

# Carrabec Community School

## December Newsletter 2017

### IMPORTANT DECEMBER DATES

- 6 ~ Board meeting at the Carrabec Community School
- 12 ~ K-5 Christmas Play "A Peter Pan Christmas" 6pm at CCS
- 13 ~ Chorus/Band Christmas Concert 6pm at CCS
- 14 ~ Festival of Trees Field Trip
- 18 ~ K-5 Christmas shopping Day
- 21 ~ No school for students / Staff Workshop Day
- 22-29 Christmas Vacation
- return to school on January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018

*Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!!!*

### *From the desk of our K-8 Principal*

The Month of November started off with a new twist for the Carrabec Community School. After the violent storm that tore through our State on October 30<sup>th</sup>, many community members were left without power. Teaming up with Doug Cahill, the Emergency Management Director for our area, we prepared our building to be transformed in the late afternoon and evenings into an Emergency Shelter for community members. The doors opened from 4-8pm to allow community members to come here and shower, get warm, have a light snack, retrieve water for their homes and recharge needed items. A few stayed and had a warm nights sleep on the cots supplied by Emergency Management. Those folks awoke to a friendly greeting for our kitchen ladies who prepared coffee and a light breakfast for them. I would like to extend a big thank you to Ms. Lorie Agren who supervised all of the activities that came with opening our building and who remained in constant contact with Mr. Cahill and myself during this time. It most certainly was a great feeling to be able to be of such assistance to a community in need.

The week before Veteran's Day, the staff worked to educate students on the importance of this day and what it truly represents. Our halls were beautifully decorated with the colors of red, white and blue to represent our great Nation. Mr. Larlee and his second grade class sang "America the Beautiful" during the morning announcements on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

We were honored by a visit from Mr. Rothert's father who came in and spoke to our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students about being a veteran. Mrs. LeBeau visited our second grade class to talk about her experiences as a Veteran as well. I was extremely proud of my staff and students for making this week a week of honor and tribute to our fellow veterans.

Thank-you to all of you who attended parent-teacher conferences with your children's teachers in October and November. Your attendance at your child's conference shows him/her that you value education and will support him/her throughout the school years ahead.

We held an assembly for the K-5 students and staff on November 14th. Pizza Hut certificates were presented to students who completed their Book-It calendars during the month of October. Mr. D. presented Excellent Attendance awards for students who had no more than one absence and no more than one tardy during the first ranking period. We also recognized students in grades 3-8 who made the Honor and/or High Honor Roll for the first quarter.

At our assembly we also presented awards to the "Citizen of the Quarter." Each teacher will nominate one student from his/her class for this award each quarter. The award can be based on criteria such as grades, behavior, study skills, attitude, helpfulness, cooperation, improvement, and other factors.

CITIZEN OF THE QUARTER



Standing: Joseph Grondin, Alexis Fortin & Leandra Pinkham  
Kneeling: Ivan Chapman & Roland Harrington  
Missing from photo is Alivia Berube

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS



From left to right are:  
Devyn DeLeonardis, Asa Flanagin & Jayden Cates

I was proud to present the Principal's Reading, Science and Math awards to Devyn DeLeonardis, Asa Flanagin & Jayden Cates. Each recipient must have placed in the top decile of their class on the math, reading or science section of the Maine Educational Assessment. (MEA). Each participant must also have demonstrated excellence in both aptitude and achievement in math, reading or science. Mr. Chet Hickox, and his wife Mrs. Sara Hickox generously donate each year for the math and science award. The PTO donates each year for reading. These awards are accompanied by a check for \$50 to each recipient. There are plaques which are inscribed each year with the winners' names hanging in the lobby of Carrabec Community School.

As we move into the month of December, we anxiously await all of the special events and activities that highlight the holiday season. It is certainly my favorite time of the year!

The District Band/Chorus Concert will take place on Wednesday, December 13th at 6:00 PM at our school. Band and chorus students in grades 5-8 will perform holiday songs under the direction of our music teacher, Mr. Gilbert.

Our K-5 Christmas Program will take place on Tuesday, December 12th at 6:00 PM. All of our K-5 students will take part in the play "A Peter Pan Christmas."

December 19th will be the date of the annual Children's Christmas Shopping Day. (December 20 will be our snow day) Let's hope we don't need it. We will be selling new and gently used items donated by parents and staff that students can purchase for gifts for their family members. Each item will cost only twenty-five cents. Each class will get to visit the "store" that will be set up in the hallway in the K-5 wing. Adults will help the students do their shopping and will wrap the gifts for them.

December 20th will be a full day of school and the last day of school before the Christmas break. (Students return to school on Tuesday, January 2nd) All of the K-5 students will have a special movie party together, and plans are still underway for that activity.

