



Sharon Elementary School

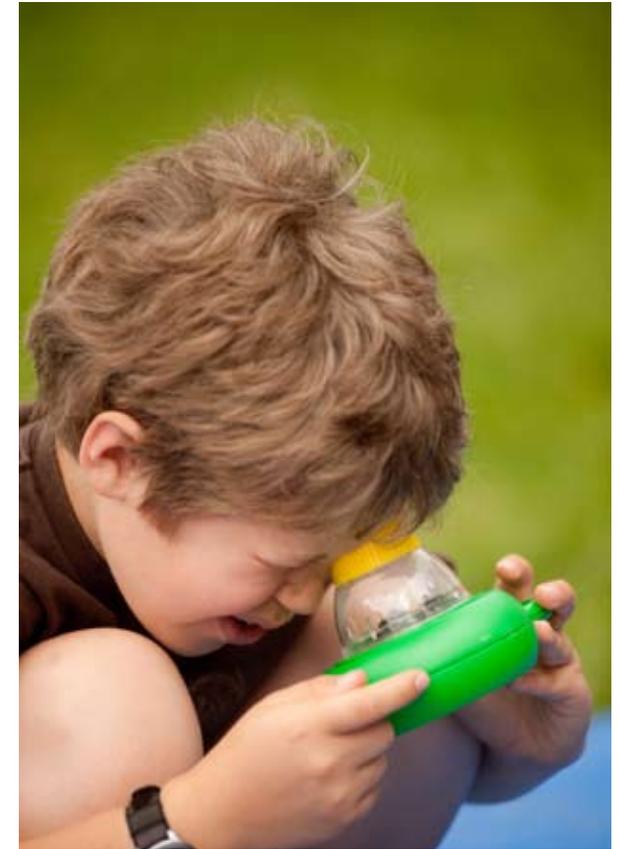
Sharon, Vermont



Sharon Elementary School
75 VT Route 132
Sharon, VT 05065
(802) 763-7425
Barrett Williams, Principal
<http://sharon.owsu.org>

Our Mission

The commitment of the Sharon community is to provide a caring and safe environment for our young people. We promote quality education that emphasizes high academic standards, sound personal development and positive social growth – thus laying the foundation for lifelong learning and a personally fulfilling and productive life.



Who We Are

Sharon Elementary School serves 103 K-6th grade students in the White River Valley in Sharon, Vermont. Our average class has 14 students. Each teacher possesses the knowledge, experience, and love for teaching that is necessary to guide and inspire students to realize their full potential.



ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Our active **Parent Teacher Organization** (PTO) has supported the development of our garden projects, along with several other school and community projects.

Sharon Sprouts It evolved out of the National Farm-to-School Program and the garden committee. Students learn about the connection between eating and health as well as have the opportunity for hands-on learning during farm visits. Sharon Sprouts promotes the use of local, healthy food in our food service program, which is supported with our Farm-to-School grant. In addition, it hosts several winter farmer's markets in our gym.

Performing Arts Opportunities Each year students attend a live performance at either the Hopkins Center at Dartmouth College, the Lebanon Opera House, or the Chandler Center for the Arts.

Raising Money for Haiti On April 16, 2010 a walk-a-thon for Haitian Relief raised \$3,300. The money raised was donated to Partners in Health, a Boston, Massachusetts-based non-profit health care organization.

Jr. Iron Chef Competition Our own team and 56 other teams of middle and high schools students from across Vermont showed off their cooking skills proving that school food can be delicious, local, nutritious and fun.



Woodstock Ski Runners From January to mid-March students have the option of exploring alpine skiing in a fun, educational and safe environment. The alpine program is held at Suicide Six on Friday afternoons from 2-4 p.m.

Cross County Ski and Snowshoe Club

Another winter activity from January to mid-March is cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Students can either ski at Downer State Forest or on the back field near school. All levels of skiers are welcome!

Outdoor Club During the spring months, students have the opportunity to hike and explore the environment of Downer State Forest. Tree and vernal pool identification, finding an old cemetery, and animal track identification fill these Friday afternoons.

Our Partners

- The Vermont Law School
- Dartmouth College Research and Outreach Opportunities: The Department of Education Beyond Coursework
- One Planet after-school program *It provides academic support and enrichment during the school year, plus a summer program.*

2010 Grants

- Vermont Department of Agriculture, Farm-to-School Program – \$13,500
- New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, Wellborn Ecology Fund – \$6,500
- One Planet after-school program grant – \$60,000



How We Spend Each Year, Combining Academics and Community Involvement



October – Harvest Festival – Each class harvests plants they have cultivated in the school garden since the previous spring.

November – Grandparent's Day – Grandparents of 1st and 2nd grade students see unique and fun presentations that illustrate what students have been learning.

December – Community Fundraiser – A school-wide holiday musical performance is coupled with a fundraiser that supports a local charity of the student's choosing. At the same time, the Parent Teacher Organization hosts a silent auction to benefit our school.

January – Pajama Day – All students and teachers wear pajamas to embrace the return to school after the holiday break.



August – First Day Celebration – We have a parade through town where parents and kids join together for an afternoon BBQ and entertainment to celebrate the beginning of another school year.

September – Team Building – Our 6th grade students go to the Hulbert Outdoor Center, a non-profit educational institution that serves 7,000 participants annually, to promote personal growth, cooperation, and a sense of community.

February – Author Day – A children’s author visits the school, reads to each class and signs books.

March – Beach Day – We celebrate the sun after a long, cold winter by playing beach themed games in the afternoon.

April – Learning Fair – This event links professional development, curriculum goals, and student participation. Students ultimately develop projects that are presented to parents in an evening event. The **Spring Music Concert** is another opportunity for students to exhibit their musical talents.

May – Green Up Day – Festivities include cleaning up the surrounding neighborhood. **Spring Work Day** is spent sprucing up the garden by weeding, tilling, and composting.

June – Farm and Field Day – We celebrate food education with local farmers and the Sharon Sprouts Garden Committee who provide local foods for school lunches. **River Day Celebrations** are a culmination of 6th grade place-based curriculum and river environment research completed with a local scientist.



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