

The Eagle Tribune



Ellis Middle School

SERVICE LEARNING - MRS. LEE GRADE 6

A few months ago, Sixth Grade students embarked on a service learning project. The project focused on sending supportive care packages to soldiers overseas. Students were actively engaged and involved in the complete process: addresses were diligently researched, fundraising posters craftily created, donations kindly collected, letters lovingly written, care packages decoratively wrapped, shipping labels fastidiously typed, boxes thoroughly packed and sealed, customs forms begrudgingly filed, and packages gleefully carted to the post office.

This week we received our first response back from one of the troops. Students were ecstatic and would like to send another round of packages soon!

Dear Ms. Robin and Class,

Wow! What a great package you sent to us. We are so grateful for the thought and love behind the gifts and letters. One soldier does not receive any packages, so we gave him the gift that had the gloves and he was so happy. I wish I could have taken a picture. It means a lot to us to know that you all are even thinking of us. We will continue to do our best. So thank you from the soldiers of the 135th Alabama National Guard.

Lt. Delarosa

We are respectfully collecting donations for the next shipment of care packages.

The following items are needed:

Travel-Sized Toiletry Items:

Chap Stick, toothpaste, deodorant, Tylenol, aspirin, dental floss, mouthwash, conditioner, shampoo, eye drops, toothbrushes, sanitary items, hand lotion, and foot powder.

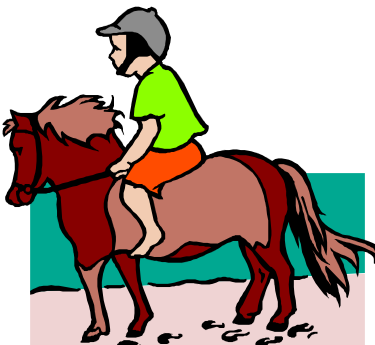
Other items:

Cookies, nuts, trail mix, Pop Tarts, micro-wave popcorn, 1 pound bags of coffee, gum, beef jerky, Tootsie Pops, granola bars, Crystal Light, and more.....

Fun Stuff:

Frisbees, dice, small Nerf balls, Rubik Cubes, Yo-Yos, playing cards, baseballs, and small card games.

Thank you all for your enthusiasm and support!



PEPPERMINT PONIES 4-H CLUB AND SUMMER CAMP

Does your child love horses? Girls and boys ages 5 to 18 years are welcome to attend Peppermint Ponies 4-H Club meetings to learn more about horses, ponies, 4-H, and group hands-on activities. No experience nor horse ownership is necessary.

Should you have any questions, please contact Jan Brubacher, Leader, at 679-3367, 303-1584, www.peppermintponies4h.org, www.northroadfarm.com, or j.brubacher@comcast.net. Scholarships are available.

7TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS - MRS. PIPITONE

I can hardly believe that Spring is here! Students in 7th Grade Language Arts class are finishing up their reading unit on the Fantasy genre. These books have taken your son/daughter on a great adventure to a new world which has taught them about the magic within themselves. These books contain talking animals and objects, magical powers, medieval or mythical elements.

They have been working on many of the grade level expectations for a literary text. During class, I have been reading the book, *The Dark Hills Divide* by Patrick Carman. Through this read aloud, I have demonstrated several of the

grade level expectations.

Characterization is just one of the many grade level expectations. Students have been taught a mnemonic device to help them remember the five types of indirect characterization—STEAL (speech, thoughts, effect on others toward the character, actions, and looks). Other grade level expectations that we have discussed during this unit were: vocabulary, plot, paraphrasing/summarizing key ideas, making inferences, theme, point of view, and many more!

Students continue to have weekly vocabulary quizzes on common

Greek/Latin word roots. Research in the area of comprehension shows that strong vocabulary is the foundation for reading comprehension.

As always, homework assignments can be found on the school's homework hotline at ext. 177. Also, homework is written each day by your child in their assignment book and stamped by me.



