

SMITH TIMES

Friday, October 26, 2012

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The Principal's Corner

Thanks to parents/guardians and teachers for making our first Parent-Teacher Conferences go so well. A few are still being conducted for those not able to attend them last week, so we won't know exact participation numbers for another week or so. People shared with me that they appreciated these opportunities for ongoing connection between home and school.



Our dedicated and wonderful P.T.O is hard at work making this week's Book Fair and this evening's Family Fun Night such wonderful gatherings for our school community. Please come join us tonight!

The dedicated Math Night Committee is hard at work planning another opportunity for fun and learning to connect. It's also a great way for families to get together. Please join us for that on Thursday, November 15th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the school.

Some students from the University of Vermont will be sponsoring an Anthropology Club for students in Grades 4 and 5 who wish to learn more about the history and science of humankind. We thank a parent (who is a member of the faculty at U.V.M.) for being the inspiration behind this. The club will be held each Monday afternoon from 2:45-3:45 p.m. at the school during the month of November. Information will be sent home today (with a permission slip attached) with students in those grades.

Thank you for your donations of nonperishable food items for our Full Bag Pantry, which will be open on Friday afternoons again soon. (Please see the attachment for more information and ways you can support this community effort.)

Please consult the Calendar of Events for other

important activities related to our school community.

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

Calendar of Events



10/22 – 10/26: Book Fair

10/26: Family Fun Night
(6:00-8:00 p.m.) -- Gym

11/1: Picture Re-Take Day

11/6: Early Release Day for Teacher Inservice
(School will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m.)

11/7: Family-School Partnership Team Meeting
(3:00 p.m.) -- Principal's Office

11/9: First Trimester Ends. (Report Cards distributed 11/16.)

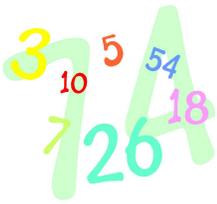
11/9: Full Bag Pantry (Details to follow in an upcoming newsletter.)

11/12: PTO Meeting (6:30-8:00 p.m.) -- Ellie B. McNamara Memorial Library

11/15: Math Night (6:30-7:30 p.m.)

11/16: Report Cards Distributed to Students

11/21, 11/22, and 11/23: Thanksgiving Recess
(No School)



Math Night

Save the date for the 2012-2013 C.P. Smith Math Night, Thursday, November 15th, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Join us for a family-oriented evening of fun for all ages. Math Night features a number of stations, run by teacher, parent, and student volunteers. Each station focuses on a game, puzzle, or other activity that celebrates mathematics.

This is also a call for people to help make the night a success! Run a math station, help greet visitors, or just bring the family. To volunteer, sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/9ya3dgh>, or contact parent Alex Reutter (alex.reutter@gmail.com or 999-9075) for more information.

Mrs. Kissell's Class News

Mrs. Kissell's second grade students just completed a unit on Sea Shells. Students began the unit by sharing what they already knew about shells. They then read books, researched and learned about two classes of shells- univalves and bivalves. After sorting and identifying hundreds, probably closer to thousands, of shells, they were ready to make collections. They made three collections and the requirements included being able to identify whether the shells were univalves or bivalves and name them. One collection contained mini shells with beach sand in a tiny Altoid case.

The students also created a PowerPoint presentation called "If you find a Shell". It was based on the book If you find a Rock by Peggy Christian. They all made their own page and parents were able to watch it on conference days. A class book was also written with each child telling about their favorite shell.

The final project was to turn the classroom into a "Shell Museum"! Students from first and second grade visited, asked questions and saw all the beautiful shells. Over 80 visitors came and they were impressed by how much the students knew. Now that the unit is completed many of the students plan to continue to collect shells.

We would like to thank three people - Mrs. Karen Lawrence, a former C.P. Smith parent and community member for her help in identifying and making our collections, as well as for all the thousands of shells she has given us over the years. Mrs. Springer for her help with the PowerPoint slide show and Mrs. Haskins for all her help throughout this unit. Happy shelling.



Re-Take Day Scheduled for November 1st



We have scheduled with the firm which conducts our students' portrait sessions a time for them to return and do re-takes and also take the pictures of students who were absent on the original School Picture Day. Re-take Day will be Thursday, November 1st at the school. Please contact the school with any questions or concerns about your children's pictures or your orders for them. Thank you