Our Winter Sports Season opened on November 6<sup>th</sup> with practices already in full swing for boys and girls basketball and cheering. Our Varsity Coach for the boys is Luke Tewskbury and Mike Golden for the JV Boys. The Varsity girls team is being coached by Erik Carey, and Mike Cahill is coaching the JV Girls team. Lesa Weggler will coach cheer-leading and has started practices on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November.

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with family and friends and a nice little break from the daily routine of work and school.

I wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas and holiday season.

## Kindergarten

We have been busy this past month. Our class has been working hard on beginning letter sounds, writing in our journals, and practicing our numbers 0-10. I want to thank everyone who attended our parent teacher conferences. I appreciate you taking the time to meet with me. Home-school connection is very important!



We spent time this month learning about the Pilgrims and Native Americans. We learned about their voyage to America and how the Native Americans helped them. Our class along with First Grade hosted our annual "First" Thanksgiving. It was nice to get together with first grade and share a meal. Thank you to everyone who donated food for this event.

We also spent time this past month learning about Veterans Day and why it is so important. Our class did a wonderful job making flags for our Veterans Day bulletin board. Our class would like to thank everyone who has served our country.

Our class is also working hard on our rote counting and number writing. We are practicing counting to 50 by 1's and also to 100 by 5's and 10's. During center time, we have started reading groups. Your

child will be bringing home books they're familiar with in their folders regularly. Please continue to practice reading at home with your child.

With the colder weather approaching, please make sure your child is properly dressed. This includes having items such as a winter jacket, snow pants, boots, hat, and gloves. Your child will need these each day! And please mark your calendars for our holiday program on Tuesday, December 12th! We look forward to seeing you there!

## First Grade

### Season's Greetings

During the month of November we celebrated our Veterans through stories and amazing artwork throughout the school. **On November 21<sup>st</sup> the First Graders re-enacted the first Thanksgiving with the Kindergarten class with good food and laughter and sharing what we are thankful for.**

In reading we have completed our unit on pets and have started our new unit about friends. We started this unit by working together to make "Friendship" bread. In Math we are working on how to use addition to solve subtraction problems.

On November 14<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the end of the first quarter of school with an assembly. Congratulations to Alivia Berube for being the "Student of the Quarter". Also congratulations to all of the first graders who received Pizza Hut certificates for completing the first of six Book-It calendars. Please keep reading and filling out those calendars for FREE pizza.

During the month of December we will be singing in the production of "A Peter Pan Christmas". On December 14<sup>th</sup> we will be going to see the Festival of Trees at Good Will Hinckley.

**The First Graders would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday!**



## Second Grade

The Second Grade will have a student teacher with them this fall. Her name is Amy Cates, many of you know her as one of our Ed Techs here at CCS, she will be with us until Christmas. The class is learning so much from her.

Our Christmas program will be on December 12. In math we are working on addition and subtraction. We are having fun and learning a lot with our new reading series, "Wonders."

We had the honor of singing "America the Beautiful" for the whole school over the intercom during morning announcements to help celebrate Veteran's Day.

## Third Grade

Dear Third Grade Families,

I hope you each had a wonderful Thanksgiving!

We have moved onto a data and graphing unit in math. Students are becoming familiar with tally charts, frequency tables, picture graphs, bar graphs, and line plots. Not only are they becoming competent in interpreting the information displayed in these graphs, they are also becoming competent in making their own graphs. In fact, by the end of this unit, each student will have created a poster displaying a question they created to survey the class and the results displayed in a tally chart, a picture graph, a bar graph, and a line plot. Additionally, they will have written a summary of the results.

Currently, in our Wonders reading and writing curriculum, we have been reading about landmarks and monuments in our nation. Students have been learning how to analyze a nonfiction text to identify the main idea and supporting details.

Students were very busy in the days leading up to Thanksgiving break. We went on virtual field trips to learn about Pilgrim and Wampanoag life in the 1620s. We read Thanksgiving books, made tie dye turkeys, and wrote long lists of all the things we are grateful for. We accepted and completed two STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) challenges to build Wampanoag homes and Mayflowers that must float and hold objects.

Throughout December for social studies, we will make passports and will "travel" to different countries in social studies to learn about how other countries and cultures celebrate Christmas and winter holidays. Third grade will decorate our school Christmas tree with ornaments they have made to represent the countries we have studied. These ornaments will be sent home with them on December 20th. Please ask your child to share with you the significance of their ornaments!

Parents, please remind your child to wear a winter jacket and grab their warm winter hats and gloves. Recess is very chilly! Wishing you a warm and wonderful holiday season!

