

SCS News

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May 2019

Principal's Corner

Another incredible year is coming to a close, leaving our minds and hearts spilling over with bittersweet happiness as we proudly (but not necessarily wanting to) send off yet another group of “our kids.” It’s been a great year—what a school we are! Together, we have learned and shared experiences that will long remain with us in the years to come. It never ceases to amaze me how strong and close-knit our community school is. Together, once again, we have come together to contribute to the success of the children here at SCS with wholehearted passion for their well-being and best interests.

Thank YOU for your contributions! Your continued efforts show and provide support for your children. Your attendance at family nights, school meetings, committee meetings, the sharing of your talents, providing for a variety of events, fundraising, brainstorming, supporting our work in countless ways, and providing the resources help us do what we dream and know is good for children is so greatly appreciated. Thank you for getting your children to school on time each day, for kind notes of encouragement that mean so much, for sending your kids with healthy lunches obviously packed with love, for making sure homework gets done...and turned in. Thank you for providing rich and engaging experiences for your children and knowing that education is about joy, wonder, and fostering curiosity, along with the development of social skills needed to succeed. Thank you for placing your trust and support in the staff who works so diligently and tirelessly to provide all they can for these students day after day. For these, and a million other things, we are truly grateful. We sure do make quite a team!

Wishing you all a memorable & relaxing summer! ☺

Mrs. Mathieu



April Students of the Month

*Brooke Brochu, Catherine Joos, Sam Thomas,
Kody Edwards, Kyra Chilafoe, Joseph Noyes,
Adelle Pettit, Kaedyn Covell, Sean Warren*



Mark your calendars

Grade 8 Graduation~

Thursday, June 13th @ 5:00 PM

Last Day of School~

Friday, June 14th @ Noon

10 AM~ Kindergarten Graduation

11:30 AM~ Whole-School Awards

12:00 PM~ Dismissal

News from Pre-K / K

Once upon a time in a kindergarten classroom, there were some students who **loved** fairy tales. We are reading lots of different versions of fairy tales, with a theme for each day. Familiar stories lead to great opportunities for writing, acting, and other ways of retelling. One of our classroom favorites is the retelling basket with little items, such as a bundle of sticks, a jar of straw, and a bag of bricks. The children love to "huff and puff and blow your house down." Check out my classroom page on the school's website for pictures related to one of the stories and a STEM extension. In Math, Kindergarten has been working on composing and decomposing numbers to 20. We recently started working on numbers higher than 20, and will be practicing to count and build numbers to 100.

Mrs. Hemon

News from Grades 1 & 2

This month we have been learning about the Solar System. We read books about each planet and learned many exciting facts about each of the 8 planets. 1st and 2nd graders were upset that Pluto is now a dwarf planet and hope that one day it will be considered the ninth planet again. Students created posters showing the planets in relationship to the Sun.

In Math, first graders continued learning how to tell time and practiced reading and creating different types of graphs. Graphs that they learned about were pictographs, bar graphs, and line graphs. We are now learning about shapes. In second grade, we continued to add and subtract money. We have also learned about telling time, and reading and creating different types of graphs. Soon we will start practicing some early third grade math skills!

We recently started learning about Earth's resources. We will be learning how to keep Earth clean and the importance of the 3 R's-reduce, reuse, recycle!



Mrs. Ricker

Calendar of Events

JUNE 3, 2019

4:15 PM- School Board Meeting

JUNE 4, 2019

Grades 5-7 field trip- Christa McAuliffe Museum

JUNE 6, 2019

Pre-K & K registration, 8:30-11:00

JUNE 10, 2019

Kindergarten field trip @ Mrs. Hemon's
Grade 8 field trip- Bowling in Berlin

JUNE 11, 2019

Grades 1-4 field trip @ Fairbanks Museum

JUNE 12, 2019

Grade 8 Spa Luncheon

JUNE 13, 2019

Grade 8 Graduation @ 5 PM

JUNE 14, 2019

Last Day of School!
Kindergarten Graduation @ 10 AM
Whole-school Awards @ 11:30
Parents welcome!
Dismissal @ noon

News from Grades 3 & 4

An important FYI: The last book report of the year is due to be presented June 5!

