

December

Sandown North News



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



Our holiday season has been officially kicked off by our Pajama Literacy Night. What fun we all had last night. Books, cookies, and milk! What more could you want on a cold night in November? It was so great to see so many of you. I understand from those who were counting that we had about 175 children here with family members! It was fun to be a reader and then to have the opportunity to talk to many of you. Kudos to those parents moms and dads who had the courage to wear their pjs. A huge Thank You is owed to Diane Chauvette, our Reading Consultant, for coming up with the idea and then for coordinating all the pieces. Thanks to Laura McLaughlin volunteers for offering a quality book fair at the same time. The feedback was extremely positive. Adults came up to me to say: "I can tell this is a good environment for my grandchild. It just

feels like a great school." "I am having a blast." "What a good idea! I'm glad my son made me come." "I learned how I can read to make it more fun. I never would have thought of how to do that." "This is a great school and the readers did a wonderful job."

On December 6th our families have the opportunity to come together again at the annual auction. At 6:00 p.m, the silent auction viewing will begin, with the live bidding on items beginning at 7:00 p.m. Our PTA board members and many volunteers have been working hard to make this evening a fun one for all. Thanks are extended to Kristen Dalphond and Therese Young for being willing to chair such a huge event!



Our children will experience the joy of giving to others when they visit our Holiday Gift Shop. As adults, we look forward to joining them and getting in the mood ourselves. We can't help it; it's contagious. The children are thoughtful about their decision, carefully thinking about the individual for whom they are choosing a gift. I know I will see many of you volunteering at the event, but I want to also thank you in advance for providing such a fun opportunity for the children. Our appreciation is extended to Lorraine Beucler for

chairing the event and for making us all smile.



With this winter season also come colds and viral illnesses. If your child does not feel well in the morning, is running a fever or vomited during the night, please keep him/her home to recover. These types of illnesses can spread quickly in a school environment. In addition, be sure to call the Absence line to report that your child will be out of school. If we don't hear from you, the secretaries will call your home to check on the well-being of your child. If we don't reach you, we will call your emergency contacts. That process is time-consuming for office staff and unfortunately, can be needlessly alarming for grandparents. I ask that you call the Absence line rather than email the teacher to tell us of an absence. We are all relying on emails more and more but in the event of an absence, it is not efficient. Teachers often don't check their emails until they have an opportunity later in the morning or at lunch and by that time, we have already made the phone calls. Our goal is to insure your child's safety as quickly as possible.



To further assure your child's safety in the event of an emergency requiring us to leave this location, we will soon be practicing an off-site evacuation. We will all go to

our off-site location together and will return together. As co-chairs of our Emergency Response Team, Mrs. Zimmerman and Mrs. Daenz have worked with team members to create very specific plans. The off-site will give us the opportunity to test our systems to see if anything needs to be adjusted or tweaked. We work in conjunction with our fire department and our police department so we can get their input as well. We are so fortunate to have so many people who work so collaboratively together to keep our children and our adults safe. If you happen to be in the building when the drill is called, enjoy the ride!



Our Star Quest Universal Team is thinking of ways in which we can celebrate our children being Safe, Trustworthy, Always Respectful, and Responsible on the bus and elsewhere in the building. As the numbered buses move along the road in the foyer, we acknowledge their progress toward reaching their goal on a daily basis. When they reach the end of the road, special time in the gym at stations is provided. Mr. Melle and Mrs. Stafford have organized these fun rewards. Thanks to all who assisted!

I hope you truly enjoy this holiday season and hope to see you at the Auction.

Parents Right to Know



In response to regulations set by the New Hampshire Department of Education and the United State Department of Education, we are required to notify you of our staff's highly qualified status. All teachers, Title I Tutors, and support staff at Sandown North Elementary School meet these requirements and are highly qualified to teach. We are also required to inform you that parents have the right to request information regarding their child's performance level in the classroom or from Title I. Any parent of an English language proficient student has the right to withdraw his/her child from English language instruction. If you have any questions about these regulations, please contact Patrice Liff.