## Fourth Grade

Mrs. Stevens and her fourth grade class have been working on writing stories, and making a class book of limericks. They are learning about reasonable estimating. Last month they estimated Candy Corn, the winner was Kody Burleigh, he shared some with the class and got to take the rest home. This month we are estimating pretzels. The students are coming up with different items they can estimate as well as enjoy the ending results.

## Fifth Grade

Ms. Long's Fantastic Fifth Grade:

**Math:** Students are learning how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions! Using math vocabulary such as common denominator, numerator, least common multiple and reciprocal has been challenging but everyone is making great progress! We have just completed the math NWEA tests and all the students improved their scores.

**Writing:** Students have been learning about poetry: acrostic, diamante, sonnet, haiku, and tanka. We have submitted our sonnets to a Scholastic poetry contest!

**Reading:** October book projects were amazing and we are reading our November chapter books and also using part of our reading block to rehearse for our holiday play "*A Christmas Peter Pan*" performance date: December 12th at 6:00.

**Science:** Having completed our life cycle unit, we are moving into studying about the human body.

**Social Studies:** Students are researching various aspects of the Revolutionary War period in U.S. History and we continue to watch CNN 10 in order to keep up with current events.

Thank you for sending your children to school consistently...it makes all the difference when students are present to participate and learn together!

## 6E

The grade six science students just wrapped up a unit on the States of Matter. On Earth, there are five forms in which matter can exist – solid, liquid, gas, plasma, and Bose-Einstein Condensate – a state of matter which exists only in a laboratory. Particles in each state behave differently due to the amount of energy they have. We explored two special properties of liquids, surface tension and viscosity, through activities and labs. Next, we are moving on to exploring the unique ways in which gases behave and the ways matter can change from one state to another through the processes of melting, freezing, evaporation, condensation, and sublimation.

Writers in my homeroom class are now working on the trait of ORGANIZATION. In this trait, students focus on titling and beginning their piece in a way that "grabs" the reader's attention, organizing details in an order that makes sense, using transitions, and writing satisfying endings. We have also been practicing homophone sets that are still easily confused, especially there, their, and they're and your and you're.

## 6W

In sixth grade Social Studies, students recently learned the location of 25 major US cities. Also, students are continuing their study of civics. They have learned about the Great Compromise and the Three-Fifths Compromise. The Electoral College is coming soon. Most of the time, they will find, the presidential candidate who receives the most votes becomes president. It does not always work out that way, however, as we have found in recent elections. Sometimes it more important to win the right states than it is to win the most votes. In November, students learned the location of 25 major US cities.

## 6R

The month of November was all about decimals. We focused on the concepts of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of decimals. To make these numbers more engaging, we went on shopping sprees, traveled to planets, totaled household expenses and converted money to other currencies! The students were given scenarios that would fit into real life given the included list of operations and asked to solve the equations.

Looking ahead: after Thanksgiving break, we will be switching units to cover Fractions. We will begin by investigating the equivalences from decimals to fractions and move our way to adding/subtracting, multiplying/dividing.

November, we also celebrated Veteran's Day. A guest speaker was invited in to give a presentation on his career in the Navy.

A big thank you to my classes for working hard! Let's keep up the great work!

## 7 Stone

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade math students will explore proportional reasoning and its application in similarity. The topics of ratio, rate, and proportion give students the opportunity to solve proportional relationships and to determine whether a relationship is non-proportional. The students will examine and compose scale drawings as an introduction to similar figures. Proportional reasoning as it applies to similarity is then extended to include perimeter and area of similar figures.

7<sup>th</sup> grade writers will continue to write compelling fiction by experiencing the world through their characters' skin, letting the story unfold as it happens to them, and highlighting the most meaningful parts of the story. Nevertheless, we will continue to create memorable scenes through our character's eyes.

Happy Holidays!!!!!!

## 7M

Yes it was unfortunate, our haunted house for the Garret Schenck school was canceled! The massive wind storm swept through and left homes without power and students with two storm days to make up at the end of the year. All the preparation and excitement seventh grade students had gone through vanished as the front moved inland.

In the world of Life Science we have studied: The History of Life on Earth, Geologic Time Scale, Humans and Other Primates, Classification, Domains and Kingdoms, Bacteria, and Viruses. Pay attention in class and become ill less often.

In Maine History we completed: A Century of War. It was a study of English- Wabanaki Tension. Seventy- Five percent of Native Maine Tribes were wiped out by an epidemic in a three year span. They had no immunity to European diseases.

Happy Holidays, enjoy family and friends.

