

# CARRABEC COMMUNITY SCHOOL

## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2017



### ~ Important Dates ~

- 1 ~ Board Meeting @ Carrabec High School 6pm
- 1 ~ 6-8 Civil Rights trip to UMF / student training
- 3 ~ Q1 Report Cards go home
- 6-8 ~ Tooth Protectors
- 7 ~ 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip w/ Mr. R., (ART)
- 7-9 ~ Session 2 of the After School Program begins (gr. 3-5)
- 9 ~ Early Dismissal Day
- 10 ~ No school in observance of Veterans Day
- 14 ~ Q1 Academic Assembly; K-5 8:10 and 6-8 following K-5
- 22-24 ~ No School / Thanksgiving Break
- 23 ~ Happy Thanksgiving
- 28 ~ K-5 Civil Rights Conference for students

**\*\*Parents are reminded to call the office if your child is home ill or has an appointment. Any new phone numbers, emergency contact or other information that has changed, please call the office at 635-2209 so we can make any necessary changes\*\***

To keep up to date, please check out our CCS website at [ccs.carrabec.org](http://ccs.carrabec.org)

From the desk of our  
K-8 Principal

What a warm and wonderful fall we have had, and the foliage this year has been spectacular. As the first ranking period winds to a close, our K-8 students are well on their way to a successful school year.

Our 6-8 students are working diligently again this year with an academic support system called Response to Intervention or 2.0, this support is in addition to a student's regular classes and hopes to bring up their level of achievement to grade level or above. This year the RTI program will be used for reading and math.

Our teachers are contacting parents to set up fall parent-teacher conferences that are taking place in November. Our goal is to meet with 100% of our students' parents to review their progress over the first quarter and set goals for the year. We ask students to play an important role in developing their goals so that they will take more ownership in them and work hard to achieve them by the end of the year. Their teachers and parents will identify ways to support students as they work toward their goals.

We want to thank Fire Man Rick from the Skowhegan Fire Department. Fire Man Rick came to our school to present fire safety programs to the students in grades K-4 on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Students heard about how to keep themselves and their families safe in the event of a fire. We have already had four fire drills so far this year. The students have conducted themselves in a very professional manner during these drills.

We held our annual Halloween Parade on October 31<sup>st</sup> in the K-5 wing. Parents and family members were invited to join us for the parade, which is always fun. Following the parade teachers had their classroom Halloween parties.

Throughout the month of October, Office Mike Pike had visited with our 6<sup>th</sup> grade technology classes to talk about internet safety. We are very fortunate to have Officer Pike on board for our students.

A majority of our students and staff participated in the "Walking School Bus" on October 18. The students were dropped off at the High School and we all walked the ½ mile to CCS. We would like to thank the parents, our Superintendent Mr. Tracy and Office Pike for walking with us.

First quarter report cards will go home on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will hold an assembly on November 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM to present awards for Excellent Attendance and Honor Roll for the first quarter as well as K-5 Student of the Quarter awards sponsored by the PTO. Our librarian Mrs. Mellows will present awards to students who participated in the Book-It Program in the month of October. Parents and family members are welcome to join us for that assembly.

For those of you who like to plan ahead, we have already set some dates for our annual Christmas festivities. Put Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM on your calendar for the K-5 Christmas Program, the 3-5 students will perform "A Christmas Peter Pan Play", and the K-2 will perform some Christmas songs. The District Christmas Concert for band and chorus students will be the next day, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM here at CCS. Please join us for our CCS student talents.

The students are settled in and engaging in many activities outside of academics. We continue to have the Anson After School Program for our Grades 3-5 run by the Anson Rec Department. The 3-5 programs consist of various activities for the students to participate in as well as occasional field trips. Our site supervisor for CCS is Bobbie Sue Harrington.

Session 2 of the After School Program will begin on November 7<sup>th</sup> and will run 3 weeks instead of 6. Our dates will be November 7-9, November 14-16 and November 28-30. CCS will run Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during this session. **Sign ups must be returned by Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> in order to participate in session 2.**

Our Civil Rights Teams have come together nicely. The Civil Rights advisors for CCS are Beth Higgins and Heidi Tolman leading grades 6-8 and Elaine Jillson & Lynn Smith leading grades K-5. The advisors attended a Civil Rights Advisor Conference in the fall. The 6-8 team members will attend the Civil Rights Team Conference in Farmington on November 1<sup>st</sup> and the K-5 on November 28<sup>th</sup>. The mission of the Civil Rights Team Project is to increase the safety of elementary, middle level, and high school students by reducing bias-motivated behaviors and harassment in schools.

