Salisbury Elementary School Parent Newsletter

November 3, 2011



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Upcoming Events

- Month of November: Massachusetts Family Literacy Month
- 11/3/11 School Council Meeting
- Week of Nov 7th Pettengill House Food Drive
- 11/9/11 School Committee Meeting 7:00 and Spaghetti Dinner 5:00-7:00
- ❖ 11/11/11 No School
- 11/15/11 Marks Close, PTA Shopping Orders Due
- ❖ 11/18/11 Early Dismissal
- 11/23/11 Williams Bowl and Early Dismissal
- 11/24 11/25/11 Thanksgiving Break
- Week of Nov 28th Grade
 6 Environmental Camp

We're on the Web! www.trsd.net/salisbury

James L. Montanari, Principal Lisa A. Oliver, Assistant Principal

Leap into Literacy

Success in school starts with reading.

Darlene White-SES Reading Specialist

When children become good readers in the early grades they are more likely to become better learners throughout their school years and beyond. Learning to read is hard work for children. Fortunately, research is now available that suggests how to give each child a good start in reading (NRP, 2000). At the Salisbury Elementary School, we have developed a comprehensive literacy program to promote success for each child. Research based curriculum was carefully chosen for each grade level to introduce foundational literacy elements in the lower grades and build growth and independence in the upper grades. Children's progress is monitored throughout the year to inform instruction and intervention strategies.

Stay tuned for more literacy information in upcoming Salisbury Elementary School newsletters!



Page 2 of 14 Parent Newsletter

A Counselor's Point of View!

Bob MacKenna-SES Guidance Counselor

Bullying often occurs in group settings in which other children are witnesses or **bystanders**. Children learn from each other how to act in these situations. During the month Mrs. Lincoln and I will be presenting to classes, a "Steps to Respect" curriculum lesson, which teaches children how to respond in these situations as bystanders.

Bystanders have tremendous power in any bullying situation. An individual witness can choose to be part of the problem or part of the solution. Naturally, though, fear for one's safety can keep a bystander from taking action. A bystander may also fear retaliation, becoming the target of the bully, losing friends or going against a popular student.

Research shows that when bystanders, the often silent majority, do intervene in bullying situations, they can help stop bullying. Peer pressure can be a positive thing. Bystanders can exert positive peer pressure on others to safely stand up for students who are being bullied. In "Steps to Respect" students learn to evaluate when it is safe to intervene in a bullying situation. They also learn when to get adult help.

By working together to empower children to make the right decisions when witnessing a bullying situation, we can continue to provide a safe, respectful, caring school for all children.



Advanced Band and Stage Band

Mark your calendars! The Advanced Band and Stage Band will be performing their Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 7th at 5:00 P.M. In order to be ready for our upcoming concert, the Advanced Band has been rehearsing after school every Wednesday from 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Please bring your friends and family to show your support! I hope to see you there.



Ms. Laura Doyle Instrumental Music TRSD Elementary Page 3 of 14 Parent Newsletter

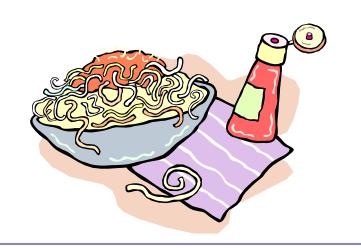
Spaghetti Dinner Night

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

\$5.00 Per Person

Salisbury Elementary Café





Field Work to America's Stonehenge

Amana Fernandes-Sixth Grade Student

What a great experience we sixth graders had when we went to America's Stonehenge! We went all the way to Salem, NH! When America's Stonehenge was first opened in1958, it's name was Mystery Hill Caves but in 1982 they changed the name to better explain the functions of the site. At the site we did many things, including going into the Oracle Chamber. Inside is a secret bed that lets a person crawl in and stay hidden while seeing everything happening through an opening in the floor. We also excavated artifacts in an archeological dig. If we found polished stones we were allowed to keep them. Hidden in the dirt were shards of clay pottery, arrow-heads and even tools! At the gift shop there were rock candy and polished stones. This is definitely a place you and your family would want to visit!