## 8E

Mrs. Ellis's writing students are working on writing concise, dramatic, but truthful newscasts. They are currently "publishing" some of their work on a hallway version of CCS NEWS. They are reading news in *Junior Scholastic* to see how a good news piece is written and to get information for debate. In the 4-corner activity in which students decide whether they agree, strongly agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with a given statement, they have discussed many controversial issues. These include increasing the minimum wage, athletes taking a knee during the national anthem, whether or not cyber bullies who harass kids outside of school should be punished in school, and the issue of mascots that may offend those they had intended to honor, like the Skowhegan Indians. Students are very impressive with their arguments, the way they disagree agreeably, and their willingness to change their stance when presented with good arguments. They have even swayed Mrs. Ellis!

In math, students are currently using a curriculum by Illuminations to better visualize some geometry concepts. If you get a chance, take a look at <https://im.openupresources.org/8/students/index.html>.

Wishing you a wonderful and relaxing holiday season.

## 8C

In Literature Mr. Carey's students are reading *Killing Mr. Griffin* by Lois Duncan. The students really seem to be enjoying this book.

In social studies class we have moved on to the Constitution. During the American Revolution the United States created the Articles of Confederation. Soon after the war our founding fathers realized the Articles of Confederation wasn't strong enough. In the summer of 1787 they formed the Constitutional Convention. From this convention came the Constitution we have today. This formed our government with all three branches (Legislative, Executive, and Judicial). The students have begun to learn about the Bill of Rights (first ten amendments).

Soon we will have a guest speaker, Officer Mike Pike with the Somerset County Sheriff Department. He will be discussing in more detail amendments four and five and the rights citizens have.

## 8F

In November students continued their research projects on a variety of different energies. They gave some wonderful presentations on possible alternative energies that could be used more prominently in our future.

Due to some high water, our clay digging trip went a little differently than planned. Instead the students went to Mr. Reichenbach's house to see some of their art projects fired firsthand.

In 8<sup>th</sup> grade math we have also had a little math Olympics competition between the 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes.

This month a small group also has begun to take either Spanish with Mr. Carey and I, or Sign Language with Mrs. Ellis, during what would have been a study hall type period. It is wonderful to see students with the desire to learn a new language and to have fun doing so.

## 5-2-1-0 Thanksgiving feast.



Kindergarten and First grade had a 5210 healthy meal for Thanksgiving on November 21. Look how delicious it is and healthy too!!

# Carrabec Community School 3-8 Honor Roll

## November 2017

### Grades 3-5 All A's

High Honors  
Chandler Atwood  
Mikal Corley  
Leandra Pinkham  
Austin Sales  
Jesse Schwenker  
Parker Swihart  
Ava Welch

### Grade 3-5 A's & B's

Honors  
Drayden Atwood  
Tucker Bates  
Jackamo Benner  
Sierra Berube  
Izaiah Busler  
Liliana Caldwell  
Anna Canales  
Zackary Crawford  
Leila Dunphy  
Kailie Ebneter  
Cayden Estes  
Alexis Fortin  
Nicholas Greene  
Lyndsey Grover  
George Ladd  
Glenn Latoraco  
Haley McFadyen  
Connor McLean  
Seamus Miller  
Tyler Phillips  
Levi Small  
Colton Welch

### Grades 6-8 All A's

High Honors  
Emma Baker  
Abigayle Ballard  
Cheyenne Cahill  
Dakota Cahill  
Luke Carey  
Kolby Carpenter  
Jayden Cates  
Erin Clark  
Cooper Dellarma  
Devyn DeLeonardis  
Laci Dickey  
Tyler Edwards  
Brian Evans  
Aliyah Grunder  
Lindsay Hamilton  
Shyanne Holmes  
William Lawrence  
Abigail Luce  
Caitlyn Oliver  
Alyssa Schinzel  
Brandon Smith  
Aislinn Slate  
Trinity Slate  
Courtney Rollins  
Brooke Welch  
Ethan Wyman  
Hailey Wyman

### Grades 6-8 A's & B's

Honors  
Dylan Abbott  
Kayleigh Atwood  
Julia Baker  
Sadie Beane  
Bryson Boston  
Alex Briggs  
Nathaniel Caldwell  
Elijah Canales  
Twyla Carpenter  
Amberly Cwikla  
Brooke Dube  
Isaiah Dunphy  
Nick Gower  
Elijah Grunder  
Daniel Handley  
Tyler Hansen  
Nevaeh Holmes  
Elisha Ireland  
Emma Junkins  
Brianna Kimball  
Kiera Goodale  
Christopher Latoraco  
Brooklyn Lehto  
Robert Lindblom  
Gabriella Manzer  
Dillon Nelson  
Daniel Paine  
Pariss patterson  
Conner Peabody  
Navada Sayles  
Hunter Sousa  
Sumner Taylor  
Hunter Tewksbury  
Jayson Tsoukalas  
Faith Willette  
Garrett Wilson