Fall Sports ended on October 18<sup>th</sup>, all of our athletes were recognized with words of praise and certificates on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The end of the season brings the onset of the next season as student are eager to

sign up for basketball and cheering. It is great to see the amount of participants in the sports programs here at CCS.

The K-5 PTO organized the return of the Harlem Rockets again this year. The Rockets came on October 26<sup>th</sup> and performed during an assembly for our students here at CCS and for the GSS and Solon Schools as well. That evening a game was held at the Carrabec High School with the Harlem Rockets vs the Carrabec Dream team which consisted of our CCS staff.

I hope that you and your families will enjoy the month of November and will have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

## KINDERGARTEN

We have been busy this past month here in Kindergarten! We have been learning about bats, pumpkins, and spider. Our class has been focusing on beginning letter sounds, practicing numbers 0-5, rote counting, and writing in our journals. We also welcomed a new student Brooklyn to our class! She has been a great addition and all my students have been very welcoming.

Our class has been loving having our reading buddies come each week to read to us. Mr. Carey's 8th grade reading has done a great job reading to us and listening to us read! We also enjoyed the Walking School Bus. It was a lot of fun walking together to school. We are looking forward to doing it again in the Spring.

This month, I held parent teacher conferences. I appreciate everyone taking the time to come meet with me. We also have started our new reading program called Wonders. We will be using this program throughout the school year. We have been focusing on writing and identify numbers 0-5, shapes, patterns, and counting to 30 in math.

First quarter report cards will be issued Friday, November 3rd. Please return report card envelopes signed. With our classroom computers and iPads we have been exploring starfall.com which is a great website for literacy and math. The best part is it's FREE! I'm looking forward to another great month in kindergarten.

## GRADE 1

October was a very busy month in first grade! We have been very busy learning addition in Math. On October 13<sup>th</sup> we started using the computer program Moby Max on the laptops for additional support for math skills. In reading we have been learning to read words with short i, short a, and double consonant endings ll, ff, ss, and tt. We also started having weekly spelling tests. In science we tried to grow crystals and failed. Our second attempt was very successful and the students learned how to keep a science journal, use bullet points and that is okay to fail, just try again.

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, we visited North Star Orchard and got a behind the scenes look at how apples go from trees to market.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> we participated in this year's first Walking School Bus. It was wonderful to have such large participation in this activity.

On October 20<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Curtis started her monthly Pick-A-Better-Snack program with the K-5 classes. Mrs. Curtis is from Somerset Public Health and Move More Kids. She will visit the classrooms once a month and introduce the students to different types of fruits and vegetables.

During the week of October 23, Parent/Teacher conferences were held. Thank you to all of the parents who took time to visit with me and set goals for your child. My door is always open to parents who would like to set up a time to visit and check in with your child.

On October 30<sup>th</sup> Fireman Rick Caldwell stopped in for lessons in fire Safety. Please practice fire drills at home and set up a meeting place to meet in the case of an emergency. We have fire drills once a month at school to practice safely exiting the building.

Lastly, Halloween! Thank you to all of the parents who provided healthy snacks for our classroom party and helping with the parade. Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

## GRADE 2

The Second Grade has finished reading *Charlotte's Web* and have started on *Cricket in Times Square*. The class has been working with Mr. Twitchell, our math specialist, once a week using a special math computer program called Moby Max. They will continue with this for an hour a week for the rest of the year.

We have finished our NWEA testing for the fall. Our Parent/Teacher Conferences were held the week of October 23. I enjoyed meeting all of my parents.

Ranks for the first quarter will close on October 27 and rank cards will be issued on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Second Grade has started receiving homework 2 or 3 days a week and are doing very well with it.

## GRADE 3

Hello, Third Grade Families!

Autumn is certainly in the air, and I hope you have been enjoying the colors of this beautiful season! Third grade has anxiously been awaiting and tracking the arrival of their Scholastic book order. We earned sixteen new books for the class! Thank you for your participation in helping us earn these books to share in the class! It is wonderful to see the students so excited about literacy! We have used the arrival of these books as an exciting positive behavior reinforcement. Students earn "Gotcha!" tickets for being on task, listening, persevering, and treating others with kindness. Students are also

encouraged to nominate each other for “Gotcha!” tickets, which promotes looking for the good in others. When a student receives a “Gotcha” ticket, they place their ticket raffle style in the bag of the new book(s) that they want to read. Our drawings will determine who reads each new book first!

