

SES NEWSLETTER

Volume 1

sesvt.org

August 28, 2009

Welcome Back! - A new chapter has begun for each SES student and for all of us who have the pleasure of working with these delightful young people each day. Year after year, it is rejuvenating to see the fresh and eager faces of our students as they walk through the front doors on the first day of school. The excitement in the air is contagious. All of us, children and staff, look forward to all the new school year will bring. Welcome!

SES Gets a Facelift - Sherburne Elementary School experienced a facelift this summer. Owen Miller, with help from his brother, Denny Miller, power washed and scraped the front of SES in preparation for a volunteer painting project. Leading the group, Jennifer Iannantuoni and Steve Nisimblat organized several workdays in anticipation of accomplishing this task. With the weather on our side and commitment and hard work from volunteers, the school looks great! With gratitude, we thank the following individuals for giving their time and energy to help with this project: Owen and Denny Miller, Jennifer Iannantuoni, Steve Nisimblat, Vern Merrill, Dave Cleaves, Doug Johnstone, Butch and Miriam Findeisen, Sarah Rasmussen, Ilsa Soar, Klaus Weirether, Jordan Tolar, Cameron Stiles, Stephanie Kowalczyk, Shari and Joseph Borzekowski, Lorraine Fielder, Stefan Ivanov, Megan O'Neill, Kelly Ziegler, Jim Haff, Phil Black, Casey Crompton, Betsey Bianchi, Kristin Alf, Joy Black, and Kathy Iannantuoni.

New Renovations Surface for Kids' Kingdom - In early June, approximately twenty concerned parents met with Jennifer Iannantuoni, SES School Board Chairwoman, to discuss the sustainability of Sherburne Elementary School's play area, Kids' Kingdom. All participants voiced interest in finding a way to safely sustain Kids' Kingdom for student enjoyment in future years. The SES Board listened! Using a composite material, Doug Johnstone, from Johnstone Carpentry, Inc., replaced the handrails that were the cause of many of the splinters to young students and others visiting Kids' Kingdom. The picnic area also was replaced with a composite material, generously donated to SES by Jim and Mary Ellen Haff. A Recreation Grant, secured by former SES Board Chairman, Steve Finneron, covered other material and labor costs. At this time, the SES School Board plans to replace the problematic parts of Kids' Kingdom as problems arise. Thank you to all of the concerned parents who attended the June meeting. Thank you, also, to Steve Finneron, Doug Johnstone, Jim and Mary Ellen Haff, and Jennifer Iannantuoni, for helping to save Kids' Kingdom!

Welcome to Our Newest Faculty Member - Please join me in welcoming our fifth grade teacher, Ms. Allison Naugle, to Sherburne Elementary School. Ms. Naugle joins us with great enthusiasm, energy, and a desire to work with all students in the Sherburne Elementary School community. Please take the time to welcome Ms. Naugle as she experiences firsthand the warm and inviting Sherburne Elementary School community.

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Dates to Remember

September 7

No Classes/Labor Day

September 8

School Board Meeting @ 4:30 @ SES

September 14

Grades 3,4 & 5 toOMYA

September 15

School Picture Day

September 20

IDIC Walk/Run

September 22

Grades 3,4,5 & 6 to Fish Hatchery
Program Presentation Night 6:30 pm

"Images of the Natural World"

Opens Sept. 5

The Killington Arts Guild early fall art show, "Images of the Natural World" will open with a reception on Saturday Sept. 5 from 2-5 pm. at the Upstairs Gallery located at Cabin Fever Gifts on Rt. 4 across from the Killington access road. Featured artists at the show are Sally Curtis and Pat Cushing. Mediums: burnished pencil, watercolor, acrylics, photography, pen & ink, and multi-media. The art show will continue every business day from 9 am to 6 pm until Sept. 29th. The reception include gallery talks, refreshments and music. There is no charge. The public is invited. For more information call (802) 422-3824.

Happy "September" Birthday!

Conner Black	9/2
Dylan Grindel	9/2
Rory Haff	9/3
Justin Whittaker	9/14
Evan Joaquin	9/15
Adare O'Neill	9/26



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Safe Arrival and Dismissal - The student day begins when buses arrive at 8:00 am. Teachers are often unable to attend to students arriving before 8:00, unless prior arrangements have been made with staff. At the end of the day, bused students are dismissed at 2:55 pm. Students who are “car riders” are picked up at 3:00 pm and wait indoors until a designated adult arrives for pick-up. The SES parking lot is a busy place at the end of the school day. We ask all parents and students to adhere to arrival and dismissal routines for the safety of their children.

Summer Program - The summer enrichment program at SES was the place to be once again this summer. Teachers, Maria Garland and Melissa Knipes, creatively thread fun times in with learning opportunities to make the summer session an enjoyable and exciting program for the twenty-five students who participated. This program, funded through Medicaid reinvestment funds, helps students maintain skills learned through the 2008-09 school year.

Students Avoid Regression - To help students avoid unnecessary regression, SES teachers provide students with summer skill work. The purpose of this is to help students maintain skills learned and decrease the amount of recoup time ordinarily necessary during the first several weeks of school. Since starting this several years ago, teachers report that summer skill work is effective; students return to school after the long summer vacation with skills intact and with greater confidence. Thank you to all students who completed summer homework and to all parents who helped by supporting this effort.

Summer Work for Teachers - SES students are not alone in doing schoolwork over the summer. Teachers spent many days and weeks over the summer refreshing their skills, learning new ideas and methodologies, doing curriculum work, and taking college courses to aid in their never ending quest to improve upon teaching skills. The summer culminated with all teachers attending an inspirational supervisory union wide inservice at Woodstock Union High School. Faculty members enjoyed a thought provoking presentation by *The Global Achievement Gap* author, Tony Wagner, which encouraged faculty to think differently when teaching 21st century learners, otherwise known as the “Net Generation.”

Loren M. Pepe, Principal

Congratulations!

Not only did our former fifth grade teacher move up to sixth grade, she was married this summer! Ms. Ladabouche is now Mrs. Simonds. Congratulations Mr. & Mrs. Simonds!

Thank You, Sheila Finneron

All of us, students and teachers alike, arrived to school on the first day with bright, new flowers in our barrels. Thank you Sheila Finneron for surprising and delighting us, once again, with you very generous and very green thumb!

Parent Reminders:

Students who arrive later than 8:10 are considered tardy.

We appreciate a phone call, 422-3366, or e-mail, spilsmaker@sesvt.org, before 8:30 am, when your child will be late to school or will not be coming in to school at all. If we haven't heard from you, and your child is not at school, Mrs. Pilsmaker will attempt to call you by 9:30 am.

Regular, prompt attendance is essential for students to receive maximum benefits from the school's educational program. According to the SES Attendance Policy, “A student not present in class for any reason is considered absent. However, a student may be excused for: illness, religious holidays, court appearances and those excused absences approved by the principal.”

SES Website Registration

It is important for all parents who have not already done so to register and logon in the “Principal's Corner” of the school website, www.sesvt.org.

SES is making every effort to “go green” and save paper. Parent e-mails will be used for important announcements and the menu and newsletter will be posted on the website.

Stop by and see Mrs. Pilsmaker at the front desk if you have any questions or concerns.