



June, 2006

Sandown North News



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

It's hard to believe that I'm writing the final newsletter of the year. Our third graders will soon be 4th graders, transitioning to Sandown Central. Mrs. Barcelos, Mr. Rolph, Mrs. Liff, and I are looking at ways to help our children transition smoothly and comfortably. Fortunately, as they move from one school to the other, they move as a cohesive group of children. They will all continue to be together, just in a new setting. If your child is expressing worries or concerns please let us know by calling his/her teacher, Mrs. Stafford, Mrs. Barcelos, or me. Our Third Grade Celebration Day will be held tomorrow at the Playmates field. Mrs. DeCristofaro has carefully planned the day with challenges and fun built into the activities. Thanks in advance to the many volunteers who help make the day a success. A special thank you is extended to Ed Mencis, Linda Meehan, and Mitch Mencis for all that they do to insure that Third Grade Celebration Day is fondly remembered by the students.

Peter Saviano certainly will always remember wearing a laurel wreath and a banner for his accomplishment of walking New Hampshire. To promote wellness, Mrs. Zimmerman encouraged all by providing incentives and rewards for every 10 miles walked. Peter was the first child to walk the distance from the northern most tip to the southern most tip New Hampshire. At Monday Morning Meeting this week, he was crowned the winner! Maria Collie is almost there as well. On June 9th, Mrs. DeCristofaro and Mrs. Zimmerman will accompany them, along with Jake Chaput, Bella Lord, and Shane Dube to the State House for a celebration with Governor and Mrs. Lynch. In addition to the individual accomplishment, we competed in two groups: students versus staff. On May 22nd, when Mrs. Zimmerman posted the total number of miles walked by each group, it was a tie with each group having walked exactly 2,915.5 miles.

Thanks are extended to the PTA for providing us with a wonderful luncheon on May 9th. The food was delicious and the room was decorated so nicely. We sincerely appreciated it and want to thank Sally Morris and Therese Young for coordinating this event.

PTA also recently sponsored the spring book fair, where the children were able to purchase a book and get a second one free. They are always so excited with their purchases. Please encourage your children to read for pleasure this summer. Research has shown us that children who don't read during the summer lose a month or more of the reading progress they made during the school year. Our town library runs a motivational summer program where children can read and celebrate their accomplishments with friends. The children's librarian, Mrs. Pinard-Evans, is also a staff member. It's fun for the children to connect with her here at school and at the library. She is always willing to make helpful suggestions as well.

We are working closely together as a staff and in collaboration with the Sandown Central staff, to look closely at our state assessment results. We were disappointed by some of the results but have noticed that we have great success in some areas. Our goal is to give our children the skills to enable them to be successful when presented with challenging texts in reading and complex problems in math. It is clear that we need to expose our young children more to the genre of test-taking. Specific skills need to be taught, such as reading all choices before responding, the process of elimination, reading the question before reading the paragraph, etc. The children will feel more comfortable taking the test next fall if they are more familiar with this genre.

Recently, many of you completed a survey that the Universal team sent regarding Star Quest. We thank you for your overwhelming support, offers to help us, and suggestions for improvement. We will certainly be contacting those of you who requested that we do so. June 13th, we will have a celebration during the lunch periods. We will be having a hot dog picnic. You do NOT need to send money or lunch on June 13th. If you choose to pack your child's lunch, h/she will still picnic with us. The last day of school for children is now June 16th. Children will be dismissed at 12:00pm. We will serve breakfast that day but we will not be serving lunch.

I hope you have a wonderful summer with your child!



Although the school year has begun to wind down, Physical Education classes continue to keep students very active. First through Third Graders have participated in a variety of activities so far this year such as Running games(Tag Type Games), Team games, lead up skills to Soccer, Basketball and Volleyball, Pillo Polo Floor Hockey, Fitness activities such as Parachute, Cargo Net and Climbing Rope, Yoga, Gymnastics Tumbling and Vaulting and Circus Skills/Juggling. First and Second Graders also did a number

of activities using Exercise balls while Third Graders participated in a Canadian Team based game called "Omnikin" in which a four foot light weight ball is used. All grades will end the year with Dance and Tennis. First Graders will also take part in a number of Yard games while Third Graders play whiffleball.

Third Graders are also eagerly anticipating our annual Third Grade Celebration/Field Day/Cookout, which is scheduled for Friday, May 26, 2006 at Playmates Learning Center Field.

Our annual Jumprope for Heart Event was again a tremendous success. Eighty- two first through third grade participants raised a total of \$6400.00. That's \$700.00 more than last year! Recently the children proudly accepted their certificates for participating and their prizes during Physical Education classes and were also recognized at Monday Morning Meeting.

Kim DeCristofaro

Dear Parents,



Summer is a time to relax and have fun. It is also a wonderful time to read together, sharing the wonder and excitement of a new book. You, as parents, play an important role in your child's development of a love for reading.

Summer reading has been shown to provide the following valuable outcomes:

- Encourage a love and enjoyment of books
- Increase vocabulary knowledge
- Increase reading fluency
- Develop background concepts and general knowledge
- Provide models of good writing
- Provide maintenance of reading skills learned during the school year

Here are some tips to make summer reading a fun experience for you and your child:

- Keep books in the car and make sure a good book gets tucked into sports bags and campers' backpacks
- Get your child his own library card
- Help your child select books on topics he is interested in and are on his reading level
- Have plenty of books, books on tape, magazines, and other reading material around for kids to read
- Stock up on inexpensive books that can be exposed to the elements or swapped for others after reading
- Connect reading with other summer activities. For example, if you are going to the beach or

camping, choose a book on that subject

- Let your children see you read
- Read it, then do it! Does your child want to learn magic tricks or juggling? Read about it and then give it a try!

Look for age appropriate summer reading lists available in the school library and also the public library! Have a wonderful, safe summer and I'll see you in the fall! ~ Mrs. McLaughlin



**ATTENTION: BEGINNER STRINGS
START NOW IN JUNE, NOT
SEPTEMBER!**

All parents of current second or third graders who want to start strings next year for the first time: Beginner violin, viola, and cello sign-ups are NOW moved back to June this year, INSTEAD OF September. Now all beginning strings join with Band sign-ups at the PAC the week of June 19th.

On Monday, June 19th, and Tuesday, June 20th, from 5-7 pm, at the PAC, 2nd graders join 3rd and 4th graders in trying out violin, viola, or cello for the first time. If interested, sign-ups and instrument rentals take place either night, followed by the first three lessons the next three days: Wednesday, June 21st, through Friday, June 23rd. Look for a letter sent home with your child in late May.

Instrumental trials and rentals at the PAC on June 19 and 20:

Current 2nd graders are eligible for only violin, viola, or cello (we have small sizes).

Current 3rd and 4th graders can study any string or band instrument.

Sign-ups take place in June for next year, NOT in September (no fall sign-ups).



Thank you.
Marjorie Nelson
Stringed Instrument Instructor



DATES TO REMEMBER:

May 29 – Memorial Day – NO
NO SCHOOL

June 2 – Rain Date for Third Grade
Celebration

June 5 – Monday Morning Meeting at
9:00 am

First grade field trip to
Odionne

June 7 – Move Up Day to Sandown
Central

June 9 – Third Grade field trip to
Festival of Culture

June 12 – Monday Morning Meeting
at 9:00 am

June 13 – Hot Dog Picnic

June 14 – Flag day ceremony at
9:00 am

June 16 – Last day of school
DISMISSAL AT 12:00