

June, 2010

Volume 7, Issue 10

West Street School



West Street School Newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Fri., June 4th:**
Last day to order lunch for Principal's Picnic
- **Mon., June 7th:**
Kindergarten water day
- **Tues., June 8th:**
Volunteer Luncheon in library
- **Thurs., June 10th:** Rescheduled 3rd grade field trip to Plimoth Plantation
- **Thurs., June 10th:** PTO meeting at 6 PM in Learning Center
- **Fri., June 11th:**
End of year Preschool Potluck Picnic, 6-7:30 PM
- **Monday, June 14th:**
—Flag Day —
School Council meeting in room 18 at 3:15 P.M.
- **Tues., June 15th** (rain date of 16th):
Field Day and Principal's Picnic
- **Thurs., June 17th:**
—Third grade Pancake Breakfast & planting of tree —
Whole school ice cream social
- **Mon., June 21st:** -Granby Cultural Council sponsored assembly program "Earth Rhythm"
- **June 21st & 22nd:** Dismissal at noon

A Change in Lunch & Recess Next Year

Next year, West Street School will be piloting a reversal of lunch & recess. The students will have recess **before** lunch. Several schools across the country have made this switch to benefit the students. After recess, the students will most likely eat and drink more of their lunches. They will also have the opportunity to socialized just prior to returning to their classrooms which will help them be ready to work as soon as they return. Also, the number of visits to the nurse's office after recess have been less in the schools who have recess first. We are hoping that this change in schedule will make a difference in food/drink consumption and readiness to learn.

Staff Changes for 2010-2011

We will have some changes next year with regard to the number of classrooms for each grade and staff. Next year, there will be 2 AM K and 2 PM K classrooms, 4 first grade classrooms, and 3 classrooms for grade 2 and 3 classrooms for grade 3. Gilda Sanchez will be teaching first grade. Gilda taught first grade prior to coming to Granby so has had experience with the first grade curriculum.

Last Day of School

Due to the unexpected closing of school on Thursday, May 27th, our last day of school will be **Tuesday, June 22nd**. We will have a half day (dismissal at noon) for both Monday, June 21st and Tuesday, June 22nd. Kindergarten students in the A.M. session will have their last day on Friday, June 18th. Kindergarten students in the P.M. session will come in for the mornings of June 21st and 22nd.

Many Thanks to our Volunteers

Our staff and students wish to acknowledge the many volunteers who were part of our school community this year. Without the generosity of time and funds from the volunteers in the Granby PTO, we would not have teacher stipends for classrooms, a Teacher Appreciation luncheon, 3rd grade recorders, family fun nights, assembly programs and field trips for our students and staff. The experiences and assistance are truly appreciated. We also appreciate all the time and efforts that volunteers have given to our students, staff, and school by providing students with individual and group assistance with their academics and staff with their responsibilities.

These are the volunteers who have routinely volunteered throughout the school year: Lori Toth, Bre Benoit, Justin Smith, Gilda Sanchez, Kara McMahon, Ebony Sabourin [members of the School Council], Shannon Asselin, Beth Pare, Chrissy White, Tracie Klekotka, Deana Drapeau, Moria and Marcus Barrows, LeeAnne Frank, Cindy Holubowich, Mollie Ortensi, Andrea Sudsbury, Micheline Pelchat, Jill Skibel, Tracy Learned, Maureen Bail, Tricia Roy, Audrey Miller, Carolyn Ouellette, Christine Young, Lori LeBlanc, Kim Ferro, Nancy Mainville, Kim Biron, Deanna Haas, Lynn Mercier, Joe Denette, Samantha Denette, Deb Couture, Jen Roulier, Karen Godard, Natalie Lacoste, Tracie Sexton, Lora Os, Kerry Mikalchus, Aimee Varney, Tammy Rousseau, Lynn Mercier, Sheila DeSellier, Karen Misiaszek, Deb Werenski, and Cindy Fournier. Special thanks to Leah Condon who continues to organize and monitor our school-wide literacy closet and Cheryl Fernandes for her role as chairperson of the Granby PTO. Our thanks to all other volunteers who have occasionally helped out for various activities throughout the school year. Volunteers will be honored at our annual Volunteer Luncheon on **Tuesday, June 8th**.

