

KES Newsletter

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Volume 5

November 20, 2018

Dates to Remember

November 21-23
Thanksgiving Recess/
No Classes

World Cup!!

November 27
Free Parenting Class
5:30 - 7:00 PM @ KES
Snacks & Door Prizes
Childcare Provided
RSVP Mrs. Pilsmaker

November 29
Trailblazers' Volunteer
Coaches' Meeting @8:15
AM

KEEPERS Fall Social
5:30 - 7:30PM
@ Domenic's

December 7
KES Monthly Assembly
@8:10 AM & High Five
Presentation

KES Students Perform @
Holiday Festival of Trees
@4:15 pm @ Grand Hotel

December 10
WCUD School Board Meets
@ KES @ 6:30 pm Public is
Welcome

December 11
KES Holiday Concert
@ 6pm

December 12
KEEPERS Meeting @KES
@ 8:15 AM

December 19 & 20
3rd Grade Store is Open in
the KES Library for Student
Shopping

December 24-January 1
Holiday Recess/No Classes

January 10
Trailblazers' Ski/Ride
Program Begins

January 14
End of Second Marking
Period

January 21
MLK Day/No Classes

February 18-22
Winter Recess/No Classes

March 4
In Service/No Classes

KES - Community Thanksgiving Luncheon

A large thank you to everyone who attended the Thanksgiving luncheon here at KES on Monday, November 19th. Mrs. Sylvia prepared an amazing feast for the very well attended event. Faculty and staff served food to celebrants at two seatings for over 200 people!

Thanksgiving is an opportunity for me to express my deep gratitude for the extraordinary dedication from the Killington community. From the many volunteers who make valuable programming possible, such as Four Winds, KEEPERS, Trailblazers, to annual events like Program Presentation Night, KES is deeply grateful. Many thanks go to the bakers in our community for providing the delicious pies and desserts. They made a great Thanksgiving lunch exceptional!

KEEPERS Basket Raffle Fundraiser



Once again, the KEEPERS have amassed not 2, but 3 bountiful baskets of goodies for their annual raffle ticket fundraiser. Each basket is worth over \$800 in prizes and gift certificates from local businesses.

Basket raffle tickets are now on sale at the KES front desk as well as at some weekend venues about town. Tickets are \$5 each, 3 for \$10, and 7 for \$20. The drawing will be on Sunday, Nov. 25th at the World Cup!

Forest Fridays with Pre-K

The prekindergarten looks forward to Friday mornings when they bring their classroom out to the mile-long nature trail behind the school in every kind of weather. They gather at a meeting spot in the woods where they have snack while sometimes listening to a story or book. Often times, students spend their time in the woods exploring the surroundings and using their imagination. This play-based learning concept allows opportunity for higher level play where students automatically take on roles, make decisions, and problem solve as a group. For example, last Friday the students found a fallen tree in the woods. They used their imaginations to fabricate the tree into a plane and spent at least 10

March 5
Town Meeting/Voting
Day/No Classes

April 1
End of Third Marking
Period

April 15-19
Spring Recess/No Classes

May 7
Spring Concert @ 6pm



minutes trying to "clean out the engine valves" with a stick used as a screwdriver. Other times they have used teamwork to move a downed tree from their special spot. These activities build stamina in perseverance, a necessary learning characteristic. Pre-K teacher, Ms. Jodi LeBrun, may also design Forest Fridays to meet particular objectives or as an extension to classroom lessons. Examples include a scavenger hunt for creepy crawlies, color hunts, leaf sorting, gross motor skills activities, and using senses, such as listening, seeing, and smelling to create a 5-minute mindfulness exercise. With the onset of snow, pre-K can look forward to making sugar on snow with maple syrup made from sap gathered from trees on the trail and boiled down in the KES Sugar Shack by fourth graders.



Hats off !

The KES Student Council has been extremely busy with a number of agenda items. Led by Grade 6 teacher, Mrs. Amy Simonds, student council has taken on the tasks of implementing a holiday food drive to stock the local food shelf, selling winter and baseball hats, and designing a brochure to promote KES during the Killington World Cup. Mrs. Simonds has been instrumental in guiding students through the design process of recognizing a need, brainstorming a solution, and putting a plan into action to satisfy the need. It is not unusual for Mrs. Simonds to anticipate a need before it becomes a problem and implement a solution with ease. Recently, Mrs. Simonds' grade 6 class was working with a Cricut on a project in the newly created Makerspace, formerly the computer lab. Recognizing the potential need for more Cricut devices, Mrs. Simonds applied for and received a grant through the Woodstock Union High School Endowment Fund for the purchase of two Cricut devices. The acquisition for two more Cricuts will provide hands-on learning to more students during each STEM class and create greater collaboration among learners. Please join me in recognizing Mrs. Simonds for her self-direction and initiative, innovative thinking, and willingness to

explore deeper learning opportunities that directly benefit student outcomes.

If attending the World Cup at Killington over Thanksgiving Break, be sure to visit the KPAA tent and pick up a brochure designed to promote KES.

