

# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Sharon Elementary School | *Care. Community. Connect.*

## Important Upcoming Dates

- Oct. 3: 6 pm- PTO Meeting
- Oct.4: All-School Hike at Downer Forest
- Oct. 7: 5:30 pm: Rescheduled Regular School Board Meeting (at the school)
- Oct. 8: School Board Meeting rescheduled to Oct. 7
- Oct. 9: No School - Teacher In Service
- Oct. 18: 6 pm: PTO Free Movie Night (*Life of Pets 2*, Free Popcorn and drinks.) Bring a chair or pillows to be comfy.

Tee-Shirts and PTO Yankee Candle Orders will arrive in early-mid October!

**We now have an active and updated calendar on our website, visit [sharonelementary.org](http://sharonelementary.org) to see all the dates for the school year!**

## Families and Community members,

This is the time of year that the weather can truly fool us. One day it feels like summer and the next, like fall. We are certainly in a transitional time!

Over the last few weeks, our students have been busy in all academic areas. I've been lucky enough to visit every classroom, multiple times, to see some awesome teaching and learning taking place. I've been impressed with the variety of experiences that the students have had and will continue to have as we move forward with our school year.

One such experience that all of our students have is outdoor learning. As a school, we pride ourselves in using the outdoors as a learning environment. Students learn not just about the ecology of our place but also practice life long skills such as grit, teamwork, and problem-solving. As we enter the outdoors, a new reality is now taking place. Ticks have become more common in our area than ever before. I want to stress that every family should be doing tick checks each night, especially on days where outdoor learning is taking place. If you are unsure of what day your child goes out, please contact your child's teacher. I know first hand how annoying ticks can be, but if we check ourselves, then we can continue to enjoy our natural environment while staying safe and healthy.

A BIG thanks to everyone that helped organize and participate in this year's Sprouty 5k and 10k run/walk. It was so nice to see families out, getting exercise, smiling and enjoying a beautiful morning. The proceeds for the Sprouty go into our Farm to School fund, allowing teachers to provide food-based activities in the classroom and gardens. I can't say enough how appreciative we are to have such a wonderful group that works hard every year to put this event on.





## Community Events

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- Oct. 3, 8, 15, 22, 3:30 - 4:30pm: learn to juggle at the Baxter Memorial Library.
- Oct. 3, 6 pm: Sharon Elementary School PTO Meeting in the school library
- Oct. 5, 9-11:30 am: Ashley Community Forest outing: Trees, Paul Harwood, Forester (Directions will be provided upon signup. Space is limited. To register, please contact Michael Sacca at mfsacca@gmail.com or 802.889.3210)
- Oct. 7, 6:30 pm: Selectboard Regular Meeting at the Town Offices (find agenda at [sharonvt.net/documents](http://sharonvt.net/documents))
- Oct. 8, 7pm: Sharon Planning Commission Regular Meeting at the Town Offices (find agenda at [sharonvt.net/documents](http://sharonvt.net/documents))
- Oct. 12, 9-11:30: Ashley Community Forest outing: Cellar Holes and Stone Walls, Paul Kristensen (Directions will be provided upon signup. Space is limited. To register, please contact Michael Sacca at mfsacca@gmail.com or 802.889.3210)

Finally, I'd like to ask all families to be thoughtful when thinking about bedtimes for children on the weekend. I know that many children are allowed to stay up later on the weekends than they typically would during the week. The reason that I worry about this practice is that I see many, many tired faces and a lack of grit on Mondays. Starting the school week off tired is not ideal. So, I ask that you are mindful of the needs of your child's rest so that we can start our weeks off fresh and rested, rather than lethargic and tired.

As always, keep in touch and have a wonderful weekend!

*Sincerely,*

**Keenan Haley**  
**Principal**

## Parent Conferences

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Teachers will be contacting you soon, if it hasn't already happened, to schedule parent conferences, which will take place on Oct. 9th. The purpose of our conferences is to share with you what we see as strengths and challenges for your child or children. It is a great way to understand what is happening in the classroom and build a relationship with teachers. We try to be flexible when scheduling because it is important to us to have this time with you, and parents can request a meeting at anytime if you have questions or concerns. It would be great if you and your child could sit down beforehand to develop 3-5 questions together. Often times these questions get answered through dialog, but either way it shows kids we care about their interests and concerns.

## Harvest Meal

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We will be hosting our annual harvest meal on October ???, encourage your kid to sign-up for hot lunch that day! Mrs. Perry plans her meal that day with the idea of using foods from our gardens. In addition, each classroom will be preparing a taste test with food from our gardens for all kids to try. This is a great event and a great way to connect the learning to something the kids can touch, feel and taste.

