

Monkton Central School

April 9, 2010 - Newsletter #27

www.mcsvt.org

Calendar

April 12-16

Spring Recess

May 13

PTO Meeting, 8:15 a.m.

May 27

Walk Around the Pond (rain date May 28) 9:30 a.m.

Principal's News

Dear MCS Community,

There's a lot to say this week, so please read on!

Building Maintenance: Steve Raymond took a long-awaited vacation with his family the week of March 29-April 2, then had his legs badly burned at a campfire upon his return. He just found out from his doctor that he will be out for another four weeks. We send our best wishes to him as he recovers. The staff has pitched in to help cover some cleaning tasks and adjust to repair needs, but we could use some skilled help in Steve's absence.

If you or someone you know has some time to help with maintenance at the school, please call me at 453-2314. We have funds available to pay for this temporary help. Thank you.

Parking: Fire Chief Curtis Layn and members of the fire department visited today to review our fire drill procedures for the school. In the process, they reminded us that no one should be parking in the curve next to the school at any time. This area needs to be left clear for fire trucks. Please use the designated parking spaces any time you need to park and leave your car.

Energy Grant: ANESU received a large grant to improve energy efficiency throughout the supervisory union. For MCS, it means \$50,000 of repairs to be made in the coming year, including replacing 14 windows, relamping the entire building, and replacing one of our heat exchangers. This is great news for taxpayers and everyone who spends time in the building. The energy savings will pay off for years to come.

Thanks to Volunteers:

- George Bailey kindly offered to grade our parking lot, and he did so quietly and carefully at 9:30 last night! Thank you, George.
- Dawn Griswold, on behalf of the PTO, popped and distributed 200 bags of popcorn with the PTO popcorn popper to enhance the talent show experience. The kids were thrilled to have the treat and an additional reason to celebrate!
- Stephanie Murray and her helpers spent countless hours preparing for the talent show. This is a labor intensive event and extends well beyond teachers' normal responsibilities; so many thanks go to Stephanie, Barbara Yerrick, Virginia McLean, and Justin Towsley (parent and music-mixer) for their work. The event culminated in a sequined Bonnie Huizenga dancing with placards honoring the contributions of our four retirees. A spontaneous all-school dance followed!

New Hires:

- We are thrilled to announce the hiring of an experienced, joyful, and energetic P.E. teacher, Jeff Hudson. The joint Monkton/Lincoln P.E. hiring committee reviewed nearly 60 applications and chose to invite seven for an interview and sample lesson. Of these Jeff rose to the top and accepted the full-time joint position with Lincoln Community School. He will be a lot of fun to have around, and he has a great vision for extending wellness beyond the classroom to include lifelong activity and good nutrition.
- The K & K/1 hiring committee (Stephanie Murray, Suzy Way, Laura Sturtevant, Bob Radler and Edorah Frazer) has reviewed 210 applications and chosen ten applicants for an interview and sample lesson. We have conducted three interviews so far and will continue with these the week after vacation. We have an outstanding pool of applicants, and we expect to complete the hiring process by the end of April.

Science Fair: The science fair was another big success with students conducting a wide array of experiments, collecting data, forming conclusions, and deciding how to best present their work. Classroom conversations were filled with intriguing questions along the way. Thanks to teachers Kevin Grace and Kelly Pierpont, and to the parents for supporting their students in this Celebration of Science.

Lice: They're still around, particularly in Mrs. Davis' class. Please check your child regularly for lice and if you find some, keep your child home and treat him/her thoroughly. This requires special shampoo and combing as well as extensive laundering and housecleaning. We really hope this problem will be gone after vacation!

Student Pick-ups: After the Talent Show we had a few people leave with their children without checking out at the office. This created some tense moments in the school as we traced the students' whereabouts. Please, if you are taking your child out of school for any reason, send a note with your child in the morning, then let the front office know when you arrive to take your child. Thank you.

Building Use: The school building is used at least 12 hours a day during most weekdays, and frequently on weekends. It's wonderful that the town finds so many different ways to use the school facility. If you are using the building outside of school time, please remember that you need to fill out a form in the front office, and your group is responsible for completely locking the building if you are the last scheduled user for the day. The complete list of scheduled activities in the building is posted in the office. We continue to have problems with the building left open and lights left on, and we do not want to incur the expense of rekeying the building. Please help us solve this problem.

Recess Improvements:

I believe that children need to get outside during the day. Since the winter cold is gone, this means that kids will be out at recess unless there is a severe storm or lightning. Please help your children prepare for the weather with appropriate clothing. If you know your child will head for the puddles, an extra change of clothing in the cubby might be a good idea.

We have been working hard at making recess more fun, safe and inclusive. We are adding playground equipment, modifying games to be more inclusive, and planning a series of skits for our Friday assemblies on using Habits of the Mind at recess. **If you have balls, jump ropes, hacky sacks, or sandbox toys in good condition to contribute to our outdoor play areas, please let us know or drop them off in the front office. Thank you!**
HAVE A WONDERFUL SCHOOL VACATION WEEK!!!!!!

Edorah Frazer, Principal

Four Winds News

Greetings from the 4-Winds crew! We are actively recruiting NEW volunteers for the 2010-11 school year. Please join us next month at our training class, May 6, at the Monkton Firehouse. Come and find out what all the fuss is about. Please call John Kelliher with any questions at 338-7050. Thanks and we'll see you around.

