

# SES NEWSLETTER

Volume 8

sesvt.org

December 5, 2008

**The Giving Tree** - Students, parents, and friends... the Giving Tree at SES needs your help! New hats, mittens, scarves, and socks traditionally adorn the tree. All contributions will go to the Rutland Women's Shelter on December 19<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your donation, and hang it on the tree. The SES Student Council sponsors the Giving Tree project.

**Hiawatha** - Kindergarten, first, second, and third graders enjoyed the Catskill Puppet Theater's rendition of *Hiawatha* at Castleton State College's Cassella Theater on Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. Using full sets, exquisitely crafted puppets, and background music created with a Native American flute and drum, this enchanting play spoke to children about the life of the great Iroquois hero, Hiawatha. According to first grader, Jackson Ziegler, Hiawatha's curiosity makes him disobey his grandmother, and he goes into the forest all alone. Once there Hiawatha discovers a magical cave full of great spirits and talking animals. Jackson recalls that the great spirits tricked Hiawatha and helped him to learn an important lesson. In the end, Hiawatha became a great leader and spoke to other tribes about his vision for a peaceful world and community of brotherhood among all Indian nations.

**School Cancellation** - When roads are unsafe for school bus travel, the beginning of the school day may be delayed for one hour or more. If it is likely that unsafe conditions will continue throughout the day, school will be cancelled, and the SES call list will begin.

In addition to the call list, announcements will be on PEG TV and on the radio: WJJR 98.1, WZRT 92.1, WEBK 105.3, and WSYB 97.1. If you are uncomfortable with driving conditions, please feel free to keep your child home from school.

**Students Visit Billings Farm** - Students in kindergarten and first grade visited Billings Farm for an educational program involving traditions and customs in place one hundred years ago. Students learned much about life in the 1890s: the many uses of light, candle making, care of livestock, winter barn chores and more. This field trip relates to the social studies theme studied in class, "Then and Now," and Vermont standards that include studies of family, school, community, and holiday traditions.

**Sleep Deprivation and the Holidays** - With school plays, dance recitals, family commitments, shopping trips and other holiday related activities, many parents and children find themselves overwhelmed during the holidays. When there are never enough hours in the day and over scheduling prevails, excitement and stress may interfere with sleep. A child who does not sleep easily becomes fussy, irritable, perhaps aggressive, and experiences trouble with learning and socializing. To make life merrier for all, limit activities and sweets, eliminate caffeine, and make bedtime a priority.

Continued on page 2

## Dates to Remember

### December 5

**Killington Recreation Holiday Dance**  
@ SES 7—9 pm, 4,5,6th grade

### December 5 & 6

**Free Coats for Kids & Adults**  
See attached flyer

### December 15

**Trailblazer Coach Training**

### December 16

**SES Holiday Program @6:30**

### December 17

**Big Friend/Little Friend Breakfast w/  
Frosty @SES @10:00**

### December 18

**Festival of Trees Musical Performance@  
Killington Grand Hotel @6:00**  
**3rd Grade Store is Open!**

### December 22-January 2

**Holiday Recess/No Classes**

### January 5

**Classes Resume**

## Speed Alert—Please Drive Safely

Our constable, Scott Bigelow, was recently checking speeds on School House Road at the end of the school day. He has asked that SES drivers please slow down. The speed limit on that road is 25. Many cars were driving much too fast.

## Donations Needed for 3rd Grade Store

One more week to clean out your cupboards and donate those treasures to the third grade merchants for their holiday store! Donations of new or gently used jewelry, scarves, pottery, ornaments, candles, toys and general giftware will be collected until 12/12.

The third grade store will be open to SES students for holiday shopping 12/17,18 & 19.

All proceeds go to a local charity chosen by the 3rd grade class. Thank you.

**Continued from page 1**

A well-rested child will continue to benefit from learning at school and is more likely to enjoy the holidays.

**Be Prepared for Inclement Weather** - Recess will take place outdoors most of the time throughout the winter months. Students must come to school with winter weather clothing, boots, and gloves.

**Come One, Come All** - Come to the Sherburne Elementary School annual holiday musical, "Once on a Housetop", on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

Loren M. Pepe, Principal

**News from SES' Japanese Intern**

Hi, my name's Kotaro Nakayama. I'm from Saitama in Japan. I came here to share Japanese culture with you all. Please speak to me anytime. I want you to learn more about Japan. I like cooking, playing the piano, drawing pictures and playing tennis. I can ski but I've never tried snowboarding. So I try it on this occasion. I was an English teacher at a junior high school in Japan. I wanted to see and feel real American life. It was one of my dreams. Now I'm here with lots of gentle and kind teachers, kids and parents. I feel comfortable. I'm preparing activities for you to learn about Japan.

Kotaro Nakayama, Japanese Intern

**Trailblazer Ski/Ride News**

A typical SES Trailblazer Thursday scenario and the routine your child will follow is attached to this newsletter. It should answer many of your questions. The program begins on Thursday, January 15, 2009. All students participating will require a Killington ski pass and equipment for their sport.

If you would like more information, or have concerns regarding purchasing a pass and/or equipment, please call SES and speak to Mrs. Wise, the Trailblazer Coordinator.

An informational ski/ride meeting for students will be held Wednesday, January 14th at 11:30 in the SES gym.

Greg LaBella and Butch Findeisen will be offering a training session for Trailblazer coaches on December 15th.

**Festival of Trees**

The Killington Rotary has extended their invitation to treat SES students to free Santa's Workshop sessions on all three days of the Vermont Holiday Festival. See attached details.

On Thursday, December 18, SES students have once again been invited to sing at the Vermont Holiday Festival at the Killington Grand Hotel. They will be led by music teacher Mrs. Morton, and will perform at 6:00 pm. We ask that families arrive with their children by 5:45 so everyone is ready to sing at 6 sharp. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Should you arrive early you will be treated to performances by:

Rutland Town Chorus	4:00 pm
Christ the King Chorus	4:30 pm
Rutland Town Band	5:00 pm
SES	6:00 pm

The Killington Chamber of Commerce has provided tickets for admission for all SES families. Please remember there will also be a collection of non perishable food for the Rutland Community Cupboard. Visit Santa's workshop, enjoy a sleigh ride and hot chocolate. Cast tickets to vote for your favorite decorated tree including one by SES students and one by VAC preschoolers.