I will be sending home Scholastic book order forms for November and December, as well. With the holiday season quickly approaching, I have already been ordering the little ones in my family books for Christmas. If you too would like to place a gift order for your child, please call me, send an order in a sealed envelope to me, or place an order online using our class code. I will partner with you in pulling off the surprise! Please just indicate to me if your order is a Christmas surprise!

Currently, in our Wonders reading and writing program, we are reading about inventions from the past. We are integrating this study with social studies by learning about Benjamin Franklin, and with science by studying a unit on work, force, and simple machines. We will conclude this integrated study by planning and creating our own inventions.

We are nearing the completion of our math unit covering rounding, estimating, addition, and subtraction. Third graders are feeling confident in these skills and ready to move on!

Thank you for all your support in partnering with us here at CCS by attending parent teacher conferences!

## GRADE 4

The fourth grade class and Mrs. Stevens are working on getting to know each other, and having a great time. Mrs. Stevens is working out really well in our fourth grade class and we are excited to have her. They have been working on reading and math which are new series for both classroom and teacher.

## GRADE 5

### **Testimonials from Ms. Long’s Fantastic Fifth Grade!**

In math class we were learning PEMDAS. PEMDAS means Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally. Our teacher Ms. Long is very nice, kind, and loves to persevere. I love my teacher and you will too! - K.E.

I really like Moby Max. Also I like long division. Also I like Kahoot, listening library, gym, music and every special except art, because I’m not an artist. I like MDI and I REALLY like the chrome-book as my favorite. I really like Mr. D. because he always gives everybody a fist bump. He only doesn’t when he’s sick. G.A.L.

I love to use the computers and sometimes play games. If we’re good we go outside at the end of the day to play. S.E.B.M.

My teacher is the best and her name is Ms. Long and we do lots of stuff. We did plants and I got a good grade on my book project, we do listening library and I’m still working to understand it. M.M

I love science, my favorite part is food webs because if you mess with the bottom you mess with everything. G.L.

In Ms. Long's class we learned how to take care of plants in Science which was very educational. In Reading we do book projects, our teacher does that so we can learn to present. In Writing we did an autobiography, biography and poetry. C. W

I love band because I love making music with friends its fun! S.J.M.JR

I like 5th grade we do P.E.M.D.A.S., Brain Pop, Ducksters and Moby Max. We learn about a bunch of things that are fun and cool things to learn about in 5th grade. T B  
CNN 10 is my favorite at school because I learn lots of new things. My favorite special is MDI because my Aunt works there and because the dances are cool and I love it, and my Aunt. I wish I could do Civil Rights and Band. I do Chorus. ZDC

I like 5th grade because of writing. I like writing because we did our five hundred word autobiography... .S.D.

What I like about grade 5 is Art and Math, also I like Moby Max. I like science too because we planted plants and Brain Pop. In writing we did a 500 word autobiography. M.S.

I really like chorus because I love singing, it is one of my favorite things to do. I also like writing poetry that is also fun to do because I love being creative. In reading class I love Kahoot! That is one of my favorite games. - LG

I learned about P.E.M.D.A.S. and more long division. We watch CCN 10 it is a news station. JG

I like decimals in math and at the end of the day we have a reward so we can go outside R.B.

I like 5th grade because I like science, social studies, and writing. I like lunch and recess. School is fun. J.Y

I really like band because I like to sing and play an instrument. I also like Kahoot! I like to compete against other classmates. I also enjoy doing poetry in class, it is super fun. L.D

I like band because it is fun to hit a drum and I like music. CNN10 is fun because it is about what is happening in the world. My most favorite though is reward because it is like recess time. LS

I like using Google Docs to write a list. I like Spelling City to play Hang Mouse. I like Mercy Watson Books. M.C.

My favorite thing so far in 5th grade is doing book reports and listening library. I like my teacher Ms. Long, she is very nice. I also like doing Moby Max, Spelling city, and Ducksters. HM

I love MDI because I get to dance and boogie. I also like adding decimals together. I.G.

The reason I like reward is 4 square. Adding and subtracting decimals is very fun. EG  
I love to use the computers and sometimes play games. If we're good we go play outside at the end of

the day. S.E.B.M.

