



Narragansett News

November 2013

Welcome!

Welcome to Narragansett News! It is our intent to use this newsletter to keep you abreast of the school's activities. In this edition we have the Kids' view, written by kids with editing help from Mrs. Bentley.

important dates

Here are some dates to add to your calendars:

Nov 27-29	No school for Thanksgiving Break
Dec 3	PIE Meeting, 6-7:30
Dec 9	Report Cards go home
Dec 11	Early Release, 12:00 dismissal
Dec 23-Jan 1	Holiday Break
Jan 7	PIE Meeting with the School Committee, 6-7:30

pie

You are welcome to join us any month. We meet on the first Tuesday, from 6-7:30 in the staff kitchen. Our next meeting is on December 3rd, with guests Kim Fadrigon, K-5 Literacy Coordinator, and Cheryl Fotter, K-5 Math Coordinator who will be discussing Common Core standards. We will also be planning for our next event, the Winter Picnic and Bingo Night, which will be on Jan. 30th.

health

Be sure to send the kids to school dressed for going outside. We go out unless the 'feels like' temperature is below 10 degrees.

family

Spelling homework for K-3 has changed this year. We want kids to practice spelling patterns and high frequency words that are used in writing. Spelling homework should only take 10ish minutes. More info will be coming home soon from Mrs. Fadrigon.

events

Huge THANKS for GIVING a donation of time, money or soup for our **Empty Bowls and Jammies** event on Nov 21st. There were...

- several staff setting up
- staff and parents serving, helping with the auction, or cleaning up
- sixteenish soups, plenty of bread (thanks to Panera!)
- 6 tables full of empty bowls to auction, including 2 tables of bowls donated by kids
- 100 people to eat and bid
- a wonderful Caldecott autobiography about a man who had many empty bowl experiences in his life, read by Mr. Barton
- and a wonderful story about a homeless man read by Mrs. Rimkunas.
- Together we raised \$1187 for the Gorham Food Pantry!

Other family events for the year:

Jan 30 Winter Picnic and Bingo

TBD Art Show and Ice Cream Social

other: ecycle

We need your help! Do you have old cell phones, laptops, ereaders, or MP3 players hanging around collecting dust? Please send them in to Narragansett School. Our school recycles these electronics for cash. We use the cash we make from the recycling program to buy items for our library. Right now Narragansett library needs a magazine rack. We have great magazines for all ages but we don't have a great way to display them.

Do you own a business that uses laser/inkjet printers? We recycle those cartridges as well. We would love to have a corporate sponsor. Let me know if you would like to sponsor our school. I will be glad to help you get started.

Please go to the following website for information on products we recycle. You will also be able to see just how much the items you send into school will be worth.

<http://www.cartridgesforkids.com/>

Thank you for your help with this project.

Denise Asselin, Library Tech

From all of us at Narragansett School to all of you...

*May you enjoy a very Happy
Thanksgiving with your family and
friends.*



Narragansett Kids

November 2013

Interview With Mrs. Kenny - The Compassion Kids Klub

By Aaja Bretton-Jalbert

Is it hard to teach first grade?

No, but it is busy.

Do you like to teach first grade?

Yes. First graders are a lot of fun.

Would you like to teach a different grade?

I like first grade. I like teaching reading.

Would you like to teach fourth grade?

I don't know. I have never taught fourth grade.

What kids klub are you doing?

Mrs. Wright and I are doing the Compassion Klub. It was Mrs. Wright's idea.

What do you do in the Compassion Klub?

In the Compassion Klub we do kind things for other kids. The first activity we did was the food drive for the Gorham Food Pantry. We made posters and collected food.

Author Visit

By Izzy Densmore, Emily Feagans & Ambrosia Moore

Narragansett School had an author come to visit in October. His name was David Ira Rottenberg. He read his book, "Gwendolyn the Graceful Pig" while students of the Maine State Ballet acted it out. They performed in the gym. The kids enjoyed the performance. They really liked the funny boy who played a pig who wanted to be a football player even though he was clumsy.

Riddles by Izzy Densmore

I chirp but I am not a bird. I have paws like a dog but I am not a dog. I am fast. What am I?

I howl but I am not a dog. Well, I am a cousin of a dog. What am I?

Meet Our Specialists

By Ambrosia Moore

We have five great specials at Narragansett School. Mr. Barton teaches technology and teaches us how to do all kinds of things on the computer. Sometimes we use Edmoto. We also research information that we are interested in. Mr. Barton also shows us how to check out books at the library. Mrs. Asselin is our awesome technology and library assistant. She helps us find books in the library and gives us great suggestions. She substitutes for Mr. Barton when he is absent.

Mr. Fortier is our cool gym teacher. He takes us outdoors when the weather is nice and when it is cold or rainy we have class in the gym. I like playing the game "Jail Break". It is a game where we have balls in the middle of the room. Mr. Fortier will say 'go' and we go up as far as the bowling pins and try to knock them down. If the person on the other side tags you, you are out and have to go into the jail.

Mrs. Balcom and Mrs. Rimkunas are fantastic art teachers and have very awesome classes. In fourth grade art class, the students are working on their animal pictures. We are looking at real animals that are stuffed. I really like drawing.

Finally, Mrs. Thibodeau and Mrs. Stewart are our music teachers. We do fun things like get into circles and learn funny dances. When we warm up, we sing really silly songs. The fourth graders are learning how to play the recorder. We also learn goofy songs and sing a lot.

Interview with Ms. Durant-Hawthorne, ACTEM Teacher of the Year, Finalist

By Izabella Densmore

Is it hard to teach technology? I think students catch on really fast so I have to learn technology fast.

Did it take a long time to win the award? It took nine years and adding. I use the white board, the projector, laptops and iPads.

What is your favorite part about teaching? I love to have kids love to be here at school.

What does it feel like to get an award? It was very exciting.

Do you know how you got the award? I was nominated then chosen from the whole state of Maine.

Did you have help earning the award? Yes, Mrs. Gauley and Mr. Crowe helped every day.

Narragansett School Garden

By Emily Feagans and Izzy Densmore

Last spring the Narragansett School students, parents and staff started a school garden. The students decided what to plant in the garden. They decided to plant carrots, gourds, squash, watermelon and pumpkins.

When the students came back this fall, the garden was full of yummy foods. Mr. Penley's fourth grade class went out to pick the gourds. They were the decoration for the school picnic. They picked carrots and some of the carrots were purple and others were orange. Some of the carrots were for the Maine Harvest Lunch. The rest of the carrots were given to children in the third grade to try. We weighed the watermelon and carrots to see how big they were. We cut the watermelon into little pieces and students got to try them at the Maine Harvest Lunch.

While harvesting, Mr. Penley's class found a mole. Then they found another mole. The first mole didn't look like it made it but we think it might have been playing dead. Mr. Penley went to check on it and it was gone.

Answer to the Riddles:

1. cheetah
2. wolf