From the School Counselor November 2008



Throughout the school year when I go in to classrooms for guidance, I spend much of my time with all of the grades teaching how to recognize and identify feelings. We talk about why this is an important skill and spend a lot of time talking about using "feeling" words. When children are able to recognize the feelings others are having and are able to identify their own feelings, it helps them with other important social skills such as impulse control, empathy, conflict management and friendship. One of the resources I use for my guidance lessons is the Second Step Curriculum, a researched based curriculum developed by the Committee for Children. The curriculum is designed to increase children's levels of social competence.

Be a role model for expressing feelings and encourage your child to use feeling words.



For example, if you are discussing something that happened during your day, include your feelings about it, such as, "I was confused when...", or "I felt proud because..." By modeling for the children, we increase the likelihood that they will learn this important and necessary life long skill.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Nancy Stafford 
School Counselor x 317
Nancy.Stafford@timberlane.net

Curriculum Corner



Title I at Sandown North

Title I is a federally funded program that promotes literacy development in young children. Here at Sandown North, we are fortunate to have three full time tutors and two part time tutors working with our students. I would like to introduce these incredible professionals to you! Alison Lenihan works with our kindergarten classes on Fridays (the other days of the week, she is our art teacher). Allison and our teachers are focusing on supporting literacy development through writing. Our kindergarten teachers have been working with Mary-Ellen Giacobbe, and it is so exciting to see our young children experiencing language through this process.

Lorraine Beucler works in first grade three days each week. The focus for Grade One is to support developing readers

through interventions in all literacy activities. Lorraine works with children from most Grade One classrooms.

Judy Tubbs and Kim Dovey are collaborative teachers with our second grade pods, and Cheri Locke works as a collaborative teacher in Grade Three. All three tutors are certified elementary teachers, and together have many years of experience working with young students. Our tutors are valued members of our grade level learning communities.

Children at Sandown North are assessed in various areas of literacy development several times a year. If a child qualifies for Title I support, s/he receives it either during literacy time in the classroom, or an additional time during the school day. Title I is a supplemental reading program that supports classroom instruction.



If you have any questions about your child's participation in Title I, or about our programming in general, please feel free to contact your child's teacher,

Diane Chauvette, our reading consultant, or myself. Have a

Happy Thanksgiving. 

Patrice Liff, Assistant Principal

The Speech Connection

This column will feature some tips and resources for parents with children who have a diagnosed disorder in the area of speech and language development. Ideas posted here are suggestions to enhance a child's development of speech and language and can be beneficial to children of varying ages. If you need further information or clarification, please contact Jocelyn at her email: Jocelyn.lister@timberlane.net.



One of the ways to promote good narrative skills is to work on retelling or telling a story. This skill, as simple as it may appear, is a critical skill for connecting socially with others, and it is a key component to written expression. Narration is the basis for sharing information, and it is a key skill that is needed

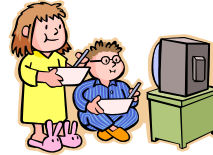
to understand text book language as well as the language of stories.

One of the best and easiest ways to promote story telling is to take a set of pictures of a trip or activity that you and your child are actively engaged in such as a trip to visit Grandma or Grandpa that is in some way special or important, a visit to a museum or place of interest, a vacation or trip to the movies, etc. Take pictures of the sequence of the activity beginning with the start of the trip - preparing or planning, leaving, driving to the destination, arrival, activity, ending and departure. After the activity, print off the pictures and ask your child to sequence the pictures in the correct order.



Talk about each of the pictures attach language to each picture. Then sequence the pictures in the correct order. Next talk about each of the pictures attaching language to each picture. Sequence the pictures together using connector words such as then, next, first and last. Your student can learn this task with you and then practice it by retelling this

story to grandparents, aunts, uncles, peers, etc. This is a wonderful way to teach and improve the story telling skills of your child.

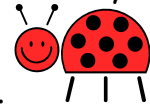


Stay tuned next time for tips and resources on social skill development. If you have questions regarding this or any other issues related to speech and language, feel free to contact me here at Sandown North. Thank you.