One morning this month, Mrs. Eggea, from the UNH Cooperative Extension Service came to our classroom to give some nutrition instruction. We learned about Go, Slow, and Whoa foods. Third and fourth grade students did some terrific thinking as they thought of ways to take ordinary foods and decide which category they would go in, and how they might be altered to fit into one of the other categories. For example, a plain apple is considered a "Go" food, since it has only things that are healthy for the human body. We can take that same apple and easily make it into a "Slow" food by adding some cinnamon and sugar to it. The addition of small amounts of ingredients that are high in sugar, fat, or sodium moves the apple snack into the category that is less healthy for the human body. Then, if we make that

raw apple into an apple crisp by adding ingredients like salt, sugar, cinnamon, butter, and white flour, the apple moves into its identity as a “Whoa” food. Being aware of, and able to apply, these Go/Slow/Whoa categories to common foods has the potential to develop us into people who can make more informed food and nutrition choices during our lives.

One of the most engaging WMSI projects this month was starting to make an interactive map using Scratch 3 and a Makey-makey device with cardboard and tin foil to share information. This project has terrific potential to transform a class museums. Please, ask your child about their favorite WMSI projects!

Mrs. Hodge

News from Grade 5

Chilly May days have kept us focused on our academic tasks in fifth grade. Boy have we packed in a lot across all the subject areas, taken numerous state assessments and enjoyed our weekly WMSI visits. We even took a trip to the CJEJ farm in Columbia, NH for the Annual Natural Resources Field Day. It was a rather cold day, but we all had a fantastic time.

We are spending the remainder of our days trying to finish what we started. The practical nature of using math to help us measure different aspects of our world has shown us the value of what we are learning. The two novels we are reading, Island of the Blue Dolphins and There's a Boy in the Girls Bathroom, are providing for interesting group discussions albeit in very different ways. 😊😊 Students are illustrating different ways of life as our country expanded west to show what it was like for the homesteaders, cowboys on the cattle drives, railroad workers, Native Americans etc... And who knew plants and animals could be grouped and classified in so many different ways. Our world really is a lot bigger and more complex than we thought.

As we get excited for the summer months, take time to reflect on what you learn every day, strive to see where it fits into your world, and how to use it in some way. All experiences can be learning experiences if we choose to make it so.

June here we come!

Ms. Wonkka

News from JH Science

Sixth grade students are learning about what fossil fuels are, how they are created, and why they are important. Recently, students watched a National Geographic video, “What Would Happen if the Oil Ran Out?” They learned how dependent America is on oil production. Students recently completed a lab involving the use of breakfast cereals to show how fossil fuels are created. This week they are working on a written report and oral presentation on fossil fuels.

Seventh grade students are learning more about motion. Recently, they completed a lab involving the use of cardboard tubes and marbles to determine speed and acceleration of various marbles. They are also working on a written report and oral presentation on motion.

Eighth graders are focused on DNA. Do you know about your DNA? Students are learning how DNA is formed and how unique it is. They will soon be creating a model of DNA to further their exploration. Students recently created a chain of DNA using their first and last name. They also used pipe cleaners and tape to replicate a section of DNA. One of their last assignments for the school year is a written report and oral presentation on their understanding of DNA.

Mr. Kennedy



News from JH ELA & Social Studies

The last term of the school year is quickly coming to an end. Junior High students have been studying a variety of topics in their Language Arts and Social Studies classes. Grade six recently started a unit of study about Ancient Rome. They will be researching and creating a project as the unit progresses. Grade seven has been

creating a map of Europe and will be focusing on learning about a European country of their choice. Both classes have been reading *Number the Stars*; a novel about the Nazi German occupation of Denmark and the resistance groups.

Grade eight students have been busy with graduation practice, field trips and end of the year activities. In between all of that they have been reading *Refugee*, a novel which intertwines the lives of three refugee families. The students are just beginning research on Adolf Hitler, Fidel Castro, or Bashir al-Assad. These are the regimes that the refugee families in the novel are trying to escape from.

It is nice to have some warm, sunny weather to enjoy!

Mrs. Stebbins

News from the Media Center

Our yearbooks are printed and will soon be delivered. Thank you to the yearbook committee – Savannah Ricker, Jayden Riendeau, Julia Noyes, Kade Cameron, Kaedyn Covell, Anthony Dumont, and Kole Chapple, who worked diligently all year putting it together.



June 14th is our enormous box top raffle. Get those box tops in so you can be entered in this raffle. The box top program is funding our yearbooks, so keep saving over the summer. Our next raffle will be in October!!