Saturday, May 15 - 2nd Annual MONKTON DAY, including the Town-Wide Yard Sale (additional tables at the Firehouse) from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. sponsored by the Monkton Community Coffeehouse. There will also be a plant sale at the Methodist Church, and the Spaghetti Supper at the school sponsored by the Boy Scouts. Those interested in joining in the town-wide yard sale should contact jurban@gmavt.net. Please include all contact information, including phone and mailing address, so you can receive instructions on how to get your yard sale signs and where to send your \$10 registration. Deadline is May 5.

As a public service and a way of connecting folks in our far-flung community, Karen Sutherland has begun compiling a listing of public events in Monkton through the Spring, Summer, and Fall of 2010 and invites collaboration! Email Karen with details of your arts related or community event at karensu@gmavt.net. This calendar will be posted on our own local community bulletin board at monkton.talk.submit@gmail.com where you will find many other interesting articles, news, and town tidbits.

Karen Sutherland

Monkton Volunteer Fire Department Annual Buffet Breakfast featuring eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, fruit cup, juice, coffee, tea, and more will be Sunday, April 18, from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. Adults and children over 13 = \$8, seniors (65+) and children 6-12 years of age = \$5, children under 5 years of age = free. For more information contact Charlie Huizenga at 877-2888.

Monkton Central School Food Garden

Hey all you gardeners out there: we need your help! I have wanted to start a food garden for years so that our lunch program can profit from the harvest that could come out of our school garden. This week a few people from our school attended a Farm to School Program event at Mt. Abe called the Stone Soup Summit. It was a great way to get new ideas about ways to bring food into our cafeteria from our local farms. What better way to have good food than to have our own garden and to purchase other foods (that we do not grow) from local farms?

VOLUNTEERS are what we need!!!! The work would take place starting now and into the fall. If you would be interested in helping with the many different steps that it will take to get this project going, please call me. This could be the start of something great at MCS.

Nina Badger, 453-5023

Breakfast

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
19 - toast, cereal, fruit, milk	20 - pancakes and syrup, sausage, fruit, milk	21 - toast, cereal, fruit, milk	22 - toast, cereal, fruit, milk	23- buttermilk donut, hard boiled egg, fruit, milk
26 - toast, cereal, fruit, milk	27 - bagel with topping, cereal, fruit, milk	28 - toast, cereal, fruit, milk	29 - toast, cereal, fruit, milk	30 - double English muffin, hard boiled egg, fruit, milk
May 3 - toast, cereal, fruit, milk	4 - cinnamon toast, cereal, fruit, milk	5 - toast, cereal, fruit, milk	6 - toast, cereal, fruit, milk	7 - assorted muffins, hard boiled egg, fruit, milk

Lunch

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
19 - tuna on wheat, cheese nachos with salsa, sour cream on the side, fresh vegetable, fresh fruit, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	20 - hot dog on a wheat bun, baked French fries, fresh fruit, chocolate mousse, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	21 - home made pizza (cheese or veggie), fresh vegetable, fresh fruit, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	22 - scrambled eggs, ham or sausage, hot bread, fruit juice, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	23 - lasagna, garlic bread, fresh vegetables, fresh fruit, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar
26 - baked fish and fries, fresh vegetable, fresh fruit, cake, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	27 - buttered rotini, meatballs in sauce, garlic bread, fresh vegetable, fresh fruit, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	28 - assorted pizza day (no choice) , pizza sticks or pizza rollups, fresh vegetable, fresh fruit, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	29 - shepard's pie (hamburg, mashed potato, corn), fresh fruit, cottage cheese, home made bread, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	30 - baked chicken nuggets, seasoned rice, fresh vegetable, fresh fruit, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar
May 3 - French toast sticks with syrup, sausage links, fresh vegetable, fruit juice, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	4 - taco (with home made taco seasoning), seasoned rice, fresh vegetable, fresh fruit, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	5 - salad and yogurt bar - salad fixings: croutons, cottage cheese, turkey, ham, and pepperoni, yogurt, granola, berries, sprinkles, fresh fruit, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	6 - home made goulash, garlic bread, green beans, fresh fruit, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar	7 - Dress your burger day: cheese, pickles, relish; French fries, fresh fruit, milk - deli or peanut butter sandwich (in place of main entrée), salad bar

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Did you know the chicken pattie we served was white meat with whole grain coating?



YEARBOOK

The year is coming to an end quickly and it is time to start thinking about the yearbook. If you are interested in placing an ad in the yearbook, here is what we need: any images, logos, your preference for style, and your message (what you would like it to say). A drawn layout is fine too. Just gather it all together and email it to bdgris@gmavt.net (put YEARBOOK in the subject line please) or send it into the office in an envelope marked PTO-Yearbook. Deb Rickner, our yearbook designer/coordinator extraordinaire will build the ad. The prices are as follows;

Business card size ad, approximately 2"x3"--\$20

Double business card size, approximately 4"x3"--\$35

Half page, approximately 4"x7"--\$50

Full page --\$100

If you placed an ad last year and would like the same exact ad placed this year, you will receive a 10% discount. Checks should be made payable to Monkton Central School PTO. Thank you! Dawn Griswold, 453-8488, bdgris@gmavt.net