

March

Sandown North News



From the desk of
Jo-Ann K. Georgian, Principal

The winter break is here and hopefully that will signal an end to all this winter weather. Enjoy the break with your child. When you are talking about school, please also talk about the bus ride to and from school. We have been talking to the children as well, but lately it seems that some children have not been following the safety rules on the bus and some have not been as respectful as expected. To be safe, children cannot move around on the bus when it is moving. The drivers of our buses have a huge responsibility to get the children where they are going safely. Our children have a responsibility to sit in their seats, keep their hands to themselves, and talk to their seatmates only. They cannot stand and yell down the length of the bus as that is tremendously distracting to the driver and then also causes others to yell back. If your child is uncomfortable on the bus and needs some adult support, encourage him/her to talk to an adult in the building. We will do whatever we can to help with the situation. It is important for us all to work together so that the bus ride is not stressful for our children.

At the end of the school day, some children are worried about, and confused about, their after school plans. Please try not to tell your child that you will call in during the day to tell school staff what will be happening after school for your child. Children worry all day about whether or not their parent has called and it impacts their ability to focus during the day. Plans should be made ahead of time, with the child having a clear understanding of his/her after school plans. When you change plans mid-day and we inform your children, they become confused because they know what you told them in the morning. Emergencies happen, of course, and if one were to occur, we would expect that you would call to inform us of what you would like your child to do after school. If, during this emergency, you need us to hold your child in the office, know that we will certainly do that and your child will be safe.



Last week, the annual Jump Rope for Heart event was held. Mrs. DeCristofaro's father lost his life due to heart disease so this event has special meaning to her and subsequently to all of us. The money raised goes to the American Heart Association for research and support for those with the disease. The children have a chance to do something for others while having fun exercising here at school with their friends. Many parents volunteer for this event and have told me that they look forward to Jump Rope for Heart every year. I am always amazed at what our children can do with a jump rope. They

become intent on learning new moves and steps and by the end of those two hours, they are well on their way to being able to do it!

It's that time of year when we begin to welcome new parents to our school. We world appreciate your help in contacting parents who will have in-coming kindergarten children as well as those who will be entering grade one in our school for the first time. The first step is simply to have the parents call Sharon or Deb in the office at 887-8503, ext. 300 , so we can register them for our programs. Thank you for your support.



On Wednesday, March 4th at 7:00 p.m., our PTA is sponsoring an informational evening here at Sandown North. The Superintendent of Schools, Richard LaSalle, and Lance Whitehead from Lavallee Brensinger Architects will be speaking to all interested in learning more about the proposed consolidation project for the two Sandown Schools. Feel free to bring your family members, neighbors, and anyone who is interested in hearing more about this project. The public is welcome. Coffee and goodies will be served. Don't worry about child care as staff will be supervising younger children in the library. Please mark your calendars as this is an important night, a night where you can hear about the plans and a night where you have an opportunity to ask questions. I hope to see you there!

Curriculum Corner

Sandown Elementary 2009 Artist in Residence Program



Landscape Architecture with New Hampshire artist Laura Campbell

Sandown North and Central schools are fortunate to be in the second year of our Artist in Residency program. The Artist in Residency program is sponsored through a grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and matching funds from our PTA. This year, our students will be learning from New Hampshire artist and architect Laura Campbell. Students will work with our Artist in Residence to explore landscape design possibilities for the property surrounding our schools.

Laura will talk with students about the natural landscape resources that can be found on their school grounds. She will inspire our students to imagine exciting possibilities for landscaping and will help them to create landscape models. No actual planting will occur this year.

The community is invited to view these models at our Family Artist in Residence Night on Thursday, March 26, 6:30-7:30. During this community event we will celebrate our students' creative ideas and share thoughts about making them a reality. This will be an event intended to inspire collaborative planning. Over the next few years students and parents will be

invited to help achieve this common vision for our school grounds.

We look forward to seeing you at the Family Artist in Residence Night! Below are some dates for you to put on your calendar.

School Presentations:

Friday March 6

*North: K&1=9:15-10, 2&3=10:30-11:15

*Central: 2:00-2:45

Student art classes:

*North: March 13th, 18th, 19th, 20th

*Central March 11th & 12th

**Family AIR Night: Sandown North
(Thursday, 3/26, 6:30-7:30)**

Have a safe and happy February Vacation.

Patrice Liff, Assistant Principal
Justin Bentley-Melle, Enrichment Teacher,
Allison Lenihan, Art Teacher



Sandown North Inventors Program Update!

*Encouraging critical thinking,
creativity, problem solving and
ingenuity through design*

This month at Sandown North students have been working on the invention



process. Students have brainstormed problems to solve and designed mechanisms to solve problems. They have selected one of their inventions and planned out the details for how it would work.

Some students have decided to create models of their inventions at home. If your child would like to display his or her invention at the Sandown North Invention convention then please bring the completed project to Sandown North on Thursday, March 5th. Storage space is limited so please do not submit inventions on an earlier date.

To participate in the invention convention inventions must include the following items: (Items 1-4 can be from the invention packet your child completed at school or home generated)

1. Brainstormed list of problems to solve.
2. A description of one problem from the brainstorm list.
3. Three or more quick descriptions of original ways to solve the problem described in item two.
4. A detailed description and illustration of one of the solutions described in item three.
5. A model of the invention.
6. A display explaining how the invention works.



Inventions will be judged at our school-wide invention convention on Friday, March 6th. Winners of the school invention convention will be invited to participate in the Young Inventors Program on Saturday, April 4 at Merrimack Valley High School in Penacook, NH. Parents are expected to supervise their inventors at the state event.

Students will be sent home with their inventions at the end of the day on March 6th. If the project is too large to carry on the bus please attach a note to the project indicating when you plan to pick it up.

I look forward to seeing our students' creativity in action. More information about the NH Young Inventors Program can be found at www.aas-world.org.







Sincerely,

Justin Melle
Sandown North Enrichment Teacher

Sandown North Elementary

March, 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Read Across America Week	3 	4 Consolidated Schools Information Night 7:00 pm	5 Inventions Due at School	6 School Invention Convention	7 
8 	9	10	11	12 First Grade Field Trip 	13 PTA BINGO For Books 6:00 pm	14
15	16 Monday Morning Meeting 9:10 am	17 	18	19	20	21
22	23 Monday Morning Meeting 9:10 am	24	25 Early release 1:10pm NO K classes	26 Family Artist in Residence Night 6:30 – 7:30	27	28
29	30 Monday Morning Meeting 9:10 am	31				