

SES NEWSLETTER

Volume 3

sesvt.org

September 25, 2009

Student Assessments - SES students in grades three through six will soon participate in the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP). Main areas of focus in this assessment are reading and mathematics. Written language is an additional focus for students in grades five and eight. Please encourage your child to put forth good effort during these tests.

Parents can help. Make sure your child has adequate rest and a good breakfast on test administration days. Please mark your calendars for October 5th – 16th. Refer to the letter to be sent home next week. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pepe or your child's teacher.

College Students Learn at SES - Sherburne classrooms buzzed with college students this week. Students from both Castleton State College and the College of St. Joseph began weekly visits to learn more about the outstanding instruction that occurs at Sherburne Elementary School. College of St. Joseph students will observe and assist in classrooms to learn specifically about math instructional methods. The focus for Castleton students is to learn more generally about the field of education.

Program Presentation Night - Thank you, parents, for attending Program Presentation Night on Tuesday, September 22nd. Children know when their parents and teachers work closely together. This teamwork serves as a motivating force for children at SES to reach their potential.

Environmental Learning Continues - With the coordination efforts of Beth Hike and many dedicated volunteers, all students will continue their participation in Four Winds Nature Institute environmental lessons. The theme this year, *Ecosystems*, lends itself to exciting, new learning opportunities with the following titles: Stream Life, Stone Walls and Cellar Holes, Standing Snags and Rotting Logs, Dormant or Active, Staying Warm, Deer Through the Seasons, Waste Not, and Forest Birds.

Thank you to Beth Hike for her coordination efforts and to the following individuals for preparing and delivering exciting lessons and presentations to our students: Shari Borzekowski (K & 3/4), Marni Rieger, (K/1 & 2), Jane Aiken (2 & 5), Lori Weirether (3/4), Ellen VanHerwarde (5), Peter Hike, and Annie Masillo. This group enjoyed a lively presentation last week with Four Winds trainer, Mike Clough, and they are eager to bring all they learned to our students.

Nature Trail Excursion - Students and faculty members enjoyed an exciting environmental learning experience on the Benjamin Maxham Nature Trail on Thursday afternoon. Students met in multi-aged groups and visited two of the six learning stations on the trail. Ask your child to tell you one or two interesting facts learned from this educational experience.

Loren M. Pepe, Principal

Dates to Remember

October 9
WCSU Spelling Bee

October 13
SES School Board Meets @ 4 pm

October 19
Grade 4 to Starbase

October 22 & 23
Professional Meetings/No Classes

October 26
Grade 4 to Starbase
Grades K-3 Fire Safety Day @9 am

October 28
1st Marking Period Ends

November 2
Grade 4 to Starbase

November 6
Parent Conferences/No Classes

NECAP Test Dates Grades 3-6
October 6,7,8,13,14,15

Also Oct. 12 & 16 for Grade 5

Happy "October" Birthday!

Abigail Masillo	10/1
Joey Ranberg	10/3
Rose O'Brien	10/9
Sarah Findeisen	10/12
Remy Bragg	10/16
Alyana Hunt	10/18
Alexander Crompton	10/23
Stephen Bianchi	10/24
Ezra Hennie	10/25
Otto Nisimblat	10/30



Guidance Counseling News

Sherburne Elementary is pleased to announce the offering of *Guiding Good Choices*, a communications based parenting class to be held here, at Sherburne Elementary, beginning Wednesday, October 14, 2009. This is a FREE class, with FREE childcare and FREE dinner included! Nerissa Edwards, guidance counselor at Reading Elementary and Ottaquechee Community Partnership Parent Educator, will be facilitating this class. Class dates are Oct. 14, 21, 28 & Nov. 4 & 11, from 5:30 to 7:30. Please RSVP to Mrs. Pepe or Mrs. Hoag @ 422-3366; or you may contact Nerissa directly at vtnerissa@gmail.com or 477-2679. Registration deadline is October 1, so please sign up early!

This program has been honored with numerous citations of excellence including National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices (NREPP). The program is geared toward people who are parenting children ages 8 – 12, who want to help their children make healthy choices. Guiding Good Choices helps families develop clear family guidelines, minimize family conflict and increase family connection by walking each family through the process of clearly identifying their family plan for good communication and support through the often difficult teenage years.

A recent workshop attendant said, “Having time to talk with other parents & professionals about real problems was wonderful. Family meetings have really helped our family communicate positively.”

Mary Hoag, Guidance Counselor

Pittsford Fish Hatchery Field Trip

The Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife recently hosted *Science at the Hatchery* at the Pittsford Fish Hatchery. SES students in grades 4-6 learned about electroshock fishing, how our groundwater and drinking water is filtered, and all about the different types of fish raised at the hatchery. It was a fun and educational day full of hands-on experiments!

Start Thinking About Trailblazers!

Ski & Snowboard Sale/Swap – Pico Mountain will hold its annual ski/snowboard sale/swap this weekend. Killington Resort holds theirs on Columbus Day weekend. These sales are an excellent opportunity for SES families to acquire the necessary gear to participate in the SES Trailblazer’s Ski & Ride Program. Students need skis or snowboard, boots, helmet and poles. New and used waterproof clothing is also available.

Providing a sufficient number of volunteers sign on, SES students in grades K to 6th will continue a longstanding tradition of skiing or snowboarding on Thursday afternoons, beginning January 14th. Parents and community members volunteer as instructors and base lodge chaperones. A meeting will be held at a later date for all volunteers.

Killington Resort generously offers a season pass for SES students for a fee of \$40.00. More information will follow in a future newsletter.

Student Council News

We recently had Student Council elections, and after a tightly contested race, our school’s new President is Alex Crompton, our Vice President is Remy Bragg, and our Treasurer / Recorder is Lucas Godfrey. Thank you to all who participated, as everyone’s speeches and posters were wonderful. Congratulations to our new school leaders. Student Council begins next week.

Mrs. Simonds

WCSU Spelling Bee News

The WCSU Spelling Bee takes place at Woodstock High School’s Teagle Library on Friday morning, October 9th. Team SES members, Gemma Fielder, Ezra Hennie, Remy Bragg, Mimi Templeton, Taylor Tolar and Sarah Findeisen practice daily with Coach Naugle in preparation for this bee. Good luck to our spellers!

Attention 4 Winds Volunteers

Our next training will be Thursday, October 1 from 9—11 in the Specials’ Room. Shari & Lori are presenting Stone Walls. Snack is to be provided by Marni. Thanks everyone!

Beth Hike

Letters A, B, C & D do not appear if you spell any of the numbers between 1 & 99. Hundred is the first time letter D appears. Letters A, B & C do not appear anywhere in the spellings of 1 to 999. Thousand is the first time A appears. Neither B or C appear anywhere in the spellings of 1 to 999,999,999. Billion is the first number to use the letter B. The letter C does not appear anywhere in the spellings of the entire English counting system! These fun facts were shared by Jane Aiken.