## 6ELA

In Sixth Grade Social Studies, students are continuing their study of Civics. Thomas Jefferson has just completed writing the Declaration of Independence. In the next month, students will learn about the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation and the problems that led our Founding Fathers to believe that a new government was needed. They will learn about some of the compromises that had to be reached so that the delegates could support the Constitution. We have had our test over the location of the fifty states, and soon we will be learning the locations of many major cities in our nation.

## 6ROTHERT

We focused on the concepts of the Greatest Common Factor (GCF), Least Common Multiple (LCM), Prime factorization as well as focused on increasing our division skills. Students had a great time finding out who is the Greatest Common Factor in the GCF skill game. Earlier in the month we celebrated Friday the 13th with a mini class party focusing on food and a fun interactive Kahoot quiz game; targeting division and previewing our next unit in decimals.

Looking forward, we will be moving on to adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals. We are investigating why decimals are important in everyday life as we continue into adulthood through the convention of money. Jobs and wages are important as we grow and understanding how to plan out a shopping trip or budget are skills that we are developing through the decimals unit.

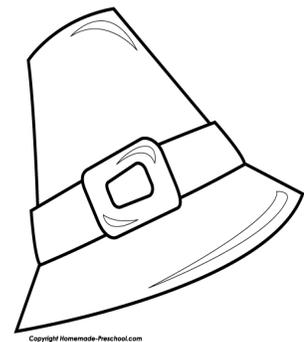
A big thank you to my classes as they have been working hard!

## 6WEGGLER

It is hard to believe the first quarter is almost over! The sixth graders have been working hard. In science class, the focus has been on the physical and chemical properties of matter and the physical and chemical changes matter can undergo. There are many physical properties which can be used to describe and identify matter, including color, volume, state, malleability, texture, and odor. We spent time studying one physical property in particular – density. Students enjoy the labs, especially those involving chemical reactions!

We continue to acclimate to our new reading series, Wonders. In class we have worked with vocabulary, genre, fiction and non-fiction text features, and main idea and details.

In writing class we are wrapping up the trait of Ideas in which DETAILS have been our focus. Students have been practicing using strong, rich DETAILS to create a picture in the reader's mind rather than



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just telling the reader information.

## 7STONE

7<sup>th</sup> grade math classes will continue to develop an understanding of rational numbers and their different forms. They will express fractions as decimals and decimals as fractions. Rational numbers are then compared and ordered. As with the integers, the students learn how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions. Once all of that is accomplished we will solve real-world problems with rational numbers.

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade English classes have continued to refine the writing process so that they can create realistic fiction, using a simple step-by-step approach. Through each step of the writing process the students will focus on content and language details. Therefore, they will be supplying details, writing dialogue, writing a good beginning and end as well as elaborating to help readers picture their story. Let's get creative.....

## 7MCMANUS

The students in my homeroom will be involved in a public service project on October 31<sup>st</sup>. During the morning hours the students will provide a Haunted House for the students of Garret Schenck school. There will be games, an operating room, and a Haunted House.

Youth Day for young hunters will have taken place October 21<sup>st</sup>. Many young hunters harvest their first deer on that day. Good luck!

In the world of Life Science we have studied: Cells: The Basic Units of Life, The Cell in Action, Genes and DNA, and The Evolution of Living Things. The History of Life on Earth is next.

We are doing "An Exploration of Maine's Past" using a book called Finding Katahin. We will study Maine's involvement in United States events. We have started with Maine's Native Peoples. The Age of Discovery: European Exploration of Maine is next.

Enjoy the fall colors. There may be lots of white to come.

## 8FERRARI

October was a month filled with some awesome field trips. There were two 8<sup>th</sup> grade trips to Maine Huts and Trails at Flagstaff Lake. This was a great opportunity to get the students out of the classroom and into the outdoors. Students also got an opportunity to see some alternative energy first hand. The huts were run on Solar Panels, and Flagstaff Lake was created to create a dam. The students are learning about the different types of energy that are used in today's society and getting a chance to see them firsthand was a valuable experience.

Students will also get a chance to combine Art and Science in our next field trip. Students will take a

trip to the Sandy River and dig some clay which they will use in their Art class. They will also get to see some pottery fired first hand and learn some of the chemistry behind the change in structure.