Page 4 of 14 Parent Newsletter

Student Council Elections

Allison Mowles- Sixth Grade Student

This month student council elections were held. Students from grades 4, 5 and 6 got the chance to run to become a class representative. Two kids with the most votes from each classroom got elected. Eight students from each grade made up student council.

In 6th grade you get the chance to run for executive board. Executive board is like the head of student council. Everyone in the grade gets to vote for four students. The four students with the most votes get elected to executive board. This year there will be five members in executive board, because there was a tie.



Here are the student council members for the 2011-2012 school year:

- Grade 4: Eve Paicos, Michele Brandenese, Alyssa MacEachern, Shelly Truong, Sheridyn LaRocque, Natalie Wooldridge, Haylee Clogston, Fay Paicos, and Gianna Conte
- Grade 5: Dylan Hartman, Eric Desprez, Lindsey Gardella, Gracie Burnim, Cam Gilroy, Caitlyn Chaisson, Carisa Boyle, Ethan Tougas
- Grade 6: Maia Perry, Mikayla Stone, Chloe Allard, Lucas Connatser, Luke Groder, Cassidy Bridges, and Hannah Burd
- Executive Board: Ryan Farrell, Kellie Corbin, Mitchell Wolpert, Allison Mowles, and Cassidy Nguyen

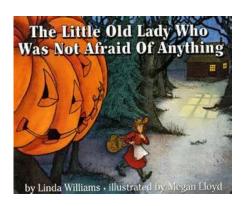
Ms. McGranahan, student council advisor, had this to say about this year's election;

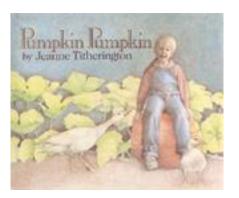
"Student Council is underway and our first project along with many others will be the UNICEF campaign."

Page 5 of 14 Parent Newsletter

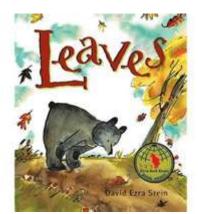
Kindergarten News

As the leaves on the trees turn color and drop to the ground, the children in kindergarten have been observing and learning about various life cycles we see in nature. We talked about why leaves "change" color in the fall. The children learned that leaves are not really green and that it's only chlorophyll (tree food) that we see and when the tree is ready to rest and the food is all gone, we finally get to see the true color of the leaves. We talked about the changes of a deciduous tree through the seasons. As we approached Halloween we talked about the life cycle of a pumpkin through literature such as Pumpkin Pumpkin and got to carve and explore the inside of a pumpkin. We roasted the seeds and ate them. YUMMY! The Halloween season is also an excellent opportunity to talk to your children about real vs. make believe. We talked about fiction and non-fiction books and compared stories that were real and make believe.









Page 6 of 14 Parent Newsletter

First Grade Field Work

The first grade visited Cider Hill Farm on the 12th of October. It was a beautiful day for picking apples and going for a hayride. We saw huge wind turbines and a solar crop. Did you know that Cider Hill Farm produces its own energy to run the farm? One of our students impressed Farmer Bob with her knowledge of why bees are important to apple trees! Farmer Bob loves to have students from Salisbury Elementary visit his farm!

Grade Two News

In social studies, grade two students have been learning about their world and their place in it; from studying continents to our home town! At the culmination of the geography unit, many students created their own neighborhood maps, using mapping symbols and a compass rose!



In science, Mrs. Marshall's second graders ended their study of *Earth Materials and Wind* by creating kits made up of a combination of natural and man-made materials. Through our trips to the lab and classroom composition jars, second graders learned that man-made materials like foil and plastic do not decompose.



Page 7 of 14 Parent Newsletter

Third Grade News

Third graders are well on their way to gaining necessary skills for spelling and reading. The Fundations program continues to grow in the 3rd grade with more rules to help the students learn how to spell words. These rules are eye openers to even adults who have often wondered whether or not to double the last consonant before adding a suffix as well as many more rules to help us be better spellers and readers. If you came into a 3rd grade classroom during Fundations around now, you would likely learn something you never knew - the WHY and WHEN behind many hard-to-learn rules in our English language. It's amazing how transforming this can be for the students!

