

# April 2010

## Sandown Central News Letter

### A Note From the Principal

Dear Parents:

As we move into spring break we look forward to much anticipated warmer weather. We have certainly had our ups and down with the weather and the effect it has had on Sandown Central School.

As we move into the last few months of school it is important to continue to encourage your children to keep their focus on learning. This can be an up and down time for them as they, at times, are focusing on spring and summer activities. Thank you for your support.

We truly enjoyed the PTA breakfast, book fair and Bingo for books. I would like to thank our hard working PTA and all the volunteers for coordinating and supporting these events. These events make our schools a better place.

We would like to recognize and congratulate the following students who were winners in the Daughters of American Revolution History Essay Contest. For Grade 5: Matthew Salois First place—winning essay— sent onto the New Hampshire state competition. Kyle Butler second place and Cara Brothers placed third. Their essays captured the focus of the topic transcontinental railroad from various human prospective.

Ava Russell won the Most Prac-

tical and Useful award at the state's Invention Convention. Nice work Ava!

We celebrated Earth Day on April 22nd as a school wide Enrichment Day. The students participated in various activities such as: a scenic show on global warming, a distance learning program about volcanoes and earthquakes and their effects, a Mt. Washington observations program the "Wonder of Thunder", and a geologists ran several workshops with students from Geo-science Outreach Foundation. It was a wonderful day of learning about our earth.

We are asking our parents who come into our volunteer room, to please, not bring young children with you. We have several safety concerns and we want to keep all children and adults safe around the equipment in this room. Thank you for your cooperation and support you give to our school.

We've enjoyed some wonderful musical activities this month. Our Sandown students did a great job performing in a district elementary concert at the Performing Arts Center.

We also held our annual Art Show on April 21st. and enjoyed a fabulous performance by our chorus! We continue with the

fine tradition of having some very artistic and musical students at Sandown Central. Thank you Mrs. Lenihan and Mrs. Quigley for helping our students discover and express their talents.

We are all looking forward, in May, to an all school Anti-Bulling Assembly. The assembly will be hosted by 7th and 8th grade students from Hampstead Middle School. The students will be educating our students on ways to confront and stop bullying as well as becoming part of the important task of putting an end to Bullying in schools!

Notice to our 4th grade parents that we will be administering the Science NECAP Tests in May. Please be sure to review the notice with the procedures about the testing which will be sent home.

A quick reminder to our car drop off parents. Please make every effort to enter the school yard at a slow rate of speed. We are always concerned for the safety in and around the school.

We appreciate you cooperation.

Think spring!

Douglas E. Rolph  
Principal

## Enrichment News: PTA Sponsors Earth Day Event:

Our Enrichment day was on Thursday April 22nd (Earth day). The theme was "Our Awesome Earth". This was an all day event focused on the processes and phenomena that make our planet, in a word, awesome. The Sandown PTA funded an impressive line up of guest experts.

Jeff Danger visited Sandown Central for the event presenting experiments, audience interaction, and slide show visual displays that taught the children about the science of global warming, solar energy and even some fireproof balloons. He

encouraged the kids to make environmentally responsible choices.

Experts from the Mt. Washington Observatory were on hand to teach about the amazing force of lightning. Using a small Van de Graaf generator the observatory experts helped students understand the importance of lightning, its causes and the sheer awesome force it yields.

Scientists from the Geo-science Outreach Foundation will offer their expertise on the forces within our Earth that shape the planet. The Earth's crust is in constant motion. The scientists from

the foundation will help the children understand what effect that has on our lives on the surface.

In addition to these experts, our own Sandown staff presented their expertise about everything from the power of the wind to recycling and caring for our planet. Thanks to our distance learning team we also connected with experts in Ohio to learn about volcanoes and earthquakes.

This was an amazing day that the students will not soon forget. Thanks PTA!

## Invention Convention Winner!

At the recent New Hampshire State Invention celebration Ava Russell won the award for the most useful and practical invention in the fifth grade category. The invention was called "Warm Wear". The warm wear had a set of tubes inserted into gloves or mittens that contains a phelangelic (finger) gel that keeps warm.

The annual event was held April 3rd and had over 100 participants from all

over the state.

**Congratulations Ava!**



## From the Orchestra

District advanced fourth and fifth grade strings are currently preparing for their annual District Grades 4-8 Orchestra concert on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm at the PAC (6:15 pm arrival). Their district-wide rehearsal takes place Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm to 8 pm (all advanced fourth and fifth grade strings). It is so much fun to perform with their peers

from **all** of the elementary schools. We also get to observe the excellent Middle School orchestras in the same concert! Please practice your pieces daily!



