

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
NOVEMBER 2017
ENROLLMENT: 229

Third graders enjoyed a walking field trip to KML on October 4. They learned about early explorer, Christopher Columbus, and went on a library scavenger hunt. It was a very informative trip for all the students.

Fourth grade walked to the Kent Memorial Library on Thursday, October 12. Sarah Marshall gave a presentation to students on non-fiction text features. Students worked interactively with a text to locate text features they learned about in the presentation. They also heard about the programs offered at KML for fourth graders, and future programs that will be available to students next year when they reach fifth grade! What a variety!!

Sixth graders in the Region visited Hotchkiss School to explore math and science concepts through workshops and stations. The day began with an opening presentation given by members of 'Deep Thunder', a research project by IBM, which is working on improving local weather forecasting by way of high-performance computing. After the presentation, students visited two workshops where Hotchkiss teachers/students assisted 6th graders in their investigation of tessellations, density of liquids, the Rubik's cube, the biomass heating facility, DNA fingerprinting, planes, and more. Students also enjoyed the 'Station Area' run by Hotchkiss students. Our students used the activities at each station to play math games, make binary bracelets, create prism bubbles, construct origami boxes/animals, color in tessellation coloring books, and learn new magic tricks. Students left Hotchkiss School excited about the thrilling concepts they had explored. We appreciate Hotchkiss opening up their doors and presenting the teachers' enriching activities to the students to foster a love of math and science.

Our Annual 'Boo to the Flu' Clinic was held on October 11th. This annual event is sponsored by the New Milford Visiting Nurse Association each year and is well-attended by students, staff and their families.

Brooker Dental Center again provided an in-school preventive dental care program for all children in grades PreK-8. Students will be offered dental cleanings, dental health assessments, fluoride and sealants, performed by a registered dental hygienist. The program is open to all students whether or not they have dental insurance. This program is made possible through a partnership of the participating schools, The Foundation for Community Health in Sharon and Brooker Dental Center in Torrington. An initial dental health presentation was held on Tuesday, October 17, and the dental clinic will run from the end of October through November.

Our Parent/Teacher Conferences were held on October 18 and 19. Students were dismissed at 1 p.m. on both days. A large percentage of parents signed up to meet with their child's teacher. They were very informative meetings.

The 5th and 6th grades have been hosting Friday after-school movies for K through 4 in order to raise money to purchase 50 hardcover copies of the book, *Wonder*. The students will be reading the books in their Reading classes. Inspired by the spirit of kindness found in *Wonder*, the books

will be donated to the school for future classes to enjoy. The books were ordered through House of Books in town, and we are very happy to support a business that always supports Kent Center!

On October 26th, Mr. Olson, representing Taghannuck Grange #100 located in Sharon, presented each of our third grade students with their very own dictionary. The Grange participates in 'The Dictionary Project' (www.dictionaryproject.org), a wonderful program that works with organizations to provide this useful tool to third graders. The students were very excited to receive their own dictionary and will be exploring the many components that make it a useful resource. Thank you, Taghannuch Grange!

Our soccer season is over. Congratulations to the boys who finished the season with 4 wins, 0 losses, and 3 tied games. This season there were girls nineteen from 6th grade to 8th grade that participated in Girls' Soccer. This season was a very rewarding one! Girls gained confidence, improved their soccer skills, and understood what it meant to be a part of a team. Overall, we tied for second in the region (with North Canaan) and our only losses were to Salisbury Central School. Thank you to the coaches, Deb Morin, Heather Darby, and Kevin Capobianco, for their dedication, patience and inspiration!

Eighth grade students visited the 9/11 Memorial Museum on October 26th. On September 11, 2017, students learned the story of one of the victims, Welles Crowther. Welles was known as the "man in the red bandana." He was considered a hero for his actions. One of his red bandanas is exhibited in the museum. On the field trip, students learned about the history of the Twin Towers, the events that took place in chronological order on September 11th and heard recordings from both victims and survivors of the attack.

The students had an amazing albeit wet week at Nature's classroom this past week in Hancock, NH. The students learned about the four Cs: communication, cooperation, commitment, and care, all while completing a whole host of activities. They completed high ropes courses, lived like pioneers, learned how to survive in the wilderness, climbed the 45 ft. rock tower, and hiked to the summit of Mt. Manadnock (all 3,216 ft.). It was a truly transformative trip. All students represented our school and our community well.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- November 2 8th Grade Soccer Jamboree - HVRHS
- November 3 *The Artful Dodgers* - 3rd & 4th Grade Play – 1:15 & 7 p.m.
- November 8 1 p.m. Dismissal – Professional Development
- November 9 Veterans Day Celebration – 9:30 a.m.
- November 10 Veterans Day – No School
- November 17 Kent's Regional Dance
- November 22 1 p.m. Dismissal – Thanksgiving Break
- November 23 Happy Thanksgiving
- November 24 No School – Thanksgiving Break
- November 29 End Trimester #1