



Contact Information:

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Wardsboro Update

The Principal's Desk Rosemary FitzSimons

Dates to Remember

Thursday & Friday,
November 24th and 25th
Thanksgiving Break

Reminder:
November 23rd is a
make up day

Tuesday, November 29th
Picture Make up Day

Wednesday, December 14th
WCSU Elementary
Band Concert 7:00pm
at L&G

Thursday, December 15th
L&G Winter Concert
7:00pm at L&G

Monday, December 19th
Wardsboro School
Winter Concert
& School Club
Basket Raffle Drawing

Attachments:

- ⇒ Wardsboro Public Library – Open House
- ⇒ Mount Snow Ski/Snowboard Program Info and Forms for ages 7 and up

From the Principal's Desk
Rosemary FitzSimons

We are ending another busy week at WES. The following items will be of interest to you.

- Welcome back to Gwenn Melis
- In case we forgot to tell you, our email addresses have changed – first initial of first name, last name and then @wardsboroschool.org – my email address is rfitzsimons@wardsboroschool.org
- We have a makeup day next Wednesday, November 23rd. There will be one bus run so remember to adjust your child's pickup and drop off times. Our bus driver will begin picking up the south bus students and then pick up the west bus all on one run. At the end of the day he'll go west and then south.
- Knowing that older brothers and sisters will probably be in their pj's as WES students come to school, the student council decided to have a pajama day on Wednesday.
- Because Mike, our bus driver,

will have a little extra time, he has planned a bus evacuation drill for students when they get to school next Wednesday morning.

- No newsletter next week
- Did you know our newsletter is available on www.wardsboroschool.org?
- Our holiday concert is planned for December 19th. Because Miss Becky has only been back a couple of weeks, our concert will be shorter and different this year. All students will learn several songs that will be sung as a whole group. We'll be looking for audience members to join us in song. The sing-along will be followed by the annual basket raffle and then a special seasonal visitor.
- There will be Connections on Tuesday next week but NOT Wednesday.

Volunteers Needed:

Volunteers are needed for our winter sports program that begins January 3rd, the first day back to school in January. The

From the Principal's Desk, cont.

program lasts for five Tuesdays with a make-up day in case of a school closing. Depending on the age and interest students will either go to the Stratton Rec for sledding and other activities or participate in the Mount Snow ski program. If interested in Mt. Snow, read over the materials from Lucas Bates. Notice the deadline for signing up your child/ren. Parent volunteers are needed. In order for us to take advantage of the Stratton Rec center, we need parent volunteers to help out our paras for a couple of hours on winter sports Tuesdays. Please consider volunteering for one or more weeks.

Last but not least, we are thankful for all

who support us in a variety of ways. We appreciate the volunteers that support us in a variety of ways. A special thank you this week to Jen Broussard who has continued to organize the newsletter for us each week. Enjoy the Thanksgiving break with your families. Usually we collect food for the food pantry around Thanksgiving. Due to the flooding, we realize that many of our families are in need so we did not collect this year but may do so later on. ENJOY THE THANKSGIVING BREAK WITH YOUR FAMILIES!

School and Activity News—Area Events

Picture Make Up Day

Our makeup day for school pictures has been changed to Tuesday, November 29. If your child was absent when photos were taken or is having retakes, please call the office and remind us so no one is missed who wanted photos.

Cub Scouts

There will be a Cub Scout Den meeting on Tuesday, November 22 at 6:00pm at the Wardsboro Town Hall.

Cadet Band

Cadet Band will begin on November 16th, from 3-4pm, at Townshend Elementary School. The rehearsal is held upstairs in the gym. First year band students should attend; please bring your instrument and lesson book. Parents are encouraged to carpool and pick their children up promptly at 4 pm. The concert will be held on Wednesday, December 14th, at 7 pm in the Leland and Gray High School Gym.

Jamaica/Wardsboro Community Food Pantry Thanksgiving

The Thanksgiving distribution for the Community Food Pantry will take place on Monday, November 21st at 6:30 PM at the Vestry of the Wardsboro Yoked Parish at 135 Main Street in Wardsboro. Anyone interested in receiving food assistance for the Thanksgiving holiday is asked to sign up by Saturday, November 19th. The special Thanksgiving distribution will include everything necessary for a festive holiday meal.