## From Nurse Kate

As the warm weather starts to arrive, it also means the beginning of tick season. Ticks are often associated with Lyme disease. Lyme disease is caused by a bacterial infection. In New England it is transmitted by a certain type of tick, commonly called the deer tick.

Special precautions to prevent exposure to ticks should be used.

1. Wear light colored clothing and tuck pants into socks and shirts when outside for prolonged periods of time.
2. Family members should check each others clothing and body

surface for attached ticks.

3. Tick insecticides containing permethrins should be used on exterior clothing only.
4. Tick repellents containing DEET no higher than 30% concentration should be used sparingly

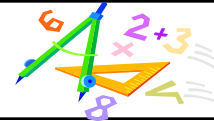
How should a tick be removed?

1. Grasp it with one of the tick removal tools found in stores or fine-tipped tweezers as close as possible to the attachment site (skin)
2. Pull upward and out with a firm and steady pressure

3. Do not handle the tick with bare hands. Be careful not to squeeze, crush, or puncture the body of the tick
4. After removing the tick, disinfect the bite site with alcohol or beta dine and wash hands.
5. See or call a doctor if there is a concern about incomplete tick removal.
6. Do not attempt to remove ticks by using Vaseline, lit cigarettes, or other home remedies: doing so may actually increase the chances of contracting a tick-borne disease.

## News from Everyday Mathematics

Elementary Math Coach Kathy Fowler



The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Website has a link to some great Family Resources:

<http://www.nctm.org/resources/families.aspx>

Below is the opening page. Once there, you can click on the links for more information.

### Family Resources

#### Help your child learn math

#### Help Your Child Succeed in Math:

You can make a big difference in your child's attitude, motivation, and math-ability.

#### Homework Help:

Key concepts to make those homework sessions more effective, and more fun! Includes additional resources to use in daily

homework sessions.

#### Math Education Today:

Math is taught differently now. Here's help to get up to speed.

#### Figure This! Family Corner:

Family members are crucial to student success. And the more that adults become engaged in their children's education, the greater the chances that children will succeed.

## 5th Grade News

Even though we are nearing the end of the year and some students are thinking the school year is over, we are really getting very busy.

In math we just finished Unit 9, learning the formulas and the logical thinking that goes with area, volume, and capacity. After vacation we will all be in Unit 10 which covers algebra concept skills. Students will start out with the logical thinking of using a balance scale to understand how algebraic equations are used. After that students will begin working with variables in algebraic equations. This unit is very challenging for most students.

Earth movements is our last unit in science. Here students will learn about erosion, weathering, volcanoes, layers of the earth,

earthquakes, and other timely information considering all the activity that is currently taking place on planet earth this year.

This time of the year gets very hectic when one considers all that is going on besides the regular curriculum. Some of the important dates for our 5th graders to remember are:

### May

**20th** - Parent information night for 6th Grade (6:30 - 8:00)

### June

**3rd** - Field trip to Boston and Freedom Trail

**9th** - Video conference with 6th grade

**14th** - Wacky Water Day and pizza

**15th** - Move up day (visit to 6<sup>th</sup> grade)

- Dress rehearsal for Lip Sync  
**(4th grade)**

- Lip Sync performance for parents in the evening

**16th** - Rain date for Wacky Water

**17th** - Educators serve breakfast to all 5<sup>th</sup> graders

Awards presentation and yearbook signing

Half day and the last day

# Calendar

## May 5th

- Sandown PTA Board meeting see PTA website for more details
- Students attending performance of Beauty and the Beast at the PAC center

## May 10th

- NECAP testing starts and continues till May 27th.

## May 11th

- 6:30 pm—8:00 pm  
The district 4th and 5th grade strings will be rehearsing at the PAC
- 7:00pm  
District 4th and 5th grade string rehearsal @ Auditorium & RH

## May 14th

- Early Release @ 1:10 pm

## May 18th

- NECAP testing starts and will continue until the 13th.

## May 19th

- 7:00 pm Grade 4-8 string/orchestra concert @ the PAC

## May 20th

- 6:30 pm—8:00 pm Parent information night for our fifth grade students who will be going to the Timberland Middle School in August of 2010

## May 24th

- NECAP make -up day

## May 25th

- NECAP make-up day

## May 27th

- Last day of NECAP testing

## May 28th

- Author Cynthia Lord will be at Sandown Central for the student body in the afternoon

## May 31st.

- No School Memorial Day