

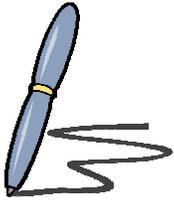
SMITH TIMES

Friday, December 18, 2015

Volume 24, Number 15

The Principal's Corner

Greetings!



Our recent residency with local poet Ted Scheu was an amazing success. Mr. Scheu participated in a whole school assembly and then met with each class around a specific theme, such as “Rhyme and Rhythm,” “Writing from the Heart,” “Sensory Comparisons,” and “Process and Revision.” I attended several of his sessions and found them educational, entertaining, and engaging. Many thanks to our P.T.O. for sponsoring his residency, as we strive to nurture creative writers at our school.

We’re working hard to enhance our students’ experience in Literacy in as many ways as we can. Teachers are receiving professional development to implement new Reading units and conduct grade-level meetings with colleagues and administrators to review student performance data to boost interventions for those not meeting or nearly meeting the standard. Our school—and other elementary schools across the city—are participating in a study project to enhance Grades 4 and 5 students’ silent reading strategies. My visits to classrooms have a Literacy focus, as I observe and support research-based instruction in this vital area across grade levels. We held a “Book Club,” as we individually read chapters of a book about Literacy instruction for English Language Learners and then met to discuss what we read. Students have also read and discussed with me hundreds of books for which they earn “Reading tickets” as part of a drawing for a prize, as an incentive to keep reading and reading. Students have also picked up several hundred books from our

Free Book Table to read and keep for their very own. The Community Readers Program—which was begun last year in Kindergarten and Grade 1—will begin again after the first of the year. This wonderful program unites emerging readers and community volunteers for a special connection with sharing books as its focus.

I wish to extend my best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday season to you and all the members of your family. Our last day of school before vacation will be Tuesday, December 22nd, which will be a full day, meaning that dismissal will take place at 2:50 p.m. This, however, will be our last newsletter of the calendar year, and I look forward to working with your family as 2016 arrives. What a joy it is to be associated with you! I wish to express my sincere thanks to Karen Ruben and Sue Chayer and all the members of our wonderful P.T.O. group for all they do each and every day to support our school community.

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.



News from Around the School



Mrs. Brittany Young's Grade 2 students recently visited the Heineberg Senior and Community Center to perform a play that recognizes holidays around the world. Each student spoke on

behalf of a country, and the class sang three songs as part of their presentation. Today, they put on the play at school for parents, guardians, and other family members.

Mrs. Nicole Bahrenburg's, Mrs. Kelly Mancuso's, and Mr. Josh Safran's Grade 3 students participated in a fieldtrip to the E.C.H.O. Center today.

Mrs. Danielle Hurley, our Music Teacher, is preparing our annual school concert for March, which is Music in our Schools Month across the nation. We will hold our annual holiday sing-along on Tuesday, December 22nd at 2:00 p.m. in the gym. Please join us if you wish!

Each winter, we open our gym on Saturday mornings for families to use together. Look for this to begin on Saturday, January 9th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Many thanks to the family members (who wish to remain anonymous) for generously purchasing us a new school flag. We will begin flying our new flag after vacation.

In addition to fulfilling their other professional responsibilities, each Smith School teacher serves on a committee to advance the work of our school. These committees are Equity Council (to help us raise our individual and collective cultural competence), Family-School Partnership (to remove participation barriers that may exist for families), Local Standards Board (to support teachers with their relicensing), Parent-Teacher Organization (to serve as liaisons with the P.T.O.), School Climate (to review student discipline data and implement the school's Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports action plan), School Leadership Team (to oversee the school's action plan and the work of grade-level Professional Learning Communities or P.L.C.s, which meet each Wednesday), and Sunshine (to plan social events and provide support to teachers who are ill, retiring, having children, or have had deaths in their families, etc . . .).

Greetings from the Health Office

Over the years, my family and I have collected all shampoos and soaps from any trips and hotel stays we have had. I keep them in my office to give to children who seem to need these things.

It has occurred to me that I could ask staff and families to send in their hotel size shampoos and rinses and soaps--doing this on a wider scale, if folks are in agreement.

Let me know what folks think!

Thank you in anticipation of your help with this!



Calendar of Events



12/22: Annual School Sing-Along
(2:00 p.m.) -- Gym

12/23 – 1/1: Holiday Vacation (No school)

1/4: First Day of School After Holiday Vacation

1/9: Open Gym Time for Families
(11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)

1/11: P.T.O. Meeting (5:30-7:00 p.m.)
-- Library

1/15: P.T.O. Movie Night (6:30 p.m.)

1/18: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
(No school)

1/28: International Dinner (5:30-7:00 p.m.)

1/29: Annual Title I Meeting (8:00 a.m.)
-- Library



2016

Burlington School District
Pre-K-8 Lunch Menu



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 Chicken Nuggets Sweet Potato Fries	5 PIZZA DAY! Cheese, Turkey Pepperoni or Veggie	6 Chicken or Bean Fajita with Lettuce, Cheese, Sour Cream, Salsa, Rice	7 Baked Ziti Mediterranean Vegetables	8 Meatball Sub Roasted Roots
11 Chicken Patty Sandwich Baked Potato	12 PIZZA DAY! Cheese, Turkey-Pepperoni or Veggie	13 Beef or Bean Nachos with Lettuce, Cheese, Sour Cream, Salsa, Rice	14 Spaghetti & Meatballs Broccoli	15 Chicken & Biscuits Green Peas
18 MLK HOLIDAY NO CLASSES	19 PIZZA DAY! Cheese, Turkey-Pepperoni or Veggie <i>(NO CLASSES for IAA & SA)</i>	20 Sloppy Joe on a Roll Roasted Roots	21 Chicken & Noodles Roasted Carrots	22 Cheesy Breadsticks with Marinara Sauce Cauliflower
25 Chicken Nuggets Sweet Potato Fries	26 PIZZA DAY! Cheese, Turkey-Pepperoni or Veggie	27 Beef or Bean Taco with Lettuce, Cheese, Sour Cream, Salsa, Rice	28 American Goulash (Pasta with Tomato-Meat Sauce) Roasted Broccoli	29 All Beef Hot Dog Baked Beans

Available with
Every Lunch

Local Vermont Milk
1% White Milk
Fat Free White Milk
Fat Free Chocolate Milk

Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar

Soup-of-the-Day

Vegetarian options are
available every day.



Our Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar features an ever-changing assortment of fruit, vegetables, whole grains, beans, homemade salads, meat, cheese and dairy selections!

Menu items are subject to change without notice. We offer a variety of choices every day.
For more information, please contact us at 864-8416 or schoolfood@bsdvt.org.
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