

KES Newsletter

Volume 9

January 20, 2017

Dates to Remember

January 24
Kids on the Block Puppet
presentations

Report Cards Go Home

January 25
Girl Scouts of America
Meeting @KES
5:30 - 6:30 pm

January 26
Trailblazers' Ski/Ride
Week 3

February 3
KEEPERS Meeting @ KES
@ 8:15 am

February 7
Talent Show Auditions @
noon

February 9
KES School Board of
Directors' meeting @8:15
@KES

February 15
Talent Show Rehearsal

February 17
Talent Show

February 20-24
Winter Recess

February 27
Act 46 Informational
Meeting @ Town Office @
7pm

March 6
In-service/No Classes

Killington Elementary
School Meeting and
Budget Vote @4:30 @ KES

March 8
Grade 4 NAEP Testing

March 14
WCS District Band
Showcase

March 15
WCSU BAnd Showcase
Snow Date

March 16
Trailblazers' Ski/Ride ends

April 17-21
Spring Recess

May 2
Spring Concert



Trailblazers 2017

KES Trailblazers Program began on January 14th despite the unseasonable temperatures and liquid precipitation coming from the sky. The KES students owned the hill as they broke through the fog at the top of the mountain with big smiles just happy to be outside and skiing in their groups.

Our second outing on January 19th also included some fog but was dry. Snow and mild temperatures prevailed and a wonderful time was had by all. We are looking forward to the remaining seven ski days and are determined to not let the weather dampen our spirits.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who make this program happen, including the numerous volunteers behind the scenes who ensure students are equipped to perform to their potential. Also, thank you to Killington Ski Resort for supporting the KES Trailblazers Program each year to allow many of our students a first-time experience in skiing. KES Trailblazers runs each Thursday afternoon through March 16th. Come join us on the hill!

When the KES Calender reads In-Service/No Classes

Teachers participated in a district-wide professional development day on Monday, January 16th. Grades K-2 teachers met with the Windsor Central Supervisory Union (WCSU) literacy coach at The Prosper Valley School in Pomfret to strengthen skills in assessing reading and writing at all levels.

Grades 3-6 teachers met with the math coach for the WCSU at Woodstock Elementary School to analyze supplemental math resources in order to strengthen the current Investigations math program. All teachers reported positive feedback from these two important and engaging professional development opportunities.

KEEPERS

The Killington Elementary Educators and Parents Encouraging Rising Stars (KEEPERS) held an evening meeting on Tuesday, January 10th, at 6 pm. The evening meeting was an attempt to provide an opportunity for some new membership opportunities. Everyone is invited to attend the next

meeting on Friday, February 3rd, at 8:15 am. Please reach out to the KEEPERS board members for more information.

Co-chairs: Simone Fieldhouse and Rebecca Claffey

Secretary: Lauren Bisceglia

Treasurer: Devin Bourassa

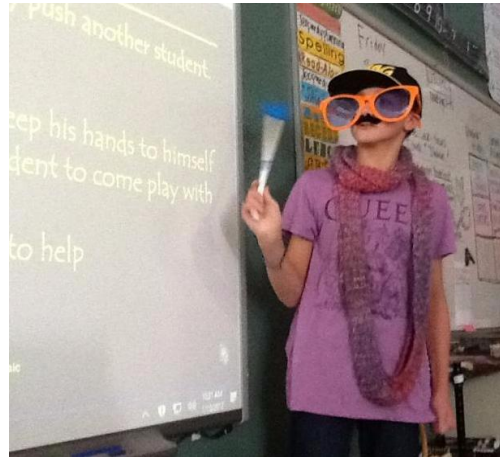
Girl Scout Information Night

An information session for girls and their parents/caregivers will be coming to KES on January 25th from 5:30 - 6:30 PM. The Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains is sponsoring the event for our KES families to meet local girl scouts and volunteers as well as to explore the many opportunities this worthwhile program has to offer.

Mary Guggenberger, Principal

Fifth Grade Hosts Superstar Jeopardy

Fifth grade developed and hosted a special edition of Superstar Jeopardy to review our KES expectations of being respectful, responsible, and safe. Fourth through sixth graders Olivia Grasso, Elle Mollaley, Zev Wysocki, Charles Rice, Damon Rogers, and Alexa Cary confidently answered questions about what to do in tricky situations with the help of the student body cheering them on. Congratulations to



all of the students at KES for being so knowledgeable about our school expectations. A special thank you goes out to the fifth grade students for organizing and hosting the very fun and entertaining event.



