

White River School
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Report Cards and SBAC results in Backpacks Today!

Please check your child's backpack when your child gets home today. Your child should have brought home her/his report card which represents current levels of proficiency after the first of three trimesters. Most of you attended your child's parent/teacher conference and gained a good understanding of how your child is progressing at school and the report card simply provides more detail.

If your child was in third-fifth grade last year you will receive the results of his/her SBAC results (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) which is our statewide assessment for measuring proficiency in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Our W.R.S. students performed very, very well compared to students in the H.S.D. and across the state. The SBAC is one measure of a student's progress in mastering the Common Core Standards. While these results provide us with a sense of how our students are progressing, the daily assessments and the H.S.D.'s local assessments provide us with information that is "actionable". By that I mean that the teachers can develop personalized instructional plans to meet the needs of individual students. If you have any questions or if you need help interpreting these SBAC results, contact your child's teacher.

W.R.S. School Concert Held Last Night!

I'm very proud of our students for their performance at last night's concert! Dr. Lorenz and Mrs. Conerty planned a festive concert that was a great mix of holiday music. Our students sang so proudly, confidently and with enthusiasm, it was joyful to watch them. I say this every year, but the growth that we see in our beginning band students always impresses me! To go from learning how to hold an instrument in September to producing recognizable and enjoying music by December is not small feat! I want to thank all of you for encouraging your child to practice and for supporting our music program!

Character Counts! - The Six Pillars of Good Character

Trustworthiness, Responsibility, Respect, Fairness, Caring, Citizenship (TRRFCC)

On Tuesday our students participated in our monthly student assembly where I taught the students the 6 Pillars of Good Character. We'll focus on one pillar each month and this month we're focusing on "**Caring**".

We brainstormed ways in which we can show others that we care: be kind, express gratitude, show we care, forgive others, help people in need. During the assembly we partnered "big and little friends" to show our Hartford senior citizens that we care by making holiday cards for them which will be delivered when our third graders visit the Bugbee Senior Center in December and entertain our senior citizens with some holiday songs!

I'm offering this challenge/assignment for our students in the month of December (due December 21st): Please demonstrate that you CARE about others by finding a way to let them know. Students can come up with their own ideas, but here are a few that I'll deliver:

- Make a card or write a letter to a veteran who is hospitalized at the V.A. hospital

- Make a card or write a letter to a child who is hospitalized at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
- Bring in coins for the Lucy McKenzie Humane Society
- Bring in canned/package food for the food shelf at The Haven
- Make a card or write a letter to a Hartford police officer or firefighter to thank them for their service
- Write a letter or card to a friend or an adult from school letting them know that you appreciate them

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Fun Flannel Fridays!

As a fun winter energy boost we encourage all staff and students to wear flannel on the following Fridays this winter. Please don't feel that you have to go out and buy a flannel shirt, but if your child has one or a plaid shirt, please help her/him remember to wear it on these days: December 22nd, January 26th, February 16th and March 30th. (No pajamas please, although that would be really comfy!)

Ski & Bike Helmets

Coming home today is a form to order Ski/Bike Helmets. We are doing this cooperatively with the three elementary schools so you will notice that the checks need to be made out to the Ottauquechee School but the order forms need to be returned by Dec. 15 to the White River School. Expect delivery the 1st week of January.

P.T.A. Craft Fair Tomorrow!

Our P.T.A. group has coordinated a wonderful craft fair tomorrow from 9:00-2:00. We have about 40 vendors coming, along with face painting, food and a raffle. The P.T.A. is still looking for volunteers to help! Please email them at wrspta@gmail.com
We need baked goods for the bake sale, volunteers to help the vendors unload and load, etc...

Up-coming Events:

Dec. 2nd – PTA Crafts Fair 9:00-2:00

Dec. 25 – Jan. 1st – Holiday Recess

Jan. 15th & 16th – In-service – no school for students