

NEWS & TIDINGS

WARWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Elizabeth Musgrave, Principal

May 2014

MARK THE DATE! *YOU ARE INVITED!

*PTO MEETING: 3:00 PM Thurs., June 5

*SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING: 3 p.m. Thurs., May 22nd

*FINAL ALL-SCHOOL MEETING: 2 p.m. May 27

GRADE 5/6 CAPE COD TRIP: June 4-6

*ELEMENTARY BAND CONCERT: 7 p.m. June 10 at PVRS

**"WARWICK IS OUR TOWN" A History Fair: 10 am-2 pm Wed., June 11

*FIELD DAY: 9-12noon Thurs. June 12

OLD DEERFIELD VILLAGE ALL SCHOOL FIELD TRIP: 9-1 p.m. Fri., June 13

*WCS GRADUATION: 7p.m. June 18

*HIKE MT GRACE: 9 a.m. Fri., June 20

"WARWICK IS OUR TOWN!" WCS will finish our year-long study of the history of Warwick with an all-school history fair on June 11th! Classrooms will display their individual history projects. Our sixth graders will present their exhibits and demonstrations of Warwick life, which they developed with the guidance of our Librarian, Laurel Powell. Our students will participate in "Old Time Amusements," the final in a series of three marvelous history labs from Deerfield Teachers' Center. Songs and artwork of Warwick, and a slide show, created by Susan Wright, of our exciting year of study, will round out the day. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Susan Wright for her invaluable help with our projects over the year, the Foundation for Educational Excellence (FEE) for their generous support, and the many community members who so kindly contributed to our learning by sharing time, artifacts, and personal stories with us.

EVERYONE LOVES PANCAKES! Save the date: Saturday, June 7th, for our annual PTO pancake breakfast!!! We have planned a delicious breakfast and some fun activities, including a "small animal farm," where students will exhibit examples of their own animal farming projects. PTO is still looking for volunteers, so if you think you could help us in the kitchen, the cafeteria or supervising the outdoor activities, please contact the school or a PTO member. Thanks for your support!



SATURDAY, MAY 24, WARWICK MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION



Meet at the Church on the Hill at 1:00 p.m.
Children of all ages are welcome to participate!



READERS' CORNER: Did you know that over the summer your child can lose up to 2.6 months of grade level equivalency in Math and 2 months in Reading? Here are some tips from your Reading teachers on how to prevent "summer brain drain":



- Read, Read, Read - What your child reads doesn't have to be academic or school related. The important thing is to keep reading.
- Make regular visits to your public library and sign up for the summer reading program.
- Use a family vacation as an educational experience. Children can help plan costs, calculate mileage, follow a map route, read about interesting places to visit...
- Get flyers for local attractions and give them to your child to read.
- Practice math skills daily on shopping trips, planning meals and following recipes, budgeting an allowance...

Reading and learning can be so much fun and a good way to be prepared for the challenges ahead next year!

CREATING OUR SAFETY ZONE Teasing, whether by words or action is not tolerated at WCS. We will immediately address unkind words and actions whenever we see, hear or learn about them. The best way to prevent bullying is to stop anti-social behavior while still in its infancy stages. We do this by taking time to talk and problem solve with the children involved, finding an appropriate apology of action and logical consequence.

Most importantly, we actively teach children social skills and ways to handle frustration and anxiety. We follow the Responsive Classroom practices that strengthen the "CARES" character traits and promote self-esteem and moral development. They are:

- C** - Cooperation
- A** - Assertion
- R** - Responsibility
- E** - Empathy
- S** - Self-control

OUR CLASSROOM BUZZ...

MULTIAGE PreK and K: Multi-age children have just finished a unit on animals and how they grow. They each wrote a report about the animal they chose to study and read it to their reading buddies.

