

# SMITH TIMES

Friday, September 27, 2013

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## The Principal's Corner

The Burlington Board of School Commissioners asks each school principal to share with them some of the Hallmarks of Excellence about their school . . . things they are proud of and that make their school special. I am always quick to respond with documentation of exemplary classroom teaching, programs promoting cultural competence such as Tapestry of Nations, our International Celebration, Celebrations around the World concerts, and special events reinforcing the curriculum, such as Math Night, our Science Fair, and annual play. Another Hallmark of Excellence for our school is our commitment to wellness: a stellar Physical Education program, participation in Safe Routes to School activities, top-notch nursing services, and a delicious and nutritious meal and snack program, to name a few. Our staff members strive to implement the Burlington School District's Wellness Policy and look for ways to go above and beyond the call of duty to make sure students are happy and healthy and also caring and bright learners and citizens. In an effort to provide children with more time for exercise and fresh air, several teachers are now in the process of organizing before-school wellness (recess) opportunities for students. We'll have more information as specifics plans are made, but I want to thank teachers for coming together to meet a wellness need for our children.

Speaking of Math Night, this event is scheduled for Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the school. If you would like to volunteer by planning and/or running a Math activity station, would you let me know? I will then put you in touch with those planning the event. You can call me at 864-8479 or email me at [tfleury@bsdvt.org](mailto:tfleury@bsdvt.org). Thank you! Math Nights are fun, educational, and well-attended events for our whole school community.

Our Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon and all

day on Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. School will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. on that Thursday (lunch will be served as a "grab and go" for students), and there will be no school on the following day, so that conferences may be scheduled throughout the day. Mrs. Tina Desautels, our Administrative Assistant, is working hard to prepare the conference schedule. If you have any questions about your scheduled appointment(s), please contact her at 864-8479 or [tdesaute@bsdvt.org](mailto:tdesaute@bsdvt.org).

Our school is in need of additional substitutes for classroom teachers and para-educators. We hire all our substitutes through Kelly Services. Please contact Mrs. Desautels for more information about the application process for substitute teachers.

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

## Supporting Hike for Hunger

Each year school and community groups learn about the issue of hunger and malnutrition in Vermont and raise funds for solutions while also taking part in a hike. As part of this campaign, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at C.P. Smith will be hiking Camel's Hump on Friday October 11<sup>th</sup> and collecting donations of nonperishable goods. We will have a box set up in the lobby where donations can be made starting Monday September 30<sup>th</sup> until Friday October 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you in advance for your support!



## Calendar of Events



**10/7:** PTO Meeting (6:30-8:00 p.m.) --  
Library. (Note change of date from 10/9)

**10/17:** Parent-Teacher Conferences (School  
will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m.)

**10/18:** Parent-Teacher Conferences (No  
School)

**10/21 – 10/25:** Book Fair

**11/8:** First Trimester Marking Period Closes

**11/15:** Report Cards Distributed to Students

## Walking Wednesday Information

Our Fifth Grade Walking Leaders will now be wearing bright colored walking vest on Wednesdays so others can see them and walk to school with them if it works for you. They will be walking from several directions. Ethan Allen Park, James Avenue, Goss Court, Farrington Parkway. It has been so terrific seeing lots of students and families walking and biking to school together. Keep up the great work!



## C.P. Smith Annual Fall/Gift Wrap Fundraiser Starting



Our C.P. Smith annual Fall/Gift wrap fundraiser is starting. This year we will be working with a new local company called Genevieve's. Our fundraiser will run from 9/19- 10/7. All proceeds from the fundraiser will go to the

C.P. Smith PTO to help support the programs that the PTO provides in the classroom/school. Through this fundraiser you will be able to purchase gift wrap, as usual, and there are also many other products offered through Genevieve's. Also, through this fundraiser you will have the ability to purchase your holiday photo cards! Families, friends, and relatives can participate in the fundraiser 2 ways, by ordering directly from you or by ordering online. Ordering information is included in the packet. This is one of our biggest fundraisers and we hope that you will join us in supporting the C.P. Smith PTO and our school. A permission slip has been sent home with each student. If you would like to participate in the fundraiser please return a signed permission slip or you can email me directly. When that is complete a fundraising packet will be sent home with your student. If you are not interested in participating but would like to support the C.P. Smith PTO, please consider a one time monetary donation. If you have any questions please contact me directly at [jlecuyer7@gmail.com](mailto:jlecuyer7@gmail.com) or by calling 660-9669.

Thank you - Jennifer L'Ecuyer, C.P. Smith PTO President

## News From Around the School



Mrs. Christine Tetrault's Kindergarten students are learning how to greet each other politely during their Morning Meetings. They are also learning songs and poems, as well as letter names and sounds.

Mrs. Carol McHugh's Grade 1 students are learning about each other and the story behind their names.

Mrs. Kelly Mancuso's Grade 3 students have been collecting Math data and creating graphs. Other Math concepts they're working on are computation, algebraic thinking, and probability. They have also been writing "Important Thing" papers and drawing self-portraits to go with their writing. They have begun reading a book entitled, Surviving Brick Johnson, which is about a boy experiencing bullying at the school. The book also addresses stereotypes and showing respect.

Mr. Pecor's Grade 4 students and Ms. Minkler's and Mr. Safran's Grades 4-5 students are participating in fieldtrips to the Community Sailing Center to gain hands-on knowledge about Science.