

The Wildcat Bi-Weekly

Volume 1, Edition 2

Friday, February 27, 2009

Events for the weeks of March 2nd and March 9th:

March 2, 4, 9, and 11th- Basketball Clinic for students in grades 4 and 5 (boys and girls) from 3:00 to 4:15

March 10- Presentation by high school guidance department to 8th grade parents-6 P.M. in music room at Orwell Village School (graduation requirements, teacher recommendations, high school teacher expectations, typical schedules, sports/clubs offerings)

March 11th- Student Council sponsored Pajama Day (Grades K-4) and Twin Day (Grades 5-8)

March 12- 8th Grade students to visit Stafford Technical Center

News and Notes:

Congratulations to: Dan Ellis who will be this year's valedictorian and Christy Papandrea who will be this year's salutatorian at FHUHS!

2009-2010 EEE and Kindergarten Search- Orwell Village School is conducting a search for students who will be entering EEE(Earl Essential Education) or Kindergarten for the 2009-2010 school year. If you are a resident of Orwell and your child will be three (for EEE) or five years old (for Kindergarten) on or before September 1, 2009, please contact the school (948-2871) so your child may be included in the class count. Notifying the school also insures that you will receive information about upcoming registrations and screenings. If you do not have children who are eligible, but you know of any eligible children, please ask their parents to contact us here at the school.

Thanks and Congratulations to Mrs. Cathy Alger- Mrs. Alger just received notice from The Ronald McDonald Corporation that Orwell Village School will receive a check in the amount of \$2500 to support the creation of a new mobile lab at OVS. Mrs. Alger received this grant at a ceremony at the MacDonald's in Rutland on Thursday, February 12th.

Soccer Clinic Begins Soon- This year Orwell Village School did not have enough student athletes to field a 5/6 Boys' and Girls' Team. Instead we had two 6-8 teams competing with area schools. Mr. McKeen has agreed to sponsor a series of afterschool basketball clinics for our 4th and 5th grade students. Mr. McKeen, our physical education teacher, welcomes all boys and girls interested in learning more about the game and improving their basic skills to their first session on Monday, Feb. 23rd. Clinics will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00 to 4:15 through March 11th (the last session).

Drumming Residency...a BIG Success! The week before February break, OVS welcomed the very talented Julie Corey who conducted drumming classes with all our students. There was also an evening for the community to participate and all in attendance had a wonderful time drumming, singing, and dancing along with Julie. Students concluded the residency with a school wide assembly where all classes shared their drumming and singing talents!

More Music News

Ms. Broughton also reports that Orwell has eight music students from grades 6-8 participating in Mrs. Fran LaPlaca's FHGS Chorus. Students attend her chorus two times per month, with a performance scheduled for May 20th. Mrs. LaPlaca reports that our Orwell students are doing a great job, and that she enjoys working with them.

Many of you already know Mrs. LaPlaca. She directs the FHUHS Chorus, the Keynote Singers, and chorus at FHGS and CVS. Ms. Broughton is confident that our students will enjoy Mrs. LaPlaca's expertise as well as her caring and thoughtful approach.

It's not too late to secure a copy of *A Restless Spirit: The Story of Robert Frost* by Natalie S. Bober. Orwell was one of the 56 towns that participated in the Vermont Humanities' Council Year of Frost. Libraries, schools, museums, and others held approximately 300 events statewide celebrating Frost's life and work. Orwell Village School participated in two ways. Our students in grades 4 and 8 took a hike along the Robert Frost Interpretive Trail in Ripton, as well as, sponsoring a poetry reading the evening of January 27. Interested in poetry? Enjoy biographies? Want to know more about the man behind the poetry? Call or stop by the school or town library to pick up a copy of ***A Restless Spirit: The Story of Robert Frost.***

Grade Two Students Support a Worthy Cause

The twelve students in Mrs. Young's Second Grade class are fighting malaria by raising money that will be used to purchase nets. These students are hoping to raise enough money to purchase two nets. Each net costs \$10. One net can protect two people for five years! So far over 3,000,000 have been protected and saved. According to the National Geographic Explorer malaria kills 3,000 children each day. I know that you join us in saluting these children and their humanitarian outreach.

Library update. Students in grades Kindergarten through fourth are finishing up the Red Clover book selections for 2008-2009. These particular books are chosen by a state committee based on content and quality of illustration. Students in Orwell and throughout the state submit their vote for the best book of the collection. There are ten books in the collection and they are read and discussed in library with Mrs. Schulte throughout the year. Mrs. Schulte reports two favorites to date being *When Dinosaurs Came with Everything* and *Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal, a Multicultural Cinderella.* Each year, Mrs. Schulte applies to the Mother Goose Program through Vermont Center for the Book. Don't forget that Mrs. Schulte is a wonderful resource to parents and community members when looking for suitable and quality books for children of all ages.

A gift of the heart for the heart. This year the Orwell Sixth Graders chose to forgo exchanging Valentines with one another in favor of doing something for others. On Thursday, February 12, the Sixth Graders held a bake sale for the students at OVS, selling baked goods for 25 and 50 cents each. The bake sale was a huge success. The Sixth Graders managed to raise \$78.00 for the American Heart Association. A big thank you goes out to all who baked for or contributed to the bake sale.

Orwell Village School Welcomes Students From Castleton State College. Certainly not new to Orwell or to Orwell Village School is Mrs. Barbara Papandrea who is student teaching this semester in 5th grade under the supervision of Mrs. Ann Larkin and Ms. Ann Ellis. We applaud her energy, enthusiasm, and commitment to the students she is serving. We also welcome Ms. Brynn Campbell, Tom Carroll, and Ms. Jules Carryer who will be observing classes on Wednesday mornings and working with small groups of students under the direction of Mrs. Dubois, Ms. Reardon, and Mrs. Cecil. This is an opportunity for these early involvement students (freshmen) to get an "up close and personal look" at teaching and learning.

Orwell Village School Water System is nearing full compliance with the State of Vermont with respect to its water system. Dundon Plumbing and Heating has completed the installation of the water disinfection system (chlorine system). All schools in the state must be capable of disinfecting their water if the need presents itself. Our chlorine disinfection system will operate only when necessary. The school has had no history of failed water tests which has made us a good candidate for a chlorine disinfection system. The engineering firm of SVE in Rutland hired by the State of Vermont has provided the oversight on this project. It is highly likely that the cost incurred to install this system will be forgiven through a loan forgiveness program through the state and federal government.