We are now starting units in social studies on playing together. Children are learning old and new games and how to play them. On Fridays we are building games and using them in the classroom the following week. Children taught their reading buddies a math game they made last week. Connected to these games, children are also learning science vocabulary about how things move. We hope to save these games to show people at the Town Fair.

Children are also busy reading and writing poetry and beginning to write and read pieces incorporating feelings and opinions. **Ms. Allison White**

GRADES 1 and 2: In the coming weeks our class will be busy finishing up our study of non-fiction. We will continue to research non-fiction books and learn new facts that will help us as non-fiction writers. We will also be doing a quick poetry unit together during these last weeks of school.

In math, both grades have started to study time. 1st graders will be learning time to the nearest $\frac{1}{2}$ hour and 2nd graders will be learning to read the analog clock by 5 minute increments. We will also be revisiting shapes, and talking about equal shares and fractions.

As we get ready for Our Town Fair, we will be revisiting all we learned this winter about what the lives of children of Warwick would have been like in the past. Looking forward to a busy and exciting month ahead! **Ms. Kristyn Gibbs**

GRADES 3 and 4: Over the next few weeks of school we will be studying all about our towns, both Warwick and Orange. We are exploring many books about local history. Today we started to study maps of Warwick. Our first map is from 1830! Warwick had a booming population of 1,150 at that time and boasted 12 sawmills, 10 schools, and 2 tanneries. We are fascinated by how busy Warwick once was! In the coming weeks we will examine how the railroad impacted the population of some of our neighbors and how it had the opposite effect on Warwick.

We will take a trip to meet Mr. Lemon at the historical society to focus on Warwick in the 1800s. Then we will create a map of buildings and structures in Warwick throughout history to share with all of you at our history fair. We will also learn about town government and town coordinator, David Young will come in and speak to us about the jobs of the people at town hall. Then, we will expand our studies to include Orange (for two of our school choice students.) We will compare and contrast the two towns in the 19th and 20th centuries, particularly looking at

railroads and water power. We will then take a trip to the Orange Historical Society. Finally, we are rounding out our study of the local area learning about the Quabbin. The students are enjoying a historical fiction novel about the flooding of the town of Enfield to create the Quabbin Reservoir. Interesting things are happening in third and fourth grade classroom!

Ms. Christine Mullen

GRADES 5 and 6: We are closing in on the end of the school year, but that doesn't mean things are "winding down". Lots of exciting things are still ahead!

Fifth and sixth graders have been conducting research and writing reports on different people and events associated with the American Revolutionary War. We are simultaneously completing book clubs in which each group read an historical fiction novel with the American Revolutionary War as its setting. Groups have been exploring issues leading up to and around that conflict. War can create heroes and heroines and bring freedom to a country, but it can also tear families apart, be nonsensical, confusing and ruthless. The members of each book group identified the author's purpose in writing the novel, have completed illustrated timelines or comic strips of the important events in their books, and are working on short skits of some of those events. The timelines and skits will be performed for their classmates and parents on Thursday, May 22.

Our class is getting ready for our trip to Cape Cod from Wednesday, June 4 - Friday, June 6. In addition to the Early American History of the area, we have studied or will be studying the moon phases and tides, how to make a telegraph and read or send Morse Code (in anticipation of our visit to Marconi Station), how a light bulb works in a circuit (in anticipation of our tour of Highland Lighthouse), we will be sorting and classifying shells of the marine invertebrates we will see on Cape Cod. While there we will be learning more about the ecosystems, food webs, and air and ocean currents. We can hardly wait!