Another big step in the 3rd grade is learning cursive. The excitement surrounding this big step is contagious! Almost every student heads into a cursive lesson with anticipation of growing into a child who can write like a 'big kid.'

Recorders are also a part of the excitement of 3rd grade! The students' growth and practice is measured by attaining 'belts.' There are different colored belts per level of difficulty of songs. The students must play a song, alone and Mrs. Walton decides if they're proficient enough to obtain a belt. The students are allowed to go before school to see if they can get a new belt and the before-school lines are long, anticipating that exciting moment when they can add a new belt to hang from their recorder.



Fourth Grade Oobleck!

Mrs. Hathaway's Class

Students in 4-Hathaway completed their study of matter by exploring the properties of Oobleck, a mysterious substance from the Planet Oobleck that acts like liquid and a solid. After their exploration, teams of scientists from 4-H designed Oobleck landers that could land on the planet, explore it, and then take off and return safely to Earth. This project gave students the opportunity to investigate the properties of matter, problem solve around the function of their landers, and give an oral presentation to the class. Come see their work outside the classroom!

Page 8 of 14 Parent Newsletter

Fourth Grade Writing

Mrs. Peterson's Class

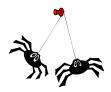
We have been working on using words to capture images that make writing strong. Students listened to Halloween poems, identified "amazing" Halloween words, built word banks, and finally, wrote their own poems. The goal was for students to use strong and exciting Halloween words in their poems! Here is the poem that we wrote as a whole class.

Halloween Night

By 4-Peterson

A huge creepy spider
Crawling underneath the bed
A shricking witch is flying on her
Magic broom across the shining moon
Stiff-legged zombies
Coming from the undead
A bloody howling monster
Gnashing rattling bones
A grisly werewolf with fangs as sharp as nails
A blood sucking vampire
Drinks delicious blood
A cursed spooky ghost
Moaning in a haunted house
Trick or treaters shouting

BOO!
On Halloween night!



Page 9 of 14 Parent Newsletter

National Council of Teachers of English's 3rd Annual National Day on Writing Kara Purdie-Special Education Teacher



The sixth grade at Salisbury Elementary School participated in the National Council of Teachers of English's 3rd annual National Day on Writing. The NCTE first celebrated this occasion in 2009. It is a nationwide event to get students (and their teachers) writing. Thousands and thousands of students and teachers across the country participated.

The entire sixth grade participated by writing "graffiti" on the basketball court. For our first foray into this program (which includes online local and national galleries of writing) students and staff had free license to write a favorite line from a book, opening line of a book, famous or favorite quotations, a snippet of a song lyric, tongue twisters, stupendous vocabulary words, and the like. Students and staff had a great time doing this activity and eagerly shared their ideas with their peers! Poetry lines, historical quotations, and lists of books and authors seemed to be the favorite contributions. One student even wrote the <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> as a favorite piece of writing. We hope to make this the first year of an annual tradition that will grow to encompass the whole school!



Page 10 of 14 Parent Newsletter



Sixth Grade News

Students in sixth grade are working on a folktale unit. In addition to learning about the characteristics of a folktale they will also learn about different continents and countries from which folktales originate. For their part, students will write a folktale of their own. Their assignment is to create a story that explains how one of the continents or countries formed while implementing the specific elements of a folktale. Students are using top-down webs to organize their ideas for characters, setting and plot. Look for these amazing creations on our bulletin boards in the up-coming weeks.



Be Sure To Read the Sixth Grade Folktale on the Next Page



Page 11 Of 14 Parent Newsletter

A Folktale - Written by: Mitchell Wolpert

One day in 1915, at the zoo of Rio de Janeiro, a zookeeper named George noticed James, the world's largest elephant, wasn't eating any of his food. He had hid it all in a pile of dirt. George knew something was wrong. James hadn't missed a meal in over 26 years. George went straight to the zoo owner, Miguel, and told him what had happened.

"Oh no!" whined Miguel.

"What's wrong," said George in a comforting tone.