Jocelyn Lister,
Speech and Language Pathologist

Library News

It has been a SUPER busy month in the library! We heard 10 different Ladybug award nominated books read by 10



different volunteers.

Thank you to Helen Weymouth, Justin Melle, Michelle Carey, Nancy Stafford, Joann Pinard-Evans, Maryann Perkins, and Denise St. Hilaire for reading books. Thank you, also, to the 4th graders at Sandown Central who participated by reading *When*

Dinosaurs Came with Everything via the distance learning system. That was a real treat! Also, thank you to Linda Meehan for once again obtaining the town voting booths and to Mitch Mencis for the set up. The votes have been tallied and the winner at Sandown North was *Bebe Goes Shopping!* We have sent our votes off to the State and now we wait to see who the "real" winner is... At Sandown North, we have chosen the winner 4 years in a row; let's see what happens this time!



Also, we are right in the middle of our fall book fair. At the Family Literacy Night on Monday, we were packed with children, parents, and families in their PJs all enjoying books. I want to thank all of the volunteers who have helped keep the book fair running smoothly. Special thanks go out to Tracey Kripp-Burns (volunteer coordinator), Elicia Jones, and Kristen Gondolfo who volunteered during Family Literacy Night and kept the line moving right along.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our Build a Book/ Build a Gift event on December 13th @ Sandown Central School (9 - 11 am). Kits will be available for purchase at the event!
Happy Thanksgiving!
Mrs. McLaughlin, Media Specialist

Enjoy Reading!



Our Pajama Literacy Night was a huge success! Over 150 children came in their pajamas to enjoy stories, cookies and milk!

I want to say thank you to our Guest Readers: Deb Brown, JoAnn Pinard-Evans, Jennifer Green and Sergeant Aurie Roy. The evening would not have happened without your help.

I also want to thank Jennifer Barcelos, Lorraine Beucler, Amy Difeo, Cathy Daenz, Kim and Samantha Dovey, Linda Janvrin, Melissa Lefebvre, Patrice Liff, Cheri Locke, Denise St. Hilliare, Nancy, Sarah and Olivia Stafford, Anne Sotirakopoulos, and Judy and Sarah Tubbs for making the evening run smoothly. Deb Rose did a wonderful job

baking yummy cookies for the children to eat and Jo-Ann Georgian purchased the books and stuffed animals for our raffle. Also, Laura McLaughlin and Tracy Kripp opened the book fair, so families could view and purchase books for their families. Everyone worked as an incredible team and provided a wonderful evening for our students and family members. Sandown North is lucky to have such dedicated staff members. CONGRATULATIONS goes to Dylan Magoon and Georgia Adyng for winning our book raffles. We know they will enjoy reading!

Title I did a wonderful job presenting materials to families in the library. If you were not able to attend and would like to view the video, call me so we can set up a time for this to happen. My extension is 307. When you leave a message, please make sure to state that you're interested in viewing the Title I video.

I want to let you know that our Book Exchange program is also a huge success. We've received MANY donations, which allows our children to enjoy fun literature at home. I would like to thank the following families

for their donations: Sally Morris, Mary Slyne, Nancy Stafford, Michelle Carey, Kim Busiek, and Dawn Mura who has been searching yard sales for inexpensive or free books. I thank you, the school thanks you and more importantly the children thank you. I hope I didn't miss anyone. It's thrilling to see the children become excited about taking books home!

Attached is another "Reading Activity Calendar for December" from www.rif.org. I hope you find time to try some of these fun activities!

Diane Chauvette

Reading Consultant

Sandown North Elementary December, 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 PTA Auction 6-10pm
7	8 Monday Morning Meeting 9:10 am Gift Shop	9 Gift Shop	10 Gift Shop	11	12	13
14	15 Monday Morning Meeting 9:10 am	16 Early Release Day 1:10 pm NO am/pm K	17	18	19	20
21	22 Monday Morning Meeting 9:10 am	23	24 Holiday Vacation 	25 Vacation	26 Vacation	27 Vacation
28 Vacation	29 Vacation	30 Vacation	31 Vacation	Return to school January 5th		