Mrs. Placey

News from JH Math

In our sixth grade class we have just finished our operations with integers unit! The students have completed several checkbook stimulations along with group discussions of debit and credit cards. As we

approach the end of the year students are going to be working with percents, decimals and fractions. We will continue our work with conversions.

In our seventh grade class we have finished up our unit on commission, percent increase, decrease, sales tax and tips. Students complete a credit card project where they decide their credit card and made purchases calculating the interest over a span of 24 months only making the minimum payment. Moving forward we will be focusing our attention now on geometry.

In our eighth grade class students have just finished up a pizza project where they had to calculate the circumference, area and unit cost of each restaurant, 5 of their choice. Students compared to see which had the cheapest unit cost per square inch. We will now focus the last few weeks on calculating volume.

Ms. Saari

Title I News from Mrs. Stebbins

May was a very busy month for the students in the “Walk to Read” writing group. Personal narratives were the first review item on the list and the students demonstrated a solid understanding of leads, problem/solution, characters, setting, and dialogue. With that assignment filed, the students moved onto their final long-term writing project of the year: an informative essay. Their task is to create a bug and the facts surrounding it (what it looks like, where it lives, what it does, what it eats) and informing others about this mysterious creature. The main points being reviewed here is reporting on facts, using details and describing words, using transitions to keep the reader engaged and on track, and practicing different sentence conventions. Overall, I am very pleased with the creativity, excitement, and dedication I am seeing to this project. The students have learned a lot this year with respect to writing and it is shining through with their writing! Their writing portfolios look fabulous and, looking back at some of their first writing assignments to some of their most recent, I could not be prouder of all the dedication and hard work that has been given this year. 😊

Title 1 News from Mr. Kennedy

I continue to go into the classrooms and assist students with their learning. I have been assisting 1st graders with their understanding of shapes and graphs. Grade 7 students have been working on stem and leaf graphs, as well as box and whisker plots. Grade 6/7 language arts involves helping with spelling word assignments.

News from the Resource Room

It's the end of May! School is coming to an end very quickly! Everyone is trying to stay focused and teach/learn as much as they can between the field trips and special events.

My students keep on plugging away; learning different skills in ELA and Math. My grade 1 students are learning to identify and write higher numbers up to 50 and counting by 10's to 100 through a variety of hands-on activities. In ELA, they are increasing their knowledge of CVC words and sight words, using books, flashcards, and "funsheets". My grade 3 and 4 students are also increasing their word knowledge (words of the day/trick words) and learning words containing different vowel pairs (ai, ay, ee, ea, ey) and r-controlled vowels(ar, or, er, ir, ur) through flashcard drill, writing, and fun reinforcing activities. In Math, they have been measuring using non-standard units. In grade 5, my students have been reading the chapter book, "There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom" in a group and converting measurements of length, weight, and capacity. In grades 6-8 ELA, my students continue reading different chapter books, researching/writing, completing Spelling pages to get them ready for their weekly tests, and many other enriching activities. During grades 6-8 Math, my students are learning many new skills through teacher-led activities on the board, workbook pages and highly-enriched projects. They really enjoy the projects and so do I!

As you can see, they are staying pretty busy, despite the warmer weather and the end of the year. About 3 weeks left before summer vacation!

Ms. Miller

News from the SAP

Here's what the SAP counselor has been up to! Students in grades K-8 were able to participate in the 2019 Alcohol Awareness Poster Contest for the State of NH Liquor Commission, with an encouraging, positive message. The winners from SCS were Shelby, Layla, and Alexis. Runners up were Lily, Sam, and Kody. Everyone who won the contest gets to attend the Fisher Cats game on June 21st! Great job!

On April 2nd, Detective Jennifer Harlow of the Newport Police Department came to speak to the eighth grade students about internet dangers. It was a fantastic presentation, one that students were highly engaged in. They had great questions and comments to contribute, as well.

On May 9th, a speaker came from Poison Control to speak to students in grades 6-8, as well as staff and some parents who attended, about the dangers of vaping. This proved to be an intriguing, engaging presentation that provided students with an abundance of information!

In March, the leadership students started meeting for lunch one day per week to discuss and plan topics to contribute to a positive school climate between students and staff. The students are at work planning and will hopefully be ready to implement their ideas at the start of the next school year.

Mrs. Crossley