The Community Food Pantry provides assistance to anyone who asks – no requirements, no questions asked. Our service is confidential, supportive and non-judgmental.

For additional information or to sign up, please call Elaine Beckwith at 874-7234.

Pre-K and Kindergarten News

Dear Pre K and Kindergarten Parents,

We have two new students who have joined our classroom. Welcome to Brookelynn and Landon who received a warm welcome from our Pre K and Kindergarten students. This brings our enrollment to 22 students. I am also pleased to announce that Mrs. Melis, who has been working at Wardsboro School for many years will also be helping in the classroom during the Pre K hours.

We continue to focus much of our morning work on looking closer at letters. This week we used letter cards to make pipe cleaner letters and we also sorted letters by if they were tall, small or had a tail.

Third - Fourth Grade News

This week I have signed up for a membership to SpellingCity.com. This membership has made it so students have their own login, and it saves the student's progress so that I can see what they have been working on. This also allows me to see where students are making progress on their spelling and what areas they may need more work in. Your child's login is stapled inside their homework folder. We will not have regular spelling homework next week be-

cause of the shortened week for Thanksgiving. Pre K students are still practicing how to write their names, using an uppercase letter at the beginning and lower case letters to follow. It would be great if this practice could continue at home as well. After our Thanksgiving break, all students will be writing their names to sign in. Kindergartners have been using what they know about letters to stretch out words and write down each sound that they hear in words.

Our theme is "Long Ago" and we have been comparing how life long ago is much different than life today. One thing that we noticed was that people dressed very differently long ago. At the art center this week we made "colonial kids" with special hats. We will continue this study through the Thanks-

giving break.

Students learned a valuable lesson about how scientists have to sometimes adjust their plans to have an experiment be successful. In math we have continued our work on fractions. This week we are focusing on applying some of our knowledge to problem solving. We have also been practicing adding and subtracting fractions, and working on math computational skills in addition, subtraction and multiplication.

In science we have continued our study of Earth Materials; we started two experiments to show weathering and erosion.

Mrs. Bates

giving break.

Kindergartners have been practicing their counting skills. We finished up our first number unit on numbers 0 – 5. Next week we will begin Chapter 4, which will be a continuation of number concepts, this time focusing on numbers 6 – 10. Another skill that we have been working hard on is writing our numbers correctly and making sure that they are facing in the right direction.

Please remember that library books are due back to school on Monday mornings. Many students are not returning books and are therefore unable to check out another book until they are returned. This includes the periodicals, like Zoo Books.

Mrs. Bills

Students learned a valuable lesson about how scientists have to sometimes adjust their plans to have an experiment be successful.

During literacy we have continued to read our guided reading group books. We have also been practicing writing letters in response to our writing. All students are practicing including much more than just a summary in their writing.

I hope you all have a great weekend!

First - Second Grade News

The first and second graders had a very nice week.

During writer's workshop, we began exploring our second writing trait, organization. Once again, the traits of writing are the qualities that a piece of writing MUST have. Much like a car needing tires, or a bicycle needs pedals. Excellent writing includes a bold beginning, mighty middle, and an excellent ending.

During word work the first graders have been reviewing beginning sounds in words, and how to practice reading and writing high frequency words. The second graders reviewed the magic/silent e at the

ends of words, and what that e does to change the word. Like the first graders, the second graders also reviewed reading and writing high frequency words.

During reader's workshop, students have been reading a variety of genres of books; nonfiction (informational), realistic fiction, poetry, folktales, and fantasy. Students have also been responding to these texts through writing and drawing.

Math workshop has continued with learning and practicing different strategies to help students add quickly in their heads. We have been playing a variety of math games with dice and cards to extend our learning,

Mrs. Parker Jennings (PJ)

while exploring with Cuisenaire rods that model these different strategies in a concrete way.

So far students have learned and practiced the counting on, doubles, doubles+1, and make ten strategies. Students are becoming more fluent in their addition, demonstrated by their Mad Minutes graphs.

Our new theme, Then and Now, is going well. Next week students will be coming home with their first long-term home project of the school year.

I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend.

Fifth - Sixth Grade News

Thank you to all parents who attended parent conferences this week! I have enjoyed meeting with you all!

