

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the start of the 2018-2019 school year!

On behalf of the SES staff and myself, I'd like to wish you and your family a happy and exciting school year.

Just as a reminder that if you have not turned in your emergency information cards, free and reduced lunch forms, and general information sheets to please do so at your earliest convenience.

Website Update

Our website has some outdated content and we are in the process of updating it. Moving forward, it will be updated on a more regular basis. You will be able to find our school menu, bus routes and other school forms. We will also be posting an updated school handbook on the website so we do not have to print them each year. If you do not have access to a computer/internet at home and would like a hard copy please let us know.

School Day Procedures

The first bell rings in the morning at 7:55am, which is designed to let folks know that it is time to transition from the playground and gym to the classroom. A second bell will ring at 8:00am, which signifies the official start of our school day. In the afternoon the bell rings 3 different times. At 2:57, bussers are released, 2:58 parent pick-up are released to the gym and at 2:59 one planet kids are released. **We ask that you wait in the gym** if you are picking a child up as our front lobby is very crowded and can be confusing to navigate for young children. The travel circle out front is also an issue and we ask that you do pay close attention to the bus stop signs and flashing lights. Many children are also crossing the road during this time and we ask that you drive cautiously slow.

School Pictures

Pictures are scheduled for Monday September 24th. Anyone who is absent will have the opportunity to participate on a make-up day sometime in October.

School Lunch

Last year we started using a program to track school lunch participation and the billing process for that. Many times, there are question about the bills, which are often related to kids getting extra lunch or item off the salad bar. Please let us know if you wish to restrict these types of purchases to help avoid any confusion. With the mymealtime.com website, you can go online to see and pay your child's bill at anytime. Please contact the front office to get your child's unique ID code used by the website. If paying by cash or check please put in a sealed envelope and give to classroom teacher or the front office.

Volunteers

As always we welcome parent and community volunteers. On Tuesdays we have volunteers come into the school to read with a 4th grade students. Often parents or other family members will volunteer on field trips. All of these things are of great value to the school community. If you would like to volunteer please contact the school to get our volunteer form. Once this filled out you will be able to contact teachers to find volunteer opportunities.



Hopkins Center Opportunity

Hopkins Center Seeks Children aged 9-12 to participate as narrators for *Blind Cinema*

The Hopkins Center is currently seeking children, aged 9-12 years old, to participate as narrators in *Blind Cinema*—an innovative film project created by European filmmaker, Britt Hatzius, that explores the connection between sight, sound, perception and narrative. Youth participants will receive training in narration skills in advance of the screening, and will use these skills to narrate their perception of a silent film to the blindfolded, adult audience members sitting in front of them. This collaboration between speaking child and listening adult creates a unique and memorable theatrical experience.

Youth participation in *Blind Cinema* is offered free of charge. To participate, children must commit to attending a two-hour training on Saturday, Sept 29 as well as the two-and one-half-hour rehearsal and performance on Sunday, September 30. Please enroll by September 15th.

For more details, to see a video of a past *Blind Cinema* experience, and to ENROLL, visit the Hopkins Center website: <https://hop.dartmouth.edu/online/blind-cinema>. If you have any additional questions, please contact the Hopkins Center Coordinator for *Blind Cinema* Katie Kitchel, at ktkitchel.blindcinema@gmail.com.

Yankee Candle Orders

Yankee candle order forms were due this week. You can still send them to school and leave them with your classroom teachers. When the orders arrive, we will notify parents and ask that you pick up and distribute to the people who placed an order with your child. We thank you in advance for your support of the PTO!!!

Mark your Calendars

Things to look forward in September-October:

- Hike for Hunger, Sept. 21
- Half-Day, Sept. 21 (release at 12:15)
- Picture Day, September 24
- October 5, No School
- October 8, In-Service (no School)
- **Harvest Meal, October ???**
- October 26, In-Service (no School)

Community Events

- Children Author, Daphne Kalmar, visits at the Baxter Memorial Library, September 30th, 3pm
- Seven Stars Arts Center offers a range of classes for adults and children. Visit their website at www.sevenstarsarts.org.
- ArtisTree in Pomfret offers a range of classes for adults and children. Go at <http://www.artistreevt.org/> for more information/
- 19th Century Apple & Cheese Harvest Festival. Sept. 30th, 11 a.m.- 3 p.m., Morrill Homestead Education Center, Strafford.
- 30th annual Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival in Tunbridge, Vermont. September 29 - 30. For more information: vtsheepandwoolfest.com/