



*Sandown North  
Newsletter*

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**October, 2004**



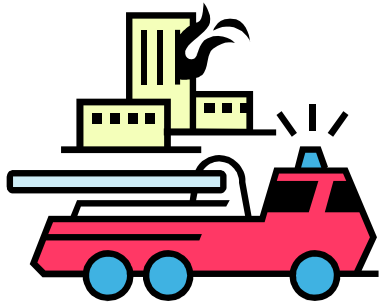
*From the desk of  
Jo-Ann H. Georgian, Principal*

Dear Families,

As the school year is now in full swing, the Emergency Response Team is reviewing our safety procedures. Your children have probably told you that we have had **MANY** fire drills. We have! The children are doing a wonderful job! They take each practice seriously, knowing that they must respond quickly, yet carefully. After each practice, we look at what went well and determine what needs to be changed.

Members of the fire department, led by Chief Bassett, evaluated our procedures when they surprised us with a fire drill early one morning. Since it occurred just 10 minutes after the start of the day, some children had just entered the building, some were at breakfast, some were doing errands; in short, many were not in their classrooms. Regardless of the fact that they were not with their teacher or classmates, they found the nearest exit and then joined an adult. This very important drill highlighted the importance of parents' calling in to the attendance line whenever their child is absent or will be tardy, even just a few minutes tardy.

When we are all outdoors, adults are handed a clipboard with a job to do, checking to be sure that all children and all adults are out of the building safely. On this particular day, we quickly determined that we could not account for 3 children. If this had been a real fire, firefighters would have put themselves in danger by entering the building to see if these children were trapped or injured. Our systems were operating efficiently; we knew 3 children were missing. However, the children were not in the building. They were at home. Two



children were going to be tardy, and one was absent. The parents had forgotten to call so we did not have the information. While still outside, we used our cell phones and emergency information and called homes and emergency contacts. One child was en route and the others were at home. Firemen would have been putting themselves at risk when, in reality, all children were safe. Please keep this scenario in your mind and do not forget to call us whenever your child will be absent or tardy. Even the most carefully developed plans will not work if we do not all follow through on all the steps. In an emergency situation, we do not have much time but do have a huge responsibility to keep all safe.

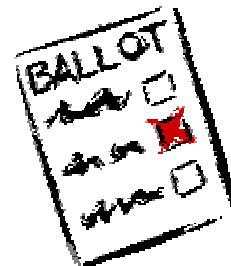
Classroom teachers have been practicing a lockdown drill with their children in their classrooms. We will have a whole school lockdown soon.

We evaluate all procedures, within school and on the playground, on a regular basis. If equipment is

deemed unsafe, we remove it. If more supervision is needed, we add staff. To help children feel safe, we practice drills so that, in the event of an emergency, they will know just what to do. They will "Be Smart and Be Safe".

Thanks to PTA for sponsoring a wonderful Book Fair with lots of great selections! Thanks to all our incredible volunteers for all that you do on a daily basis for us. Jeanne Lanctot, Lorraine Beucler, and I celebrated receiving the Blue Ribbon Award for volunteerism with other folk from throughout our state. We so appreciate all your help!

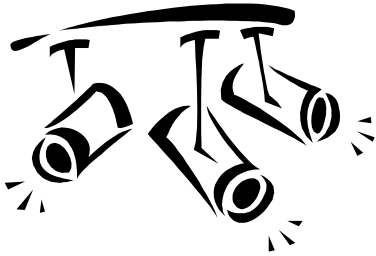
## Curriculum Corner



Nancy  
Barcelos

November 16 is Election Day at Sandown North! Students in all classrooms will be voting for their favorite picture book, with hopes it will be chosen as the #1 choice for the NH Ladybug Picture Book Award. Children in preschool through grade 3 have been invited to participate. Guest readers are

visiting classrooms during the month to share the books.



### **Spotlight on the Classrooms**

There is a spider (A.K.A. Striper) living in Mrs. Chauvette's second grade classroom! No need to worry. It is a welcomed guest! The students are learning all about spiders, their habitats and how to care for a spider. Are you able to identify what kind of a spider you see by its web? The students in Striper's class can!

It's been pretty "fuzzy" in Mrs. Zawacki's first grade class this month. The children had some caterpillars as roommates for a short time. They didn't stay that way for long. You guessed it! They hatched and turned into beautiful butterflies. Respecting all, Mrs. Zawacki's children carefully brought the butterflies outside and set them free. Rumor has it they're headed to Mexico. Adios Amigos!

Mrs. Hemingway's class began the year by remembering their second grade teachers. They worked cooperatively in groups to compose lyrics that highlight some of their favorite memories from second grade. The school was treated at a *Monday Morning Meeting* as the students in grade three recited their class poem. They presented their

former teachers with flowers as a sign of their appreciation.



### **From the School Counselors**

We hope your children enjoyed the North Star book we read in each class. All the children (even the second and third graders who had heard the story before), paid attention and made important connections. You may want to ask your child what they are hoping to learn this year. It was part of the activity we did after reading the book. The children came up with some wonderful answers. In November, our theme will focus on "uniqueness" and "responsibility". We will begin the Kids & Company lessons on personal safety as well. A letter will go home when we begin these lessons. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of us.

### ***The Timberlane Comprehensive School Guidance and Counseling Program (TCSGCP)***

#### **Mission Statement:**

...to provide all students with the academic, personal and social skills necessary to become responsible, productive and respectful individuals who develop into contributing members of society.

In partnership with students, staff, family, community members, and employers, the counseling program prepares all students to achieve success in school, become lifelong learners and live healthy and fulfilling lives.

**Rationale:**

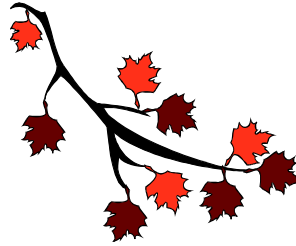
School counseling is an essential component of each school's overall educational program, supporting academic success for each student. It is based on the belief that each student possesses intrinsic worth and specific rights, and is a unique and dynamic person capable of personal growth, lifelong learning and self-direction. The comprehensive school counseling program supports the development of the competencies and skills that students will acquire to meet standards and expectations established by the state, the community and the district, and prepares our students to meet the challenges of life, work and citizenship.

Guidance: Department  
Cheryl Henry x318  
Nancy Stafford x317



**School Nurses Need Subs!**

If you are a RN, please consider becoming a substitute school nurse. Working with children can be very rewarding and you are so very needed. Please call the SAU at 382.6119 to start the application process.



*Dates to Remember:*

November 1, 8, 22 Monday  
Morning Meeting at 8:50 AM

November 15, 29 NO Monday  
Morning Meeting

November 9 Picture Retakes

November 11 NO SCHOOL  
Veteran's Day

November 12 NO SCHOOL  
Professional  
Development Day

November 16 Public Hearing  
on the Budget at SAU

Meeting to view  
the new math  
curriculum at TRMS  
7 - 8 pm