

SES NEWSLETTER

Volume 10

sesvt.org

January 16, 2009

Students Enjoy Japanese Tea Ceremony - “Konnichiwa. Ocha wo kudasai.” In English, “Good afternoon. Tea, please.” These words and more could be heard during the Japanese tea ceremonies held at Sherburne Elementary School today. The tea ceremony, known in Japan as “chanoyu,” is a very special event in Japanese culture. Guests are welcomed by their host with a bow. No words are spoken. Sweet treats are served to guests, along with the tea. The flavors of the sweets and tea compliment each other, creating a sense of harmony. As an art form, the tea ceremony integrates Japanese culture, as it embraces architecture, gardening, ceramics, textiles, calligraphy, flower arrangement, Japanese cuisine, and much more. For Sherburne students, the ceremony required ceramic clay teacups, made by each child under the supervision of art teacher, Finnie Trimpi, and Japanese intern, Kotaro Nakayama, both of whom hosted the ceremonies. Within multi-grade groupings, the tea ceremonies held in the art room provided children with a glimpse of Japanese culture and history.

“Chef Nakayama” Delivers First-Rate Luncheon for Sherburne Students Japanese intern, Kotaro Nakayama, shared one of his many talents on Wednesday, January 14th, as he prepared and served a delicious lunch of Japanese cuisine. The menu for the day included both a mild and a spicy beef curry with rice and vegetables, a seaweed and lettuce salad, rice balls with salmon and noodles.

Students used chopsticks and enjoyed a special song by K/1 students, “Ponyo” (pone—yo). Students, faculty, and special guests expressed their appreciation for Mr. Nakayama’s cooking abilities and the expert skills of his assistants in the kitchen, Gail Flynn and Jennifer Burch. Patty MacLauchlan’s daughter, Kristin MacLauchlan, created lovely origami table arrangements during volunteer hours to add a touch of ambience to our luncheon.

Japanese Studies Continue with Calligraphy- As the days wind down with Mr. Nakayama, students found themselves immersed in calligraphy lessons. Calligraphy, called “shodo” in Japan, is a form of artistic writing used for the Japanese language. The roots of Japanese calligraphy go back to China, where pictographs were inscribed on bone. Today, most children in Japan learn calligraphy in elementary school, while at the same time, calligraphy remains very popular outside of Japan among both amateur and professional artists.

Continued on page 2

Dates to Remember

January 16
Second Marking Period Ends

January 19
No Classes/Martin Luther King Day
Staff Development

January 28
Intro to Dance @ Sherburne Library
3:30-4:30 All ages

January 30
Report Cards Go Home

February 16-20
Winter Recess/No Classes

March 2
Staff Development/No Classes

March 3
Town Meeting/No Classes

Park & Recreation News

There will be no cross-country skiing on Monday January 19. We will resume the program on January 26 and continue to February break from 3:30-5:00pm. Once vacation is over we will continue on Mondays for as long as the snow allows.

Drivers: Observe School Bus Safety in the Parking Lot

Please heed school bus warning lights; this includes time spent in the SES parking lot. **You are required by law to stop when the bus’s red warning lights are flashing.** Do not pass the bus until the lights are off. School bus drivers are trained by the school bus company to avoid accidents and to turn over the license plate number of individuals who do not comply with the law. The penalty for passing a school bus with flashing red lights includes a substantial fine and five points on your driver’s license. (Vermont Driver’s Manual, 2007)

Continued from page 1

Japanese Studies Continue with Calligraphy- As the days wind down with Mr. Nakayama, students found themselves immersed in calligraphy lessons. Calligraphy, called “shodo” in Japan, is a form of artistic writing used for the Japanese language. The roots of Japanese calligraphy go back to China, where pictographs were inscribed on bone. Today, most children in Japan learn calligraphy in elementary school, while at the same time, calligraphy remains very popular outside of Japan among both amateur and professional artists.

Students Attend Ski/Snowboard Assembly - Students in kindergarten through grade six attended a ski/snowboard meeting on Wednesday, January 14th, conducted by Joan Wise, Trailblazer co-coordinator. Ski attire, ski day procedures, and skiing and snowboarding were areas of focus. The expectation is that all students will adhere to rules on the mountain and demonstrate appropriate behavior at all times. Safety on the mountain was stressed. Pickup time is at 3:30 in Ramshead. Children are viewed as Junior Ambassador Patrols, meaning that Sherburne students set an example for all guests of Killington.

We look forward to our new start date for the Trailblazer Program: January 22nd.

Geography Bee Competition - In which European country did the Olympics begin? Ikebana is a traditional art of flower arranging that stresses form and balance. Ikebana is closely associated with the culture of which Asian island country? Thirteen members of Mrs. Kahler’s Geography Team answered these questions and more as they competed to win the schoolwide Geography Bee on Thursday, January 8th. Congratulations to sixth grader, Christina O’Brien, for winning the competition and congratulations to her fellow teammates and competitors for their interest and desire to learn more about geography. Christina’s next step is to take a qualifying test sponsored by the National Geographic Society to determine finalists who move on to the state level competition.

2nd Marking Period Ends – January 16th marks the end of the 2nd quarter. Report cards go home on January 30th.

Loren M. Pepe, Principal

SES Girl Scouts and Project Peru

Girl Scout Troops 582 and 534 are raising supplies to support WUHS Project Peru. Some Woodstock Union High School students will be traveling to Peru in February 2009 to renovate a medical clinic.

Girl Scouts are asking for donations of medical supplies for the high school students to carry with them on the trip. The Girl Scouts are asking SES parents to bring donations of: bandages and bandaids, Spanish books, gauze, generic medicine sealed and in the original container such as Tylenol, Benadryl and ibuprofen to the SES front desk. A bin, provided by the Scouts, for collecting the items is safely stored in a locked area at SES.

Third Grade Holiday Store

Many thanks to everyone who donated items to and/or purchased items from the 3rd grade merchants’ Holiday Store. While honing math skills, students made over \$200 at the store and chose to donate \$50 to the Christmas Fund and \$153 to The Open Door Mission in Rutland.

Attached is a copy of the wonderful letter of thanks received from the Mission including notification of how the donation was spent. We are very proud of our SES community’s generosity.

Share Your Ideas!

The red cones in the parking lot are set up to help us determine the feasibility of a future extension to the play area from Kids’ Kingdom to Sugar Shack Island. Mrs. Pepe welcomes your feedback to share with the playground committee

Are You Missing Keys?

A key ring with 5 keys was found at school the evening of the Holiday concert. They are at the front desk.