

NEWSLETTER

11/15/2016

Test, Test, Test

May is the beginning of our state and national assessment test. It seems silly to test kids in a month that they should be released back into the wild, but it's what we got so we make the best of it. Classroom teachers will communicate with you when the testing is happening and what we suggest for food and sleep. We appreciate your support and will plan fun activities around the testing window to make it less cumbersome.

SBAC Testing

We are two weeks into our spring assessments and our kids have been working really hard. Thank you to everyone who has donated snacks for the children, offered to volunteer and ensured that kids are well rested. I know that this time of year can be challenging with baseball and other fun spring activities and we appreciate your efforts and flexibility. As always we are speaking with kids about perseverance and grit, but it would not be nearly as effective without your continuous support.

Composting Station

You might have noticed some construction being done on the side of our garage. Thanks to a generous grant from the Wellborn Foundation and donation from the Sprouty we are in the process of building and implementing a composting station. We will, in the fall, have an open house for this new feature we hope to implement as part of our Farm-to-School curriculum. Our ultimate goal is to create enough compost for our school gardens, but hope to have enough to give away to the community.

Green Up Day - May 6th

The snow has finally melted everywhere in Sharon, which means that the trash on the side of the road is visible again. As a school, we go out in groups to pick up trash within a 2 mile radius from the school. We build in lessons and talk to our students about the effect of littering on the environment. We encourage parents to continue those discussions at home, and participate in Green Up Day.

Farm and Field Day

June 1st is our annual farm and field day, which is a culminating event that celebrates our effort to teach children about health and wellness through place-based education. Each class this year did at least one taste test, visited a farm of some kind and participated in different forms of place-based education. In an effort to celebrate and recognize this work, we host Farm and Field Day, where children will be working in groups and rotating through stations that are related to things you might experience on a farm.

One Planet Summer Registration

Summer Camp registration is still under way. If you haven't submitted your application, please do so now. If you need to do so, please contact Roxana Matthews or Carol Rousseau to fill one out. Registration close when program has 45 participants or on June 2.

Things To Come

Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 8th - 12th. If you are willing to help bring food for the teacher that week, contact the PTO (Jodi Harrington - jodi.L.Harrington@dartmouth.edu). The teachers and supporting staff highly appreciate your support, and this is an easy way to show your appreciation to the tremendous work they do each day with your children. Thank you for considering volunteering.

Martha Cain's Retirement Party

Mrs. Cain is retiring at the end of this school year. We will celebrate her career on June 9th. There will be a school-wide celebration from 1:30pm to 2:30pm. A community dance will follow from 4-5:30pm, where the community, parents, children, are invited to join in one of Martha's favorite activity: Contra Dance.

Mr. Sadowski is hosting a cookout at his house from 6-9pm for Mrs. Cain, her family and the faculty and staff who are able to attend.

New Preschool Teacher/Director

We have appointed Cheslee Brown Morrisson as the new Preschool Director, replacing Mrs. Rachel. Cheslee has worked in our program as a classroom assistant, classroom teacher and now on to the director. Her knowledge of the program and working relationship with Rachel will allow for a smooth transition and continued success in our preschool. We will be hiring a new preschool teacher to take over in the 4 year old room before the end of school.

- ☐ Teacher Appreciation Week: May 1st-5th
- ☐ May 9, 2017 – Sharon School Board regular meeting: 5:30 PM @ The Newton School
- ☐ May 10th: "Simplicity Parenting" Dinner & Speaker. 5:15 pm - 8 pm at Seven Stars Arts Center. For more information: Sue Barnaby at (802) 889-3736 or Karen Flett Kflett@wrvsu.org
- ☐ Tickets \$5 at the door. Please contact Sue Barnaby at (802) 889-3736 or email, Karen Flett Kflett@wrvsu.org.
- ☐ May 12th is a half-day (early release at 12:30pm)
- ☐ May 29th: Memorial Day - School closed

Things to look forward in June:

- June 15th: Last Day of School! (release at 12:30 pm)
- June 9th: Martha Cain's Retirement party

Community Events

- May 6th at 6 pm: FREE Community Chili Supper and concert to celebrate Green Up Day - at Seven Stars Arts Center
- Every Thursday at 2:30 pm - 4 pm, Lego Club meets at the Baxter Memorial Library
- ArtisTree in Pomfret has Summer Camps. Go at <http://www.artistreevt.org/> for more information
- Seven Stars Arts Center offers a range of classes for adults and children. Visit their website at www.sevenstarsarts.org