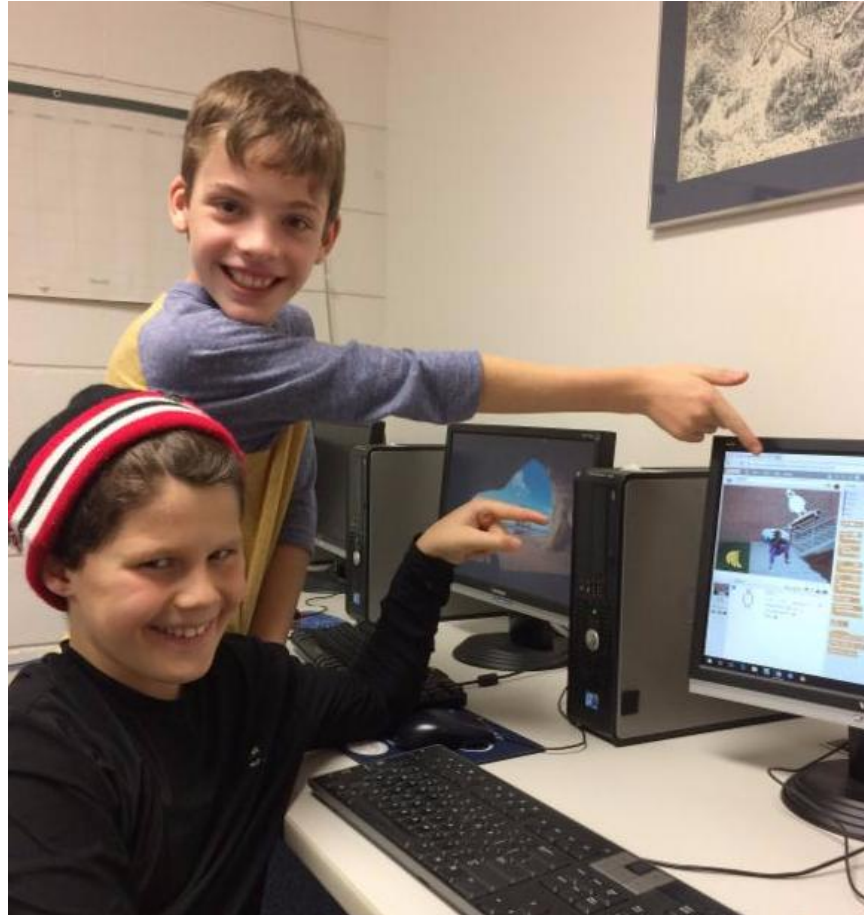
Computer Science Week by Eileen Vaughn, Library Media Specialist

All grades at KES celebrated Computer Science Week during December. Visit <http://code.org/> to learn about a global movement called the Hour of

Code. The website offers several tutorials for anyone from 6 to 106 to learn some computer programming. Code.org is a non-profit foundation dedicated to growing computer science education.

[Scratch](#), a free and easy application created by MIT, is my favorite way to introduce programming to elementary students. Students can access Scratch on any computer with an Internet connection. For the younger students, Scratch, Jr. is available on our iPads. Even the older students enjoy this early learning program. Our sixth graders helped their Kindergarten little friends create virtual stories.

For more information, go to the Technology section of the [KESvt.org](#) website.



KES After School Program by Ms. Kalnitsky, Director



Have you noticed the buzz in the building with the After School Program (ASP)?

We have had so many participants lately and would love to see more KES students there as well! In case you didn't know, Heather Harvey has volunteered her time to teach yoga to our after school kids and we've also been fortunate enough to partner with the rec center and are now offering Sports of all Sorts on Fridays to our participants. ASP partakers do not need to register for the Friday program through the rec center and the fee is waived.

We are going to be adding more activities such as art projects and game days. Is it tough for your child to get their homework done at home? Alex, Justin, and Ms. K serve snack, have organized play time, and then spend 45 minutes reading and assisting kids with their homework every day. We have plenty of space and would love to see YOU there.



Guidance News by Mary Dolan, Counselor

On January 24, National Life Group Foundation is sponsoring a day of Puppets in Education presentations at KES. These presentations feature the Kids on the Block puppet troupe performing skits and question/answer sessions on the topics of Bully Prevention, School Safety, Learning Differences and Feelings.

Parents are invited to attend! The schedule for these presentations is: grades K-2 8:30-9:30 (Bullying and Feelings) / grades 3-4 9:40-10:40(Bullying and Learning Differences) & grades 5-6 10:45-12:00 (Bully Prevention Workshop).

A Parent Notification letter has been sent home recently with all the details.

Please contact Mary Dolan or Mary Guggenberbger with any questions.

KES Talent Show

The annual KES Talent Show will be held in the afternoon on Friday, February 17th in the gym, time TBD. During recess on Tuesday, February 7th, performers should plan to audition a well-rehearsed 1-2 minute act with all necessary props. Teachers will provide feedback at the auditions. Rehearsal is Wednesday, February 15th.

Permission slips have gone home, so if your child is interested in participating, he or she should start practicing, and hand in the permission slip next week.

Roger Clark Memorial Library News

Kids' Yoga with Heather Harvey is being offered at the Pittsfield library for children in grades 2 to 5, at no charge, from 3:30 - 4:30 on Friday, January 20th, February 17th, March 17th, April 28th, and May 19th. Bring a yoga mat or beach towel.

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