Finally, it is that time of year when we prepare to send our sixth graders off to the next phase of their schooling. They are finishing their years here at WCS and heading to Pioneer next year! They are working on their yearbook, will be going on their sixth grade trip the week after Memorial Day and then preparing for graduation which will be on Wednesday, June 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the WCS gymnasium. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Ms. Lynn Hansell



MUSICAL NOTES! We are enjoying such beautiful weather, rejoicing in the brilliant colors of flowers and grass and leaves. Between MCAS tests, we have been singing

patriotic songs in honor of Memorial Day.. Sixth graders are planning for graduation, evaluating pieces for processional and recessional for meaning and walking tempo. The 3/4 class helped write a new version of "This Land is Your Land" for our Warwick History celebration on June 11th. The 1/2 class are learning songs about spring and growing to understand the value of practice. The multiage class will be singing about animals and their environments. All classes are practicing and preparing for the Graduation Concert on June 18 at 7pm. We know this is a late hour, but we hope you will make a special effort to attend and bring your students. Plan a rest and an early supper, then come and support this year's sixth graders! I look forward to seeing you all on June 11th and on the 18th, and wish you all a relaxing summer.

Ms. Kim Wallach

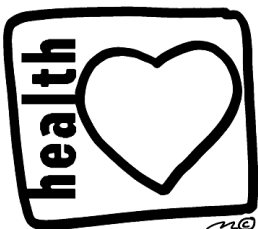
PE NEWS: This year has been a fun and exciting year during PE class at WCS.

Students leave the gym with red rosy cheeks, hot, sweaty and with a smile! We just finished up our batting/hitting/catching....wiffleball unit. During the last few weeks of school we will try out some family friendly lawn games that your child will be able to play at home, a bit of track and field, and then FIELD DAY on Thursday June 12th.



Please send your child to school with sunscreen on, a water bottle (with name on it), a change of clothes (as they will get wet during our water activities) and footwear that is appropriate for running and jumping..SNEAKERS! Thank you all for sharing your wonderful children with us at WCS, they are a pleasure to teach. Enjoy the next couple of months with lots of fun and play. **Ms. Sue Scott, PE**

MOVING UP & MOVING ON? Part of closing our school year is saying "good-by" to friends who will be moving away during the summer. PLEASE keep us informed if you will be leaving our school. It is so important to the children (& teachers!) that we can say "good-by" and make proper closure. It is also vital to your smooth transition that we can process the paperwork, etc. Please let us know if you will not to return next year.



HEALTH NOTES: Thoughts on a trio of seasonal health issues...

SUN AND INSECTS: Protecting your child from sun and insects at this time of year is important. Field trips, Field Day, and days with Physical Education can all be opportunities for too much sun. By being aware of the forecast and your child's schedule, you can protect them against bug-bites and damaging over exposure to the sun. Since all chemical sun-

screens and repellants can only be applied at home, consider applying a long-lasting sunscreen in the morning before school. Your attention will help your child learn to protect themselves as they grow older.

FOOTWEAR is a continuing concern. We all want children to get exercise during recess, but flip-flops offer little protection to the foot during active play. Please have your child prepared for safe active play by insisting on sneakers or other soft-soled shoes that fasten securely to the foot.

HYGIENE: Body odor starts increasing as your child matures. Starting by 3rd grade, parents need be sure that their child understands the need to shower daily and thoroughly wash with soap and water with special attention to under arms, their private areas, and feet. Sweat mixes with bacteria causing body odor. Heads also sweat and hair needs to be washed frequently. Some children at this young age may already need deodorant if you notice that the soap and water is not taking care of the problem throughout the day. You also need to guide them to change into clean clothes so that they do not just put the odor back on again with the clothes. Smell the clothes they take off - if there is body odor there, point it out to them, and inform them that clean clothes need to be put on a clean body. Smell their towel after they shower. If it smells like body odor, it means their body is not clean when they exit the shower and they require further instructions and continuing supervision in washing. Please do not assume this is about someone else's child. **Soap and water is the gold standard for cleaning hands** whenever soap and water is available. Because of this we ask that children **not** bring hand sanitizer to school. We do have it available in an emergency if water is not available.

Thank you for your cooperation! **Ms. Julia Dempsey, RN**



**PROTECT YOUR BRAIN POWER
WEAR A HELMET!**