GRADES 5 AND 6 OCEANS UNIT

DIVE, DIVE, DIVE! After April vacation, Fifth and Sixth Grade students will be suiting-up with scuba gear for a plunge into the depths of the ocean. Team teachers have collaboratively created a cool, **cross-curricular** (alliteration) end-of-the-year theme unit. This year's focus is the **OUTRAGEOUS OCEAN**.

Students will be immersed in learning via many **differentiated activities**. Hands-on learning will include fantastic field trips to the Boston Aquarium, a whale watch, and Odiorne State Park. In addition, students will earn theme afternoons such as Penguin Play, Shark Stuff, Whale World, and Beach Basics that will also incorporate varied **content areas**. Imagine learning how whale blubber keeps these mammals warm, how whales filter krill, and how a penguin insulates her eggs!

Pulling the entire theme together, teachers are **integrating** various ocean topics into their learning activities.

- * **Art** class is creating an ocean **mural** based on the art of Wyland.
- * **P.E.** is integrating active **movement games** with an ocean theme: Capture the Lobster, Octopus Tag, and more.
- * **Social Studies** is **navigating the Nile** water way by answering questions about the area using maps and **sailing the Seven Seas** by researching and creating ancient ships to see which design was most efficient.
- * **Math** is reinforcing fractions, percents, proportions, and ratios by incorporating the **nutritional values** of various fish. **EAT MORE FISH!!**
- * **Science** students are researching and creating fact sheets on an organism of their choice that lives in a **coral reef ecosystem**. They are utilizing this information to complete a food web, energy pyramid, and more.
- * **Fifth Grade Language Arts** is reading **Gordon Korman's ocean adventure books**: the Dive & Island series.
- * **Sixth Grade Language Arts** students are writing **informational research** papers on whales. In addition, they are creating a Whale Alphabet Book and designing a whale wall mural. Students are also reading various short articles on whales and whaling. The dialogue and debate on whaling continues.

Our Ocean unit will culminate with an **Ocean Day**. Each class will have students exhibiting various ocean activities, **sharing their knowledge with the lower grades**.

So, slap on some **sunscreen** and get ready for some **outrageous ocean exploration!**

MIDDLE SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

THE SEACOAST SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

PRESENTS THE 2nd ANNUAL SUMMER CAMPS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Exciting Summer camps will be offered once again to students who are **currently** in the 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th grade. One-week camp sessions will take place during the weeks of July 5th and July 12th. Each day's session will run from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Students are responsible for their own transportation, and there will be no food served. A nurse will be on campus. The cost of \$125 per camp includes all required materials. Each camp will run contingent upon enrollment. A student will be considered enrolled once the enrollment and medical forms are complete, a check made payable to the Seacoast School of Technology has been received and has cleared, and current grade level is confirmed with the student's middle school.

Go to www.SeacoastTech.com for complete information, including the required application and health form. A letter confirming your child's placement will be mailed to you once he or she is enrolled. The fee of \$125 per week is valid for completed applications and health forms received through Friday, April 30, 2010. After April 30, 2010, the fee will be \$135 per camp. The deadline for all applications is May 14, 2010.

Families First

May 19th Cyberspace: What's My Teen Doing Out There? How to Monitor and Keep It Safe. This informative evening will be presented by Wayne Moulton of New Heights. The program is scheduled from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the New Outlook Teen Center, 20 Front Street, Exeter. For more information, go to www.familiesfirstseacoast.org.

