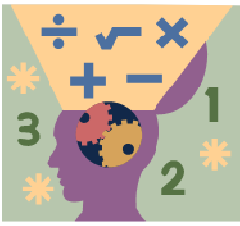


SMITH TIMES

Friday, December 6, 2013

Volume 22, Number 14

The Principal's Corner



Our annual Math Night was a huge success! Many thanks to Mr. Neil Delaney, who coordinated the event, and to all our parent, teacher, and community volunteers (including those from B.H.S.)

who also provided lots of support. Well over 150 people attended the event . . . a record turnout. It was great to feel the energy and anticipation as people arrived and hear the great conversations about Math as people left. Our Family-School Partnership Team (FSPT) distributed a survey about possible upcoming Math and Science activities and events, which we're also including as an attachment in this week's newsletter. We invite you to complete and return this survey as soon as possible, so we can read and reflect on your feedback and continue working on great academic extensions in the important areas of Math and Science. Thanks again to Mr. Delaney and all our wonderful Math Night helpers for a job very, very well done!

You will notice in our lobby—and soon in our classrooms—a very informative and attractive poster clearly stating our district's and our school's mission and goals. It reads, "*The mission of the Burlington School District is to ensure that all students achieve their highest intellectual and personal potential and are prepared to contribute as global citizens in the 21st century. C.P. Smith School is dedicated to increasing student achievement. We will provide all children with rigorous curriculum and learning opportunities. Through these efforts, we will close the achievement gap in Math and Literacy.*" Our Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) meet weekly to follow this mission and meet these goals.

Here is some updated information about our school play, "Frankenstein," which will be presented in February. Auditions will begin next week, and rehearsals for the play will begin right after we come back from vacation in January and will be held after school **on Mondays and Fridays from 3:00-4:30 p.m. and Wednesdays from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Rehearsals will take place in two 45-minute blocks, but play participants may remain for the full 90-minute rehearsal periods and will be**

supervised throughout those times. Depending on the part a student gets, s/he may not be called to rehearsal each day. Rehearsal schedules will be communicated to families in advance. (Please note change of rehearsal times from those written in our last newsletter.) The Burlington Kids Afterschool Program (B.K.A.S.P.) will be sponsoring the play, **but students do not have to be enrolled in that program in order to participate in the play. Play participants may show up at rehearsal time and not participate in the B.K.A.S.P. at all. The program and the Very Merry Theatre--which is coordinating the play--will provide supervision to all play participants during each full 90-minute rehearsal session (as described above), unless parents/guardians wish to drop off and/or pick up their children at the beginning and end of their specific rehearsal blocks. Parents/guardians of play participants—whether in the cast or on the crew—will be asked to provide emergency contact information for their children. It is not a registration for program activities other than the play, and there is no charge for the afternoon supervision or snacks provided, thanks to the generosity of the Burlington Kids Afterschool Program and the Very Merry Theatre.** Play participation (cast or crew) will be open to students in all grades. **For more information about the play, please contact either Mrs. Dacia Ostlund or Mr. Eli Phillips at the school at 864-8479.**

Our school is once again collecting donations of new toys as part of the Toys for Kids program, which collects new, unwrapped toys for children who need them. If you wish to donate, please place items in the bin for this purpose in the main office.

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.

Calendar of Events



12/9: Kids Only Shopping Extravaganza

12/9 – 12/13: Rehearsals for “Frankenstein” Begin This Week

12/11: P.T.O. Meeting (6:30-8:00 p.m.)

12/13: Celebrations Around the World Performance (1:30-2:30 p.m.)

12/20: Last Day of School Before Holiday Vacation

1/2/14: Students Return to School from Vacation

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



Therapy Dogs of VT are coming back to C.P. Smith

Your family will receive a letter explaining the visits from the Therapy Dogs of Vermont within the next week. Last year we were lucky enough to have multiple visits from some of these very special dogs. Our hope is to start these monthly visits again in January. Your child(ren) may only participate if they have been given permission by you and we have the signed permission slip that is attached to the bottom of the letter. Please return it as soon as possible. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at kguilmet@bsdvt.org or 864-8504.

Celebrations Around the World

The students have been working hard at learning songs from celebrations around the world. You are invited to see the result of their hard work at a concert on December 13th from 1:30-2:30 in the gym. You will enjoy hearing songs from Tet Trung Thu, Christmas, Hannukah, The African Yam Festival, Loy Krathong, and Kwanzaa. Please support the students and join us for this concert!

Estimation Jars at Math Night

The results are in! Winners were [randomly drawn](#) from among all estimates within a certain range of the actual amount of candies.

Small Jar of Lime Jellybeans

Actual number: 102

Acceptable range: 72 to 132

Winner: Elliott Fontaine, Harvey's class.



Medium Jar of Lime Jellybeans (twice the number as in the small jar)

Actual number: 204

Acceptable range: 164 to 244

Winner: Chris Gilmond, Pecor's class.



Large Jar of Rollos (the same number as in the medium jar)

Actual number: 204

Acceptable range: 164 to 244

Winner: Tamara Dumas, Bahrenburg's class.

Congratulations to our winners and all those who worked on their estimation skills at Math Night!

Your Holiday Shopping Can Earn C.P. Smith Money

Did you know you can earn money for C.P. Smith just by shopping sites you already shop? There are two easy ways:

The first is through **Amazon.com**. If you access the Amazon site through the PTO blog then any purchases made will have a percentage of the purchase go straight to the PTO. You have to access the site through the blog each time.

The second way is through “**e BoxTops**”. There are over 400 stores included in this site, such as, expedia, Gap, iTunes, etc. You just need to enroll. Again, you can access the site through the PTO blog. It's easy! Planning a vacation? Try making reservations through this site. These funds are used to support extra events and programs at Smith!