents, Remarkable Kids—From Defiance to Cooperation*, presented by Bonnie Harris, MS Ed. and the director of Connective Parenting, is free and open to all. This talk is appropriate for parents of any aged children as well as any professional who works with families and children. Light refreshments will be served.

Future seminar dates are: Nov.3, March 12, Apr. 9, and May 14. For more information contact the sponsor at 802-457-4188 or e-mail [ohf@sover.net](mailto:ohf@sover.net).

**Health Room News**

What a pleasure to see how everyone has grown over the summer! Welcome to all the new families joining us at KES this year. If you don't already know, I am available at the school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. On days I am not here, I have staff that have been trained and delegated to administer medication and tend to minor medical problems. If there is ever a question of your child's health status, or an emergency, you will be contacted and 911 will be called if necessary.

Please take the time to fill out this year's **Student Health Information Form** and return it to me as soon as possible if you have not already done so. Over the counter medication (ibuprofen, acetaminophen, antihistamine) will only be given to students after a phone call to a parent has been made and permission is obtained. If your child requires prescription medication at school, a separate prescription medication order and permission form must be completed and signed by the child's physician and signed by a parent. All prescription medication must be in its original bottle with the child's name, medication, and directions for use. If your child has required an inhaler in the past, and you anticipate she made need it at some point during the school year, please pick up a prescription medication form and asthma action plan and have her physician fill it out ahead of time. These forms are available in my office or ask Mrs. Pilsmaker. If we are all prepared, your child's health needs can easily be addressed and less school is missed. Cold and flu season is quickly approaching. Please call your pediatrician to arrange a flu vaccine for your child as soon as possible. Remember, excellent hand washing, proper nutrition, and adequate sleep go a long way toward preventing illness. If you have any questions regarding health services at KES, or you require assistance obtaining a primary care physician, dentist, or health insurance for anyone in your family, please feel free to give me a call at 422-3366, extension 212.

Let's have a very healthy fall / early winter! I look forward to getting to know all the new students.

Jamie Sudol RN, School Nurse

**Mini Mud Variety Show Auditions**

Calling all students between the ages of 7 and 18! Come audition your talent--singing, dancing, a skit, magic tricks, a story (well rehearsed and up to 3 minutes in length). Auditions will be held on Thursday, October 4th at Chandler Music Hall. The performance will be Saturday, November 3rd at 7 pm.

Please contact Janet Watton at [president@chandler-arts.org](mailto:president@chandler-arts.org) or 728-9402 to sign up for an audition time.