Career Cruising

I have gone to all 7th and 8th grade Computer classes this week to assist students in taking a personality test which can be found at the www.careercruising.com website. The student's individual results matched them with careers that fit their personality's styles. Ms. Kenney and I required that students explore two careers that were suggested from their results. Parents, please ask your children for their pink exploring career sheets, and feel free to take the personality test yourself. To access the test, go to the website and insert the Username ellisms, and the password fremont

Lunch Groups

Michelle Farrar, B.S., M.Ed.
895-2511 Ext. 438
mfarrar@sau83.org

IMPORTANT DATES - APRIL & MAY

April 26 through 30 - Spring Break

May - NWEA Testing and Science NECAP Testing

May 5 - 5th & 6th Grade Trip to Aquarium

May 11 - Parent Forum 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

May 11 - School Board Meeting 6:30 pm

May 18 - 4th Grade Step-up Day

May 18 through 21 - 8th Grade Washington, DC Trip

May 19 - Chorus Concert at Sanborn High School 7 pm

May 21 - Great East Chorus Festival/Canobie Lake

May 31 - Memorial Day - No School



"Way To Grow" Votes Can Earn \$2,500 for Ellis

Ellis School has a great opportunity to earn up to \$2,500 from the Lands' End "Way To Grow" sweepstakes.

Now through Friday, May 14th, you can go to www.landsend.com/thehub and enter once each day online with your vote for Ellis School. The top 10 schools with the most votes as of May 14th will be awarded up to \$2,500 for their school.

Support Ellis School with your daily vote in the "Way to Grow" sweepstakes and earn \$2,500 for our school! Ask friends and family to vote for Ellis School too!!!

PLEASE CHECK THE LOST & FOUND!

There are many jackets, coats, shirts, pants, sneakers, sweatshirts, mittens, boots and other items that will be donated next week!



NOTES FROM THE NURSE

Spring is here and so are things like allergies, poison ivy, ticks, mosquitoes, stubbed toes, and HEAD LICE. Although there have been just a few random cases of head lice, I know they are out there, and other schools have been dealing with them. PARENTS PLEASE remember it is your responsibility to check your student's head for lice weekly. It is a lot easier and more efficient for parents to check their student's head than it is for the nurse to check 530 heads! Mass head checks for lice are not recommended, and we do not practice this at Ellis School. However, if you notice your child scratching at the nape of the neck and behind their ears and you have checked but want help, please feel free to call the Ellis School nurse at 895-2511, extension 420. If you find live lice or nits and are unsure what to do, call the School Nurse for help!

When a parent treats a student for head lice, they have a few responsibilities:

- * Call and let the School Nurse know your child was treated.
- * Call any parents of your child's friends who have had close contact with your child and let them know your child was treated.
- * Come in to the school with your child and have the Nurse check their head after treatment.
- * Have your child come to the Nurse every Monday and Friday to be rechecked for at least three weeks.
- * Educate your self by going to the Ellis School Nurse's web page and scroll down for links to Lice information.
- * Have your child wear their hair up in braids or pony tails, if they have long hair.

Spike came to Ellis School last week and visited the Pre-School and Kindergarten classes. Who is SPIKE? Spike is a porcupine who promotes poison prevention awareness, and through the Northern New England Poison Center, a program was presented to the students with information being sent home. Remember to call 1-800-22-1222 for any questions regarding poison and safety.

The Bicycle Helmet Promotion from the NH Safety Department was a great success. Thanks to everyone who purchased helmets at a great price. ***Bike safety starts with wearing a helmet to protect your head!!***

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION AND SCREENING - Anyone planning to have a child in Kindergarten this Fall should send in to the Ellis School Nurse their child's current physical and shot record signed by your pediatrician. All new incoming students must be compliant by NH State law regarding this matter. Thanks!!

Ellis School Track News



Our Spring Track and Field Team is off to a great start! At the first meet, our 7th and 8th Grade Boys won the Small School Division!

The boys did exceptionally well in the field events, and placed fourth overall in the 4 by 100 relay – including all schools! The Girls had a solid day, with lots of personal records. The Team currently has 28 students involved in the program, with more signing up everyday! The next meet will be a 7th & 8th Grade meet on Wednesday, May 5th. Please note, this is a change from the original schedule.