

SMITH TIMES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Volume 24, Number 3

The Principal's Corner

Greetings!

It's time to start scheduling our semi-annual Parent-Teacher Conferences., which will be held in early October. (A letter about the registration process was sent home with students on Friday, September 11th. Additional copies of that letter can be found in the information kiosk in the lobby.) We are eager to support you however we can in this process. Please call the school (at 864-8479) or visit our library during one of the designated times if you wish to sign up for conferences using one of our school's computers.

During the month of September, I am asking students to come and show me the books they have finished reading, so I can talk to them about their books. They will earn one ticket for each book they have read and shown me. The person holding the winning ticket will earn a \$25.00 gift certificate to The Bagel Café.

We have received our school's results for the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (S.B.A.C.) tests which were administered last spring. Thousands of schools across the country also administered these tests to students in Grades 3-8 and 11. These tests replaced the New England Common Assessment Program (N.E.C.A.P.) tests which had been given for many years. The S.B.A.C. tests were administered to Smith School students in Grades 3-5 and measured academic achievement in English/Language Arts and Mathematics. Each student's test scores will soon be mailed home to her/his parent/guardian with further information about the assessments. If your child was in Grade 3,4, or 5 at Smith School last year, you will receive this information within the next week. If you do not receive it, please contact me at the school (864-8479). Further information about our school's scores—and those of the Burlington School District and state as a whole—will be included in next week's newsletter, as well as what we as a school are doing to raise students' achievement in Math and Literacy.



We are seeking volunteers to help out in our cafeteria at least once a week during the lunch periods (11:40 a.m.-12:05 p.m. for Grades K-2 and 12:05-12:30 p.m. for Grades 3-5). Volunteers assist students in lining up, making healthy food and portion choices at the salad bar, and in composting their leftover food scraps. If you can help with this, please call me at the school. Thank you!

Thanks for all you are doing—and will do—to make our school community one of safety, respect, and responsibility for all who come through our doors.

Calendar of Events



9/17: General Registration Begins for Parent-Teacher Conferences

9/23: Yom Kippur (No school)

9/25: Community Connection Breakfast (8:00 a.m.) -- Lobby

9/30: School Picture Day

10/7: Walk to School Day

10/8 – 10/9: Parent-Teacher Conferences (Some may be on 10/6, 10/7, or 10/13)

10/12: Columbus Day Holiday (No school)

News from Around the School



Mrs. Shelley Spinner's Grade 1 students are learning who they are as readers: talking about their favorite books, places to read, people to read with, and times of day to read. Students now begin their afternoons by listening to Mrs. Spinner read to them from Charlotte's Web.

Mrs. Spinner's students and also those in Mrs. Lynn Slack's Grade 1 class visited Chapin's Orchards this week.

Mrs. Kelly Mancuso's Grade 3 students are settling into classroom routines and focusing on building a learning community within their classroom. They have been collecting data and creating various graphs with that information. Each student also has received his/her own Writer's Notebook. They have been decorating their notebooks and writing in them.

Mrs. Mancuso's students and also those in Mrs. Nicole Bahrenburg's and Mr. Josh Safran's Grade 3 classes visited Mt. Philo this week.

Have you noticed the wonderful bulletin boards created by our Art teacher, Ms. Sandy Hawkes? If not, please come take a look.

From the Health Office



Happy new year!

Would you kindly look for the bright orange Emergency Form which was mailed to you in August for completion.

I would appreciate getting those returned to the health office.

Many Thanks!

Walk to School Day

On October 7th, C.P. Smith is participating in Walk to School Day. Join children and adults around the world to celebrate the benefits of walking and bicycling. Walk or ride your bike to school—parents/guardians are encouraged to walk with students, and parking and walking is encouraged, too, for those of you who live a bit further away.



Come Celebrate The Language and Culture of Burundi

The Heritage Learning Program of Vermont welcomes all families to our 2015/2016 school year. We invite parents and students back and welcome new families to our Saturday program.

Time: 9:30—12:45

Location: Burlington High School C building

Kirundi, French, cultural topics and math tutoring are scheduled during the morning with a snack and lunch provided free.

For more information please call:
Aline Mukiza at 802-316-1446,
Veronica Bernicke at 802-777-9998 or
email at abarundivt@yahoo.com.