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Wardsboro Update

Dates to Remember

Wednesday, October 5th

Open House

Monday, October 17th

School Pictures

The Principal's Desk Rosemary FitzSimons

We are REALLY happy to have our students back with us. We are also excited that our PreK and new students have adjusted so easily to the new routine. It has been a very sunny beginning after a dreary couple of weeks. Have you heard about Wes, the panther, our new mascot? Thank you to all of you for your patience and understanding with the bus schedule. Please do call with any concerns you may have.

Each family should have received a student handbook this week. Please read over the following sections with your children: ROARS, ROARS on the bus, homework and reading expectations, the Home-School Contract and the Responsibility of Sportmanship Compact. The following information also comes from the handbook. Please review and follow to ensure the safety of all.

Morning & Afternoon

Parent Procedures

It is our goal to ensure that morning entry and afternoon dismissal are safe and timely for our students and families. Our parking

lot can become busy in the morning and at the end of the day making it difficult to see students or cars. This is especially true when the buses are in the parking lot (or attempting to enter or back around to leave). **For the safety of all we request that parents park at the bottom of the hill and then walk up to school during the following times:**

AM - 8:05 - 8:40

PM - 2:40 and 3:10

Connections News:

Connections, our afterschool program begins next week.

OPEN HOUSE is scheduled for Wednesday October 5th. Please feel free to contact us ahead of time with concerns.

Have a great weekend!

Attachments:

- ⇒ FEMA Guide to Disaster Assistance Programs
- ⇒ Flouride Permission Form

School and Activity News—Area Events

Cub Scouts

The first Cub Scout den meeting will be held in early October for all scouts and boys in grades 1- 5 who are interested in joining the Cub Scouts.

Four Winds is an Endangered Species!

Four Winds nature and science class is in need of volunteers for our 1st & 2nd and 3rd & 4th grade classrooms! Please help Four Winds continue! For more information please call Jenn Finaldi at 896-6812.

Band Room Notes

Welcome back to school! I hope you have had a great summer! Lessons will begin as soon as classes begin this September. I would like to meet with **District Band students on Monday, September 26th**, at Townshend Elementary School. We will rehearse from **3:15 until pick-up at 4:15pm**. We will be using the Standard of Excellence lesson book for band rehearsal. Parents are encouraged to carpool to District band. Please pick up your child promptly at 4:15.

The Jazz band will be meeting from 4:15-5 pm. The jazz band requires a commitment to improving as a musician and a soloist. District and Jazz band meet each Monday that school is in session. We do not meet on holidays or snow days.

Several concerts have been scheduled:

Holiday Concert: third week of December

Spring Concert: second week of May

Memorial Day Parade: May 28th, Newfane Common

Pops Concert: June 1st, jazz band only

Instrumental Music Night

The instrument rental night is scheduled for Monday, September 26th, at 6:30 pm, at the Dutton gym. The parents and students who have submitted their instrument surveys will be met by Michael McKinney, Instrumental Music Teacher and representatives from Ellis Music Company of Bethel, VT, to sign contracts and pick up their rental instrument.

Students will receive their first choice unless there has been notification from Mr. McKinney. After introductory remarks, instruments will be handed out in the order of the parents arrival, "first come, first serve".

If you did not receive a survey, check with a school representative.

-Michael McKinney

School and Activity News—Area Events

Help is Available

The Twice Blessed Thrift Shop has received many donations since the flood. If your family is in need of clothing or household items due to the flooding please contact them. They will be happy to help you. Their number is 464-7500. They also may be able to assist you in finding other services.

The Reformer Christmas Stocking provides warm winter coats and boots to children in our area. Information and applications are available in the school office. Deadline for applications is early October.

Disaster Unemployment Assistance. If you have lost work because you were unable to get to work due to road conditions or because your employer was closed due to the disaster, you may be eligible for disaster unemployment assistance. For more information call 1-877-214-3330

Girl Scouts (Grades K-3)

Registration and Parent Meeting will be held
at 6 p.m. on Monday, September, 19th
at the Wardsboro Town Hall

Parents will need to be present to register your child. Registration is \$12.00/yr. Financial Aid is available. Because we are already running behind, this year we are asking that parents complete and turn in the paperwork at registration. This paperwork includes a health history form, so please bring any pertinent information (physician's name and contact information, insurance information, date of last exam, health issues, medication info, etc.) to the meeting. We will also be holding an informational parent meeting and will be handing out and explaining fall product sale information.

We are proud to announce that this year we will be offering Brownie and Daisy Girl Scouts. Brownies Girl Scouts is available for 2nd and 3rd graders and will be led by Virginia Pearson and Kim Lazelle. Daisy's are Kindergarten and 1st graders and will be lead by Melissa Fitzpatrick and Trina Augello. Brownie meetings will be held every Monday from shortly after 3 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. Daisies will meet on Tuesday from shortly after 3 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. Girls will be able to ride the bus to the Wardsboro Town Hall, but will need a note to do so. If there are transportation issues, please let us know. We'll do our best to work something out. We don't want anyone excluded because of transportation.

Religious Education Classes

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Parish in Wilmington Vermont

**SUNDAY: September 18 Classes start
6-7:15 pm Grades 6-10**

**MONDAY: September 19 Classes start
4-5:15 pm Grades 1-5**

Any questions regarding the program, please call Claire Huntley at 464-8339.

Pre-K and Kindergarten News

Mrs. Bates

Welcome to a new school year. We are off to a late but great start in the Pre K/ Kindergarten class. I am really looking forward to getting to know you and your child and making this school year go as smoothly as possible. This week we became familiar with our daily schedule, our classroom jobs, where things are located in the classroom and school, as well as getting familiar with each other. Each day seems to be getting easier for all of us, as we become more familiar and comfortable with the daily routines of going to school.

