

SES NEWSLETTER

Volume 5

sesvt.org

October 22, 2008

Killington Mountain Studies - On Friday, October 10th, second, third and fourth graders brought their classroom investigations and observations to the mountains of Killington. Compliments of Killington and Pico Ski Resort and efforts by Saskia Groom, students took the gondola to the peak to continue their curricula studies on landforms, land regions and erosion. While on the mountain, each student delivered a presentation to fellow hikers pertaining to new knowledge gained during their perspective units of study. Be sure to visit Mrs. Garland's link at sesvt.org to see the video of the field trip.

Change the World Kids - An energetic group of teenagers from the Upper Valley of Vermont visited with SES students recently. This group, called "Change the World Kids," dedicates themselves to making the world a better place by working without charge to help individuals in the community and throughout the world. We thank the four Woodstock High School students who presented this group's mission: Zach Brown, Hillary List, Chelsea Harris, and Sherburne alumna Melissa Werle. If your child is interested in becoming involved in Change the World Kids, you can find out more at www.changetheworldkids.com or Change the World Kids, 1406 Woodstock Lane, Woodstock, VT 05091.

How Much is Too Much? Finding the Balance in Homework Help - Your child's essay on erosion is due tomorrow, but he has soccer practice after school and then piano lessons tonight. Not wanting to see him get a bad grade, you help him by doing much of the work. We all want our children to do well in school, but sometimes we give too much. Not only is this unfair to your child, it can cause his self-esteem to suffer. Children know when they have earned a grade, and they know when they have not. Instead of helping your child succeed, too much parental involvement can lead him to failure. For more on this topic, please read the attached *Report to Parents: Effective and Appropriate Help with Homework* by the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

OMYA AWARD - Congratulations to Victoria Chernin for her first prize winning OMYA poster "Studying Our Earth." Victoria was honored on Saturday at Vermont Earth Science week in Middlebury and received a certificate, a fossil, a marble plaque and a fifty dollar prize.

Victoria's poster was chosen from 200 other posters in her age group. We are proud of you Victoria.

WCSU Spelling Bee -The WCSU Spelling Bee took place at Woodstock Union High School's Teagle Library on Friday, October 10, 2008. Many thanks to everyone at WUHS/MS for graciously hosting this opportunity for our union elementary school children to share their talents, especially spelling bee proctor, WUHS principal, Greg Schillinger, and judges, WCSU administrators, Dana Peterson and Julian Underwood. Fifth and sixth graders Christina O'Brien, Alyssa Rivera, Claire Mercier, Gemma Fielder, Zac Chernin and Ezra Hennie represented Sherburne Elementary School, along with their coach, Amy Ladabouche. We are proud of the Sherburne Spelling Team's efforts as they prepared and participated in this rigorous event.

Parent Conferences - Parent conferences are rapidly approaching. Please look for your child to bring home a November 7th conference sign-up sheet in the near future.

Safe Trick or Treating - It's almost time for our little witches, haunting ghouls, superheroes and princesses to take to the streets on a quest for candy and fun on Halloween. While it is important to have fun, please take some time to talk safety with your children. The chances of children being hit by a car are much higher on Halloween night than any other night of the year. Here are reminders to keep your children safe:

- Warn children to cross the street only at intersections
- Instruct children to walk facing traffic and to avoid the busy streets

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Dates to Remember

October 23 & 24

Professional Meetings/No Classes

October 28

End of First Marking Period
Student Council "Hat Day" at SES

October 30

Killington Park & Rec. Halloween Party & 6th
Grade Haunted House

October 31

VINS Raptor Presentation @ SES

November 5

Picture Retake Day

November 7

Parent Teacher Conferences/No Classes

November 13

SES/Community Thanksgiving Luncheon

Food Drive

On November 3rd, Student Council is beginning a food drive for the Rutland County Food Shelf. It is to help families in our local area during the holiday season. Please bring in canned foods, cereals, and other nonperishable items. Thank you for your generosity.

By Alex Crompton

Election Day News- Students Can Vote at Town Halls!

SES students have the opportunity to take part in the voting process at either Killington or Pittsfield Town Hall. Student Council members will be on hand from 3-5pm to hand out ballots and show students to the voting booths. This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your child to take part in the democratic process together.

