

SMITH TIMES

Friday, January 10, 2014

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The Principal's Corner



Happy New Year! I hope this new year is off to a great start for all the members of your family. We are so fortunate to have the school community we do here at C.P. Smith: caring parents, dedicated teachers, and wonderful students.

In our last newsletter, I inadvertently omitted the name of Ms. Karen Mitchell-Ruben, who was instrumental in organizing and staffing our recent Kids Only Shopping Extravaganza. Ms. Mitchell-Ruben is active in so many ways at our school, and I apologize for that error.

We were pleased to host some members of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra for a series of musical workshops with several classes today. They will return at a later date to meet with other classes. We are always pleased to connect our students with the fine arts and are so thankful to the P.T.O. for helping to make available to our students upcoming workshops with the Flynn Theater and Burlington Taiko, a local organizations of drummers well-known to schools throughout the area for their wonderful work with children.

We are excited to announce that our annual International Celebration Dinner will take place on Wednesday, January 22nd from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the school. We are inviting those who attend to bring a dinner or dessert item that represents a country or culture to help us celebrate the delicious diversity among us. Please label the food item you bring with the name of the item and the country or culture it represents. We will have a special table in the lobby for you to drop off and label your items as you arrive. The items will then be placed on the main serving line by members of the Family-School Partnership Team, who are hosting the event. Please refer to the article in this newsletter for more information about this event. Please plan to join us!

A total of 135 postcards have been mailed on behalf of students who are respectful, responsible, and safe

learners. We seek ways to recognize positive student behavior in order to reinforce it.

Thank you for all you do to make our school a community of respectful, responsible, and safe learners.

News from Around the School



Mrs. Christine Tetrault's Kindergarten class has been having wonderful Morning Meetings! They greet each other by tossing a ball and by reading name cards. They also count how many people are at school each day. They also play category games at Morning Meetings and solve Math word problems.

Mrs. Carolyn Pallutto's Grade 1 students are finishing their Moon Reports. Their new writing focus will be Opinion Writing. They are listening to stories about people's opinions and learning what the word "opinion" means. They are also learning to count by patterns, such as 3,13,23,33, 43, etc . . .

The Grade 3 classrooms of Mrs. Nicole Bahrenburg, Ms. Kim Brockway, and Mrs. Kelly Mancuso are happy to have 6 new iPads in each of their rooms. These teachers are enrolled in a technology course which promotes student learning through enhanced use of technology. The Grade 3 classes have also begun an I-Block intervention and enrichment time on Friday afternoons. All Grade 3 students are grouped and placed together to work on specific Math skills. These groups will change every 5-6 weeks as the needs of the groups change.

Supplemental Educational Services: January Enrollment

The federal *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB) requires us to notify parents of all students at the following schools that these schools are required to provide **Supplemental Educational Services** – extra academic assistance/tutoring to improve eligible students’ academic performance – free of charge:

Burlington High School
Edmunds Middle School
Lyman C. Hunt Middle School
J.J. Flynn Elementary
Integrated Arts Academy
C. P. Smith Elementary School
Sustainability Academy

Eligibility: Only children who are eligible for free and reduced-price federal meals can participate.

Parents choose Service Providers: If you wish to have your child receive tutoring from one of the Vermont Department of Education approved Service Providers.

Application deadline: If you decide you want to enroll your student in the Supplemental Educational Services program, you must submit the application to your school’s Principal by **January 23, 2014** **If you have already applied this school year, you do not need to reapply.** Your child’s application will be automatically reconsidered for the January openings.

Limited services available: Only a limited number of spaces are available. As a result, we will not be able to enroll every child whose parent applies.

Calendar of Events



1/13: P.T.O. Meeting
(6:30-8:00 p.m.) -- Library

1/20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)

1/22: International Potluck Dinner (5:30-7:00 p.m.)

1/31: Smith School Community Coffee Hour/
Title I Meeting (8:15-9:15 a.m.)
-- Front Lobby

2/13: Performance of “Frankenstein” for
Students (TBD) -- Hunt Middle School

2/14: Evening Performance of
“Frankenstein” (TBD) -- HMS

2/15: Matinee Performance of
“Frankenstein” (TBD) -- HMS

2/21: Second Trimester Report Cards
Distributed

3/27 – 3/28: Parent-Teacher Conferences
(Conferences may be scheduled at other times
this week).

Messages from Ms. Souliere



Please send sneakers in everyday. Several students are not bringing sneakers for PE classes. It is much more healthy for children to wear sneakers rather than heavy hot boots all day.



Walking Wednesday will be weather permitting only until Spring. Please do not walk in frigid cold temperatures unless your child is dressed appropriately.

Happy New Year!
Ms. Souliere

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parents and Community Members,

As it is essential that we provide every student with a safe learning environment that allows them to be successful in their education, we launched a survey in January, 2013 asking you to weigh in on the important topics surrounding school safety. The survey helped us to identify procedural and facilities improvements and your feedback assisted us in executing critical changes over the last several months to increase safety in our schools.

Based on survey results, one of our primary goals was to enhance security protocols throughout the District. This included:

Champlain Elementary: planned installation of front entrance camera, main office door release, and intercom.

Edmunds Elementary: reconfiguration of main entrance and installation of main office door release.

Flynn Elementary: installation of front entrance camera and main office door release, as well as the planned installation of five additional perimeter cameras.

Integrated Arts Academy: installation of front entrance camera, main office door release, and intercom.

Smith Elementary: installation of front entrance camera, main office door release, and intercom.

Edmunds Middle: planned installation of front entrance camera, main office door release, and intercom.

Hunt Middle: installation of front entrance camera, main office door release, and intercom.

Burlington High: installation of card access system, primarily in the courtyard area.

Burlington Technical Center: installation of camera at rear entrance, door release, intercom

We continue to enforce the District-wide policy requiring all guests to first check-in at the main office of the school they are visiting. In addition, Fire Marshal Barry J. Simays recently completed an external facilities audit of our buildings. We scored well overall, and have issued work orders to address minor violations. An internal audit is currently in progress.

We have a vision to prepare every student for college and career readiness and we strive to create an educational climate that is safe and nurturing. Our partnership with the community has enabled us to make significant progress towards this vision and your continued support of these improvements is deeply appreciated. This ongoing collaboration will ensure that every student has the necessary resources and support to achieve their highest intellectual and personal potential.

Sincerely,
Jeanné Collins, Superintendent