"James must be sick he never misses a meal," said Miguel worriedly.

"He'll be alright though, right?" announced George.

"I'm afraid not," said Miguel now sobbing.

George went back to James's sanctuary at the zoo, when he saw a village boy named Johnny.

"How bad is he?" asked Johnny curiously.

"How bad is who?" said George trying to hold back the tears.

"I may be small but I'm not dumb," yelled Johnny!

"Oh, O.K., you know. He's sick!" said George now sobbing.

"It's O.K. George."

"No it's not, James is sick and there is nothing we can do about it," said George.

"I know a veterinarian that lives only ten miles from here," said Johnny cheerfully.

"But he'll never make it that far in this condition," George replied.

"I will go and bring her back down here to the zoo so she can help James."

Five minutes later Johnny was on his way to the veterinarian's house. After an hour and a half of running Johnny finally made it to the veterinarian's house. She agreed to go back to the zoo with Johnny and try to help James. When they got back to the zoo they went straight to James's sanctuary.

"What seems to be wrong?" said the veterinarian.

"He's not eating, and he's getting weaker by the minute," said George shakily.

The veterinarian spent a long time examining James trying to see what was wrong. After about twenty minutes the veterinarian announced that James was terribly sick and wasn't expected to survive.

"Why, why?" cried George.

"I'm sorry I'll leave you guys alone."

"I thought for sure she'd be able to help him," sobbed Johnny.

George and Johnny went back home that night hoping that there would be a drastic change in James's health for the better.

"You alright over there?" asked Gina the giraffe trying to comfort James.

"I...I'm not doing great, that's for sure," whimpered James.

"Don't worry, I'll be here through it all," whispered Gina.

Sadly, the next day when Johnny and George went to the zoo they found James dead. They both accepted that it was the circle of life and moved on. Later that week, George, Johnny, Miguel and the veterinarian attended James's funeral at Rio De Janeiro's very own five star hotel. Even all the zoo animals attended.

"What a tragic event," cried Jane the tiger.

"Mommy, is James coming back?" asked Nick the baby monkey.

"I'm afraid not son, I'm afraid not," whispered Julie, Nick's mom.

After the funeral a group of carvers and engravers asked George, Miguel, Johnny, and the veterinarian if they could have permission to carve the continent into the shape of an elephant's head to remember James. Twenty-five years to the day the carvers finished their masterpiece. The aging George, Miguel, Johnny and the veterinarian couldn't thank them enough for their marvelous good deed.

That is the reason why South America is shaped like an elephant's head.

Parent Newsletter Page 12 of 14

TITLE ONE NEWS
KimCroteau, Title One Director

Greetings from Title I! Title I is off to a busy start with a lot of exciting news to share. Last spring Salisbury Elementary School was chosen to be a demonstration school for Fundations. This honor came from the creator of the program Barbara Wilson herself. Barbara Wilson has spent a lot of time at Salisbury coaching teachers and providing valuable input regarding the implementation of Fundations. The teachers' confidence and techniques have become so skilled Barbara wants other schools to see the success the students are experiencing with the program.

Another high note was the turnout of parents for the recent Title I meeting. The highest attended informational session thus far! The meeting included a brief overview of Title I and then a question and answer session followed. One request that came up during the meeting was the need for an instructional session for parents around Fundations. I am happy to report back that on November 9th at 3:15, in the library, Title I will be hosting a Fundations informational meeting. Title I hopes to plan more parent informational meetings in the future.

Last but not least, if you have any questions regarding Title I or the supplemental services that Title I provides, please feel free to contact the Title I Dept.

Salisbury Elementary PTA

It's that time of year when we start thinking about our Holiday Shopping. The good news is SES PTA is once again offering you a great way to support our school and get your shopping done early. The Scripps gift card program is back. This is how it works, you purchase the gift cards of your choice at regular price, and SES gets them at a discounted price. All proceeds go to PTA, which are then used to bring enrichment programs to our children and pay for field work.

Information packets were sent home with children. Orders are due by November 15th. The cards will be available for pick up at the Williams Bowl at SES on November 23rd. If you have any questions please contact Maura Pinilla at mauralena@comcast.net. Or 978-358-7347.