Thank you- Student Council

Happy "November" Birthday

Zev Ruben 11/20
Liam VanHerwarde 11/20

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Safety tips for Halloween cont'd:

- Apply reflective tape/stickers to make your child more visible
- Have children carry a flashlight or glow stick while walking between houses to enhance visibility
- Accompany your children or make sure they are with a responsible adult

Loren M. Pepe, Principal

Spanish News

¡Buenos días! I am very pleased and excited to share my enthusiasm for Hispanic language and culture with your children at Sherburne Elementary School.

This year's Spanish program is off to a great start! Our focus is aural recognition of and the ability to speak basic vocabulary and phrases. Grades two through six learned to count to twenty, and their colors and shapes. We are currently working on putting all of those words together to create subject phrases – our first step toward building sentences.

We play games, sing songs, and will do plays and skits to get students speaking Spanish in class. Students will also do a number of activities and crafts designed to develop their aural comprehension of the language by following my verbal instructions in Spanish. Last week each student created a "tile" for an azulejo wall that will hang in the classroom. Azulejos are what we call Spanish tiles. Ask your child why they are called azulejos and what state in our own country is named the Spanish word for "tiles".

Students will have the opportunity to explore the cultures of Spain, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. We will sample food from those areas, learn about holidays and traditions, and hopefully we will be able to take a virtual field trip to one special country!

¡Ciao! Elaine Leibly

Halloween Poem

Skeletons run as the night goes on
As witches fly through the cold night sky
While kids run from place to place with funny costumes on their face
Goblins groan as Werewolves howl making sounds from way up higher
Ghosts say Boo! As monsters growl making noises from here for miles
From Sarah Findeisen 4th grade

Sherburne Memorial Library News

Creative Literacy: Flower Making , Thurs., 11/13, 3:30-5

Health News

Flu season is upon us! Many of our students and teachers are already experiencing cold symptoms. Influenza, commonly known as the "flu" is caused by a virus. There are many different strains of the influenza virus and it is difficult to pinpoint which strains are in common circulation each year. Unlike the common cold, the influenza virus can lead to serious illness and causes approximately 36,000 deaths each year in the U.S. alone. One way to protect yourself and your children is to get a flu vaccine. There is plenty of vaccine available this year and the Vermont Department of Health is strongly encouraging it for all Vermonters. The vaccine is especially encouraged for those with children 5 years old and under (particularly with infants under 6 months old), health care workers, people who work with children, and anyone with a chronic disease or respiratory condition. There are multiple flu clinics being offered throughout the state this season. I have listed some upcoming clinics in the Rutland area below. You can also search for a flu clinic near you by going to the Vermont Department of Health website at:

http://healthvermont.gov/prevent/flu/flu_clinics.aspx. You can also simply call your family doctor or pediatrician and make an appointment for the vaccine. Costs vary, but Medicaid is accepted at most clinics and the average fee is about \$30. Remember, the best defense against any illness is good handwashing!

Upcoming Flu Clinics:

October 28 th– College of St. Joseph, Rutland , 9am-12pm
November 5th – Godnick Adult Center, Rutland, 11:30-3:30
November 18th- Holiday Inn, Rutland, 4-7pm

* These Clinics are all sponsored by the Rutland VNA. For further information you can contact them at: (802)-770-1536.

Jamie Sudol, R.N., School Nurse, Health Educator

Sixth Grade News

Once again, the Rec Dept is holding their Halloween Party with the 6th grade Haunted House. There will be games, a pumpkin carving contest, and a costume parade. Refreshments, like pizza, drinks, cookies and other treats will be served. The 6th grade is looking for help with the refreshments. Donations of treats like cupcakes or cookies will be appreciated. All proceeds will go toward the 6th grade class trip at the end of the year. Thank you.

Alyssa Rivera, 6th grade Class President

SES Directory Corrections

The following corrections have to be made to the school directory. If you've already picked up your directory, please add:

Third Grade: Kiara Buker , Johanna, Robert , 3148 Route 100, Pittsfield 746-8119, P.O. Box 122, Rochester 05767

First Grade: Alyana Hunt 3 Ridge Road, Killington, VT 05751 (Mailing Address)