This week students continued to add to their math vocabulary. We reviewed interior and exterior angles, and we learned about alternate interior angles and alternate exterior angles. Students will be creating small three dimensional models next week to demonstrate their understanding of skew lines and transversals, among other math vocabulary

words related to our study of geometry!

Our guided reading groups are moving full speed ahead. Readers of Brian's Hunt, by Gary Paulsen, finished the novel this week. They will begin a new book on Monday. Those students reading The Forgotten Door, by Alexander Key, and those reading, City of Ember, by Jeanne DuPrau, should be finishing their books during the first week after Thanksgiving.

For read aloud, students are being introduced to various

components of literature through the short story genre. *Hunger*, by Richard Wright, shows how an author powerfully demonstrates character development.

Students will be examining how authors develop characters in other assigned guided reading books and in books they have read independently.

Have a great Thanksgiving next week!

Mrs. Shakespeare

Thanksgiving Cooking Activities for Kids

The following article and related information can be found at: http://kids.lovetoknow.com/wiki/Thanksgiving_Cooking_Activities_for_Kids

Cook with Your Kids

Why should you spend time with your kids in the kitchen? Well, of course, the result of an afternoon of cooking means that you and your family get to eat some yummy treats, and that might be inspiration enough. However, there are many other reasons you should try out Thanksgiving cooking activities for kids.

Quality Time-Spend quality time with your kids by sharing a morning, afternoon, or evening in the kitchen. Don't worry if your recipes don't come out of the oven looking and smelling perfect. The best part of the experience should be the time you spend together, commemorating the holiday and creating more Thanksgiving memories.

New Skills-Did you know your kids can learn a lot from cooking? That's right. Reading recipes, measuring ingredients, and even working the stove are all skills that will stick with your kids forever! Your kitchen becomes a classroom, and you become the teacher. Don't forget to praise successes and smooth over mistakes. Your kids will gain confidence as they become more adept handling that mixer. Who knows? You may have an aspiring chef on your hands.

Opportunities-Preparing a Thanksgiving meal enables the cooks to bless everyone who will eat their food. Let your kids enter into the spirit of giving by encouraging them to cook up edible gifts to give family and friends.

Thanksgiving Cooking Activities for Kids Online

Before you head to the kitchen, be sure you find recipes that are age appropriate for your child. A recipe that is too difficult will only frustrate her and you, and the joyful occasion you could be sharing could end up in tears. Take a look at the ingredients, necessary utensils, and skills needed (such as using a mixer, etc.) before you let your kids attempt a recipe. Once you've found one you like, help your child gather all the ingredients and utensils, including measuring cups, spoons, bowls, etc. The following Thanksgiving cooking activities for kids will get you started. If you have any suggestions you'd like to share, please do so in our comments section.

Family Fun Snacks-This site offers numerous snacks for any occasion, including Aaron's Chip Dip, Awesome Shrimp Roll-ups, Cindy's Stuffed Mushrooms, Glenda's Bread Pudding, and Tomato Bread.

Family Fun Recipes-Here you'll find lots of great kids recipes which all require parental assistance but are sure to be a hit at Thanksgiving, such as Banana Chocolate Muffins, Pineapple Upside-Down Cake, Kids' Bruschetta, and Turtle Bread.

Edible Thanksgiving Turkeys- These simple yet sweet confections, made to look like miniature turkeys and crafted from stuffed Oreos, candy corn and chocolate-covered raisins, are a delightful way to reserve a special place for each of your guests at the holiday table. Ingredients include two Double Stuff Oreos, candy corn, and raisinettes.

Kids Thanksgiving Recipes-You can make the whole Thanksgiving meal with your kids by using some of the recipes found on this site, such as homemade bread dough, snack mix recipe, mini pies, relish tray, turkey hand print cookies, fruit loop apple turkey, Pilgrim hats, Indian corn cakes, turkey sweet potato soup, turkey panini, and barbeque turkey rolls.

Learning Haven-Try out these recipes with your kids. They include Turtle Candies, Orange Eggnog Float, and Lincoln's Favorite Cake. You'll also find lots of other great recipes for a variety of holidays. You can cook up a storm with your kids all year long!

Crafters Community-Plenty of holiday and seasonal recipes can be found at this site, along with food gift suggestions and more.

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