End of the Year Activities Planned

The end of school is approaching fast. There are many activities that we are excited about. The kindergarten will have their water day on Monday, June 7th beginning at 9 A.M. and 1 P.M.

Third grade students will culminate their school year and attendance at West Street School with an annual pancake breakfast (served by the superintendent) and tree planting on Thursday, June 17th. We will also be celebrating Flag Day with a performance by some 3rd grade students in the morning on Monday, June 14th.

All parents are invited to watch their children participate in the field day activities on Tuesday, June 15th (rain date of June 16th). We will begin the Field Day with a "Walk to Cure Diabetes". The students and staff contributed to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation during May-June. We will walk around the school holding a JDRF banner and gather in the field to begin the field

day activities. The schedule will be as follows:

9:05 "Walk to Cure Diabetes" & parade on baseball field

9:20 Grade 3—50 yard dash

Grade 2—beanbag balance relay

Grade 1—egg carry relay

9:35 Grade 3—egg carry relay

Grade 2—50 yard dash

Grade 1—beanbag balance relay

9:50 Grade 3—beanbag balance relay

Grade 2—egg carry relay

Grade 1—50 yard dash

10:05 Grade 3—broom ball relay

Grade 2—water balloon toss

Grade 1—goofy gopher run relay

10:20 Grade 3—fetch & carry relay

Grade 2— tug-o-war

Grade 1—water balloon toss

10:35 Grade 3—tug-o-war

10:50 Grade 3—water balloon toss

Grade colors: 1=white, 2=blue, 3=red

Students should wear sneakers!!

A school picnic, "Picnic with the Principal", will be held in the courtyard after the field day. Grade 3 students will have their lunch beginning at 11:05 and their parents

are invited. Lunch for grades 1 & 2 will be for students only.

On Tuesday, June 17th, the third grade students will have their Pancake Breakfast prepared by our superintendent, Mrs. Pat Stevens. This is Pat's and John Robert's final year of serving the breakfast as Pat is retiring next year in January and John is going to another district for the fall. Following the breakfast, the third graders will plant a tree as a gift to West St. School. In the afternoon, our annual school-wide ice cream social will be held for our students and staff. We are grateful to the PTO for this treat!

Thank you for a wonderful year!!



Many thanks to Jennifer Sinclair for the beautiful mural she is creating in the hallway of K & 1st grade.

Thank you, Cathy Imelio, A.S.A.P. Coordinator

In 2005, West Street School parents and guardians responded favorably to a survey about offering after school activities. They overwhelmingly agreed to a tuition-based program and providing their own transportation after the activity. As a result of this encouraging response, the A.S.A.P. (After School Activity Program) program was created and began on January 23, 2006.

Mrs. Deb Werenski and Mrs. Becky Liberte (members of the school council) worked with Mrs. McCauley to organize this program. The letters A.S.A.P. not only applies to the title of this program but also to the speed in which the organization for the first session was worked out! Over 100 students participated in this first session of A.S.A.P. at West Street School thanks to parent volunteers, willing activity leaders, and enthusiastic students and parents!!!!

In the spring of 2006, Cathy Imelio was hired to be our first A.S.A.P. Coordinator. She worked tirelessly to seek, contact and hire activity leaders so that the program continued with exciting, fun-filled activities that our students have enjoyed. She extended the program from three sessions during the school year; a one-week summer program was also added. She brought to the program enthusiasm, dedication to the students and families, and excellent organization. The program would not be as successful as it is today without the leadership of Cathy Imelio. Sadly, she has decided to move on to other opportunities and we wish her success and happiness in the future.

We are excited to announce that Rose Cupak has been hired to continue as the A.S.A.P. Coordinator. Anyone who knows Rose will agree that she is also dedicated to providing our students with a high quality program. She brings to the program organization, enthusiasm, and new ideas. Rose will work with Cathy to ensure a smooth transition.

Best wishes for a wonderful and safe summer vacation !!!!

West Street School Parent Questionnaire: April, 2010: RESULTS OF 138 RESPONSES

Representing students in grades: Preschool=11, Kindergarten=37, 1st=37, 2nd=30, 3rd=38, unspecified=1

The complete survey, including all comments, is posted in the school for your review.

Thank you everyone for completing this survey.