Mrs. Simonds was instrumental in getting this project off the ground and running. KES will also be selling hats and t-shirts sponsored by student council along with magnets and other school promotional items. Thank you, Mrs. Simonds, for your dedication to KES!

Mary Guggenberger, Principal

Pictures Pictures Pictures!

Sixth Graders learned about several photography techniques and then traveled around Killington taking nature photographs.

This photography unit is part of an on-going project where the class learns about, and connects with, their community. Students have their own web pages that promote the Killington Valley region and have links to all of their photographs.

Students chose their three favorite photographs, measured and created photo mats using the Cricut Maker Machine at KES, and then displayed them in frames. The photos are on exhibit now at Liquid Art!

Third Grade Holiday Store

Once again the KES third grade is collecting donations for their holiday store. The KES merchants are looking forward to setting up their store in the KES library with your donations of like-new scarves, jewelry, knickknacks, games, puzzles, books, toys, and other valuables. We also need wrapping paper donations for the wrapping table. **Please no scented donations or well-loved stuffed animals!** Donations are being accepted daily until Thursday, December 13th. The store will be open for business on December 19th and 20th! The holiday store will be open for all KES students to shop and purchase gifts (all under \$1) for family and friends. Teachers will sign up for at least two designated times to bring their students to the store to shop. Please send children with small change (no more than \$5) to spend while 3rd graders hone their math skills adding up purchases and making change. We look forward to your business!

Festival of Trees

Once again we are asking KES families to attend the annual Vermont Holiday Festival of Trees at the Grand Hotel in Killington on Friday, December 7th. KES students have been rehearsing songs from their upcoming holiday concert, "Bring On the Snow," to perform at the festival.

Please arrive by 4:00 to allow us time to "set up" on the risers in the Oscar Wilde Grand Ballroom. The KES Pre-K performs at 4:15 pm. Complimentary family tickets will be going home closer to the event.

A holiday tree has been donated to KES by the Killington and Pico Chamber of Commerce and students are working in the new "maker space" on decorations for our tree theme, "KES Spirit Tree." Hope to see many of you there immersed in holiday spirit.

KES Trailblazers' Ski/Ride at Killington Resort in January

Before we know it, we'll be heading out on Thursdays for our ski/ride program, which begins on January 10th. The program can only happen if we have enough fingerprinted volunteers to coach, chaperone, and help out at the magic carpet.

Fingerprinted coaches are invited to a coaches' meeting on Thursday, November 29th, at 8:15 am, in the KES Specials' Room.

The Vermont School Board Insurance Trust requires all on hill volunteer coaches to attend an on hill training session. At the November meeting, a few dates will be announced for early December training with Coach LaBella, KES P.E. Instructor. This is a short session with a meeting followed by skiing and riding.

We are still looking for coaches. If you have an interest in helping, please see Mrs. Pilsmaker to fill out the necessary paperwork asap. The holidays are here and the fingerprinting process takes some time.

KEEPERS News by Rebecca Claffey

Please join us on Thursday, November 29th, 5:30p - 7:30p at Domenic's on the Killington Road for a KEEPERS' social. The cost is \$10/head and will cover food provided by Domenic's pizza. Childcare will be provided at KES from 5:15pm - 7:45pm. Childcare will be \$5/child (for those attending the social) and will include pizza dinner.

The Greater Killington Women's Club, hosted a fun holiday shopping fundraiser at the Summit Lodge last Friday, 11/9, evening. All proceeds benefited the KEEPERS. Despite the weather, attendance was excellent. Vendors included JG Designs, May's Place, Stone Revival Gallery and Gifts, VT Blueberry Water, VT Native Images by Lisa, Heart Song Reiki, Coffeehouse Homestead Farm, Deb Burke photography, Brittany Charles needle felt crafts and acrylic paintings, Killington-Pico Rotary, LuLaRoe, Sugarplum Crossing, Sherburne United Church of Christ, Wander on Words, Dana Decker crocheted hats, and Becca Rubin handmade ceramics. Many thanks to the GKWC, The Summit Lodge, all vendors who participated, and attendees (and those who tried to attend). You made for a fun evening and a successful fundraiser!

High Five Assembly and Helmet Safety!

The KES monthly assembly will take place on Friday, December 7th, at 8:10 am, in lieu of morning sing. Parents are most welcome to attend and share in student and staff recognition.

The December assembly will also celebrate ski safety month in January with a special presentation by High Five and Killington Resort.

News from the Health Room by Susan Clarke, School Nurse

On Monday, November 19th, the Lions Club of Springfield conducted vision screening for the students of KES using their SPOT Pediavision screening. The screening took just a few seconds per child and objectively screened for various issues. Please note that this is only a screening. Although the screening is helpful for some items it is still best to have a yearly comprehensive vision exam completed by a qualified physician. Eye care is provided by most public and private health insurance companies.

Don't Forget to register for Health Care! VERMONT HEALTH CONNECT IS OPEN for enrollment which runs until December 15th, 2018.

Please use this link to access: [VHC Landing](#)

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11/20/2018

News from Killington Elementary School

Killington Elementary School, 686 Schoolhouse Road, Killington, VT 05751

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