During our morning choice time children have enjoyed working with puzzles, drawing pictures at the art center, building in our block center, as well as cooking in our classroom "house corner". Both Pre K and Kindergarten students attended "specials" this week. These included Library, P.E., Art and Music. If

your child checked out a book during library class, they are due back to school on Monday. Students are only allowed to check out one book at a time. Also, please make sure that on P.E. days your child wears sneakers so that they are able to participate.

During math time, the kindergartners have been learning how to use different types of math "manipulatives". These include pattern blocks, unifix cubes, dice, counting bears and shape blocks. We also learned several different math games, that we will practice using throughout the school year. Next week we will start our first unit on sorting and classifying. You will receive a parent involvement packet for activities to practice at home next week.

Home folders will be sent home each Friday with your child. In it you will find important communication from myself and the school and any work that your child completed during the

week. Please read through the information sent home carefully as this will serve as our primary form of communication. Also, please send folders back to school on Monday of the next week. I have included a September reading calendar for your student to color in. Each night you read with your child, color in a leaf. At the end of the month, turn in the chart for a prize. As part of their homework, Kindergartners are required to read (or be read to) a minimum of 10 minutes each night. Pre K students are encouraged to participate as well!

If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. You can stop in, e-mail me or call me at my house or at school.

I hope you have a great weekend and I am looking forward to another great week next week. See you on Monday.



First - Second Grade News

FINALLY WE'RE HERE!!! The first and second graders had a great first week. It has been wonderful seeing familiar faces and getting to know the new ones. This week has been all about getting to know each other, becoming familiar with routines, and practicing expectations. We are familiarizing ourselves with the Wardsboro Panther ROARS (Responsible, Owning It, Achieving, Respect, and Safety.) Many students have been receiving stickers to note their success with ROARS throughout the day. Please use

these words at home too, and point out when your child is being responsible, owning it, achieving, being respectful, and safe.

Homework will begin next week. Second graders will begin spelling homework at that time. First graders spelling homework will begin in January. Math homework will begin next week, but may not be every night. HOWEVER, the expectation is that first and second graders read for 15 minutes a night. This may be with or without an adult. It also may include an adult reading to the child, and

Mrs. Parker Jennings (PJ)

discussions about what was read. A weekly reading log will be included in the student's Home/School folder and should be filled and signed nightly. Please keep this in the folders, and at the end of the week I will put it in your child's file. Homework should take no longer than a half hour including the reading. However, if for some reason the homework is unclear or frustrating please write me a note to let me know. Thank you for your support with this.

Third - Fourth Grade News

Dear Third and Fourth Graders and Families,

Welcome back to school! I am so glad to be back, and I am enjoying working with my great class! They have been working very hard to learn the routines and expectations of the classroom. We are going to have a great year!

This week students have practiced reading silently, selecting interesting books, determining if they are at a Just Right level for them, and thinking and talking about their reading. In math they have been practicing setting up papers, organizing information

and completing the beginning of the year Inventory Assessment. We have also begun our first chapters in our text books. Third grade is working on Addition and Subtraction Concepts and Algebra: Use Addition and Subtraction. You will be receiving the Family Involvement Activities packet which shares information about the chapter and the vocabulary your children are using. This may be helpful for completing homework.

I am sending home a yellow Homework Helpers Packet that contains some tools to help with homework. Throughout the year I will be sending home ad-

ditional information to put in this folder. It would be helpful for you and your children if you keep this folder handy and add the new information as it comes home so you can use it when you need it on homework assignments.

Next week on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday the third and fourth graders will be taking the MAPS assessments in the morning. Please help your child to get plenty of rest so that they can do their best work.

Enjoy your weekend!

Mrs. Bills

Fifth - Sixth Grade News

Welcome back to a new school year in grades 5 & 6! We have 19 great students who are all excited to be back at school! We are proud to announce we have a 100% participation rate in completed homework after one week of school! (This first week was light on homework due to MAPs testing, but we are still proud!)

This week we completed our MAPs testing (Measures of Academic Progress) in the areas of math, language usage, and reading. Students who were absent on Wednesday, Thursday, or Fri-

day, will need to make up the missed test(s).

We have started the year reviewing and learning about geography and maps. We have also learned about Roman Numerals and have begun to review basic subtraction with regrouping and multiplication of two and three digit numbers. Our first major science unit will be a study of the solar system. In addition, to that, we will complete a mini-lesson on the causes of hurricanes. (Later in the year we will complete a larger unit of study about weather and extreme weather.) Next week, students will begin summarizing news

Mrs. Shakespeare

articles. On Thursday, students will complete their first oral presentations of their written news article summaries.

Our first read aloud book is, A Wrinkle In Time, by Madeleine L'Engle. This classic novel introduces students to the science fiction genre and involves traveling through time. Next week, students will review basic story elements. We will be learning about the story's highpoint or climax, the conflict, and the resolution.

Next week we will prepare for our first spelling test and first vocabulary quiz!

Have a great weekend!

School and Activity News—Area Events

Mommy's Marketplace
Saturday September 17th 9am-2pm
Route 30 Townshend, Townshend Town Hall

A great place to shop for gently used items for your children for fall & winter. Maternity, nursery, infant to teen items are available. Don't miss the bargains and a chance to stock up on essentials at affordable prices. This event is held in the spring and fall and has generated a loyal following of shoppers and sellers. Questions, call Judy at 802-874-4020.