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*Weekly News Letter from The Principal's Corner
October 2, 2020*

Happy October!

Colder weather is upon us as we officially begin the fall season. Please make sure children are dressed warmly, as all students go outside every day for play and learning.

Looking Ahead

October 9th is a remote learning day for students and an inservice day for teachers. The work students are given on the 9th may be independent work, (asynchronous) or “fix and finish” work. Indigenous Peoples’ Day is Monday, October 11th and there is no school that day. Next week, you will receive this newsletter on the 8th.

Free Lunch and Breakfast

The USDA has extended the summer food service program so anyone under 18 years of age may receive FREE school breakfasts and lunches until December 31, 2020....what a blessing! Our meals are delicious, nutritious and served with a smile. I hope every family will take advantage of this gift. Please DO fill out the application still, as we receive title funds for extra support and programs based on those applications. Only numbers are used, never names, that always remains confidential. It’s a great way to help the school! Contact BJ Esty for an application or you can find it on our website.

Flu Clinic for Students and Their Families

On October 9th at 8:30 am we will be doing a drive up flu shot clinic at Weathersfield School in collaboration with Mount Ascutney Hospital. Anyone can participate. We have sent the form and information about why this is important to you all on two occasions, but will gladly send it again to anyone who needs it. Contact Emily Stevens in the health office as soon as possible to give her the number of people you plan on having get the flu shot on October 9th.

Flu Clinic for Faculty and Staff

Our school nurse, Emily Stevens, has arranged for the faculty and staff to get a flu shot at school on October 13th. The flu shot clinic for staff will be here at Weathersfield School in the AP room at 1:00 pm. Please pick up paperwork in the health office to fill out prior to the 13th. Let Mrs. Stevens know if you have questions.

Remote Coffee Hour

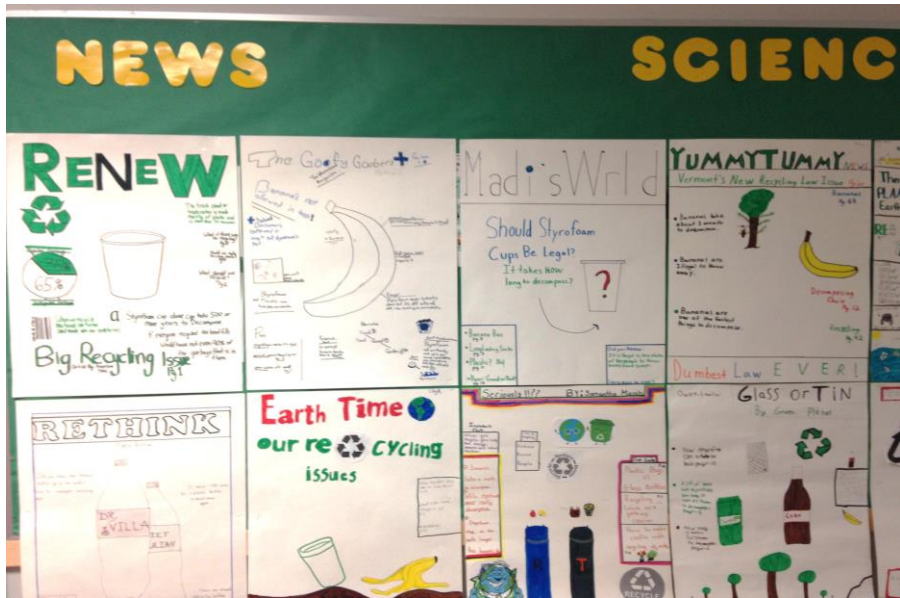
As promised, I am hosting another remote coffee hour on October 7th at 9:00 am. Look for the google hang out invite, which I will send to you soon. Everyone is welcome to come. I can answer questions, chat with you about how things are going, and listen to your ideas. Hope to see you there!

Welcome to Shiane Welch

Shiane Welch has been hired as a special education paraprofessional and will join the Weathersfield Family on October 13th. Please join me in welcoming Shiane to our beautiful community!

Looks Like School Again by Jay Villa, Middle Level Science Teacher

To kick off the new school year, the seventh grade students began investigating how long it takes for various items to decompose in the local landfill. In addition, the class applied that knowledge to the State of Vermont's new composting law. "Why," they asked, "is it against the law to throw away a banana peel and not styrofoam or plastic? When a banana takes 4 weeks to break down, and styrofoam is there forever." Good question kids. Next, the students created recycling posters designed as magazine covers. Wish all of you could see this creative art work in person! After the long absence, this hallway is beginning to look like our old school once more.



Fire and Safety Drill Complete

We practiced our first fire drill on September 29, 2020 and a lock down on October 2, 2020. I am so very proud of our K-8 students, faculty and staff! We evacuated the school and all students were accounted for in 2 minutes and 9 seconds. They exited the building in single file, quietly and orderly.....and it was our first drill of the year! When we completed the first safety drill, you could hear a pin drop in the school. That drill lasted under 5 minutes. WS is a SAFE school!

Have a wonderful weekend and enjoy our beautiful fall foliage,

JeanMarie

JeanMarie K. Oakman, WS Principal