## 8CAREY

In Mr. Carey's social studies class we are just finishing learning about the American Revolution. Next we will focusing on the Constitution and how our government works. While studying the Constitution we will spend time on the Bill of Rights. We will discuss the rights granted to the citizens of the U.S. by the Constitution. During this unit of study Officer Pike will come and explain more in depth both Amendment four and five.

It Literature we've been reading some classic "scary" stories such as "The Tell-tale Heart" by Edgar Allen Poe and "The Monkey's Paw" by W.W. Jacobs. We have just begun reading short stories from a book about Maine ghosts and legends.

Many of the 8th graders went on an overnight trip to the Maine Huts and Trails' hut at Flagstaff Lake. The students learned about the history of the towns that were flooded when the dam was built. A former resident, Nancy McClean, spoke to the students about what it was like growing up in the towns of Flagstaff, Bigelow, and Dead. On this overnight the students participated in some activities run by the LC Bates museum staff as well as the Colby College Art Museum staff. The 8th graders also had opportunities to canoe and kayak on the lake.

## 8ELLIS

It's been a busy month! There was the Huts trip (where Mrs. Ellis managed to break her wrist!) and the Boston trip; both were great trips and the kids were wonderful. Now to get back to some semblance of normality!

Students in Mrs. Ellis's reading class are working on a book unit with a book of their own choosing. They have finished a career essay and will start a new unit on journalism soon. Students are doing well with exponents and scientific notation; the test will show just how well. Students are currently working on time management (deadlines, real life...) and working independently. We have our work cut out for us this year.

## ART

We are excited to announce that the Perloff Family Foundation donated a Flash Forge 3D printer to the art room. With this technology we will be able to expand the student's creative endeavors. The students will be able to design an object on their computers using programs such as Tinkercad and then print them using the 3D printer. The range of possibilities are enormous such as: emojis, chess pieces, sculptures, and even simple tools used in the art class. We are very grateful to the Perloff's for their generosity.

## LIBRARY

The library has been very busy this month, Your children are coming in and checking out our new and not so new books. Hopefully we have something to please everyone!

The BookIt! Program for grades K-5 has started and will run through the end of March. This program encourages the children to read daily and Pizza Hut rewards the students that participate with a certificate for a personal pan pizza.

Please help us to make children aware of the pleasure that is derived from READING!!

## PE / COBRA POWER / CROSS COUNTRY

First session for Cobra Power is up and running. We have eleven Junior High students participating within the program this year. It is good to see more students making the choice to better themselves, as well as seeing the benefits they get from participating within the program.

Physical Education is getting a bit of a face lift for the paperwork end of things. Google Classrooms are up and running for all 6-8 grade classes. This will allow for ease of logging scores and body compositions, as well as, receiving challenges for missed classes. If you have any questions over the Google classroom your child is participating in, feel free to contact me.

Cross Country had 5 strong willed individuals testing themselves time and time again. They run one and a half miles for each race and a bit more than that every weekday during practice. If you think the pacer or the mile is hard, trying to race against fifty other kids for 1 ½ miles. These kids are tough, improving from the beginning of the season to the end of the season by an average of four minutes. They did an amazing job.

Shout out to the Mihos Family, as they donated coats for both boys and girls, and a plentiful assortment

of hats and gloves for our students this winter. Thank you so much for thinking of our students, we truly appreciate your generosity.



CCS K-5 students we be joining the 100 Mile Club this year. The participants will earn trinkets towards their miles. Thanks to Mrs. Theberge and Mrs. Smith who will be heading up the 100 Mile Club, students who are interested will walk around the gym and weather permitting, outside to earn 100 Miles. At the end of the school year, each student will receive a certificate for the miles they have walked.

Our 5210 School Champion, Mrs. LeBeau just attending the 5210 symposium in Portland on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October. She learned a lot from the Keynote speaker, Mike Kuczala. He explained the brain/body connection in education. He talked about learning through movement and engaging and effective learning. So many things we can utilize here in the classrooms.

Please encourage your children to go outside and play, physical activity improves a child's performance in school and in life.

**Make**  **Your Goal EVERY DAY!**

- 5** or more fruits & vegetables
- 2** hours or less recreational screen time\*
- 1** hour or more of physical activity
- 0** sugary drinks, more water & low-fat milk

\*Keep TV/Computer out of bedroom. No screen time under the age of 2.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boston Trip 2017



### Walking School Bus 10/18/2017

