

Contact Information:

Rosemary FitzSimons, Principal Laura Smith, Administrative Assistant

Main Number - (802) 896-6210

Fax Number - (802) 896-6687

70 School Road, Wardsboro, VT 05355

www.wardsboroschool.org



Wardsboro Update

The Principal's Desk Rosemary FitzSimons

Dates to Remember

Saturday, October 8th
School Club Bake Sale
at 9am on
Town Common

Monday, October 17th
Class Pictures

Tuesday, October 18th
Early Release Day
teacher inservice

Tuesday, October 18th
Flu Immunization
Clinic for students
age 5 and older

Attachments:

None

Thank you to all who made it another successful Open House. Teachers put forth great effort to summarize and prioritize the learning that will take place in their rooms this year. We hope that the information provided will help ensure successful learning takes place. It does take the partnership between teacher – families – students to ensure learning growth. If you were not able to attend, please contact your child/ren's teacher for information. My message was short so that parents could learn more about Connections and Four Winds. I believe that Keighan Chapman will be a great resource in Connections. We are having a successful first session and always are looking for new instructors. I hope that some of you are also able to step forward to support Four Winds as a result of their presentation.

We received the results of the 4th grade Science NECAPs (New England Common Assessment Program) taken last spring. We had 12 students take the assessment with 50% of the

students achieving proficiency or above (level 3 or 4). This was 3% lower than the state average. Our action plan goal was to achieve the state average so we almost reached our goal. We also had 8% of students achieving a distinguished score (level 4). This exceeded the states average of 1% achieving a score of 4. We had no one who was substantially below proficient (level 1) whereas the state average was 11% at level 1. We continue to seek out strategies to improve learning across the curriculum. These tests assess learning from grades PreK-4 and 5-8. Overall, we are pleased with the continued growth shown and will continue to build student skills across the grade levels. Four Winds is a great learning opportunity that supports science inquiry skills so sign up to be a volunteer if you have the time!

Speaking of NECAPs, it is time for students in 3rd-6th grades to take them. As with last year, our focus is on the OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW ALL EACH ONE HAS LEARNED OVER THE LAST YEAR! I once again will meet with

From the Principal's Desk, cont.

all 3-6th graders to set individual goals that will ensure success. For those students in 4-6, I will be challenging them to increase last year's scores by 100 points in math and reading (showing a year's growth). The primary students will be making goody bags to help us think. Next Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 5th and 6th graders will be taking the reading tests. Please ensure your child is well rested, relaxed and eats a healthy breakfast so he or she is prepared to do

his/her best! Mrs. Bills' class will begin their tests the following week.

Math is Everywhere – even in pumpkins! At Open House we held a guess the weight of the pumpkin contest for families. Congratulations to the Hart family for winning the prize by having the closest guess, 12.8 pounds and the pumpkin weighed 12 pounds! The winners won the pumpkin and a special prize to be delivered next week.

School and Activity News—Area Events

Cub Scouts

All boys in grades 1-5 interested in joining Cub Scouts and all returning scouts the first den meeting will be Wednesday, October 12th at 6:00pm at the Wardsboro Town Hall. Bring your completed books!!

School Club Bake Sale

Baked items may be dropped off at the Town Hall on Friday, October 7th from 4-6pm or bring them to the Town Common between 8:30 and 9:00 am on Saturday, October 8th. Bake Sale begins at 9:00 am and will run until items are sold.



Reformer Christmas Stocking

Applications are available in the school office for this program which provides warm outer winter clothing for children ages 0-15. The completed applications must be sent in through the school. The deadline for applications is early October so please pick up and return applications as soon as possible. They **will not** accept late applications so we must mail them early next week.



Pre-K and Kindergarten News

Just a quick note this week to thank all of the families who came to our Open House on Wednesday evening. It was fun to share what we have been doing during the school day. I hope the information was useful and I look forward to the opportunity to meet with everyone individu-

ally about your child's progress in school at Parent Teacher Conferences. This is scheduled on our school calendar for November 10th.

We have been on the lookout around school for signs of fall. We will be starting a "nature" collection of fall items. Over the weekend, have your

child find something from nature that represents fall to add to our collection. This could be an acorn, a leaf, a gourd or small pumpkin, a fall flower, etc.

Have a wonderful fall weekend. See you on Monday.

Mrs. Bates

Third - Fourth Grade News

Dear Third and Fourth Grade Families,

Thank you to all of the parents who attended the Open House on Wednesday! It was great to see you all! Those of you who did not make it please make sure that you look in your child's folder to find the

informational packet that was sent home, as well as a letter from your child. Please use the included blank piece of stationery to write a letter back to your students when you get a chance.

We will be starting our NECAPS Monday, October 17th. Please keep this in mind, and

help your students get plenty of rest and to eat a good breakfast for testing. There will not be any written homework during NECAP testing.

Enjoy your weekend! Don't forget that Wardsboro School will be in session on Monday!

Mrs. Bills

Fifth - Sixth Grade News

This week has been a busy one for writing in the fifth and sixth grade classroom. Students worked on revisions to their first major writing assignment. Each student wrote an essay explaining his or her coat-of-arms created to represent personal choices and beliefs. Each student shared their work which is displayed in the classroom.

In addition to writing, students have been busy getting ready for NECAP tests.

Reading tests will be given on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday of next week, (October 11th, 12th and 14th) During the following week, (October 18-20) NECAP math tests will be given on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. In addition, fifth grade students will take the NECAP writing tests on October 24th and 25th.

The Wardsboro Spelling Team has been working Tuesdays after school to prepare for the WCSU Spelling Bee which

will take place in Newfane, on Thursday, October 13th. Our six team members are: Jillian C, Robert H, Kayla H, Kaie Q, Olivia B, and Elizabeth H. Jacob B is our assistant coach!

I enjoyed meeting parents at the open house on Thursday evening! If you were unable to attend, handouts will be given to your child to deliver to you!

Have a great weekend!

Mrs. Shakespeare

First - Second Grade News

Dear Families,

Thank you to all the families that attended the Open House on Wednesday night. For those families that did not attend, I am sending home the packet of information that you should look over. It contains my expectations, as well as some helpful parent information.

During Writer's Workshop students have been exploring the Ideas Trait. Students understand that ideas come from anywhere; other authors and our own experiences. The first and second graders have been creating Idea Notebooks. These will become a resource for ideas when they are writing. To

Mrs. Parker Jennings (PJ)

help with this I am asking that families send in a few pictures, postcards, etc. that they can keep in their idea notebooks. Every child that brings in at least one idea from home will receive a no homework pass. Thank you for your support with this.

Yours Truly,

Cris PJ