Thank you for your support! Salisbury Elementary School PTA

Page 13 of 14 Parent Newsletter

KIDS CLUB HOUSE September & October News

The months of September and October have been very busy in Kids Club House. We start each day with group where kids can discuss their day and talk about upcoming events. We also use this time to play "Jack" a trivia game, along with doing the spare Change Jug. By now I'm sure everyone has heard of the Spare Change Jug. The purpose of the jug is to teach children that every penny counts and that change can add up to a lot of money. Once the jug reaches \$100.00 we turn the money into the bank where they give us all \$1's \$5's and \$10's for it. I the show the children just how much we collected. Next the older children are given Market Basket, Shaws and Stop & Shop flyers where they shop to find the best deals in non perishable items. We don't actually buy the food it's just a lesson for students to see how much food the money can buy. Once they are done their shopping they share with the younger kids what they were able to pick out and how much of each item they could get. Once this is done we make a card for the Pettengill House and send the money along to them. Last month we sent \$137.00 we are up to \$80.00 so far for October.

Another activity we currently have going on is our 3Rd annual Officer Mike food drive. Officer Mike challenges the student to bring in a certain number of Items for our food drive. If we reach our goal, Officer Mike treats us to an Ice cream party with all the fixings! We have met the challenge in the past years and we are off to a good start this year. The food drive will run until December 15th.

As for daily activities in Kids Club House, we have home work help which runs from 4:00-4:30 every day except Friday. If you find your child is not doing their homework, please let us know. Arts and crafts are also a big part of Kids Club House, if you look around the room you will see just how busy everyone has been. We also have a showcase in the main lobby that holds some of our best work. For those of you who have children that answer "nothing" when you ask them what they did today, (much like my own)take a minute to look at the picture board right outside the Kids Club House, it will tell you something different:)

Starting this week, Friday will once again be movie and popcorn day, all movies are G rated and appropriate for all. We hope you and your children are happy and enjoying our Kids Club House program. As a reminder tuition is due weekly and should be paid on time to avoid a late fee. Parents who pick up late are also subject to a late charge, 3 late pickups will result in termination from our program. At any point you have questions or concerns please feel free to talk with us.

My e-mail is: <u>Idavis@trsd.net</u>. The best way to reach me during Kids Club House hours is on the Kids Club House cell phone: 978-518-1984. Please add this number to your contacts.

Thank you~

Ms. Davis, Kids Club House Coordinator

Ms. Roberts, Program Assistant

Ms. Appolloni, Program Assistant

Ms. Pollard, Program Assistant

Page 14 of 14 **Parent Newsletter**

Heartfelt Tribute to Sean Mitchell Mrs. Lisa Bissell, Third Grade Teacher

Sean Mitchell, a former legendary student from SES and his father, cross country coach, and teammates were all interviewed by Mike Lynch from Channel 5 today for the Sports Center 5 "High 5" award to a deserving student. He turned 18 today. He has CP and was never expected to live, then to walk and has trained hard to become a superstar runner! This will air on November 3rd during the 6:00 newscast on Channel 5.

I know that every teacher and student touched by Sean from birth until now will never forget the impact he had on them and the awe they felt watching him accomplish so much. I have had the privilege of watching Sean grow from birth to today. He lives up the street from me and I grew up with his dad. Sue Mitchell, worked at our school and now subs here.



School Community

PTA

Mrs. Tamah French, President

Mrs. Maura Pinilla, Vice President

Mrs. Sandy Sullivan, Secretary

Mrs. JoeyHeather Capozzi, Treasurer

School Committee

Mrs. Dina Sullivan - Chair, Newbury

Mrs. Deborah Choate - Vice Chair, Salisbury

Mrs. Suzanne Densmore - Secretary, Newbury

Mr. Lane Bourn - Rowley

Mr. Paul Lees - Rowley

Mrs. Linda Litcofsky - Salisbury

Mrs. Mary Murphy - Rowley Mrs. Jane Purinton - Salisbury Mrs. Robin Williams - Newbury



