

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
MAY 2015
ENROLLMENT: 253

There have been lots of activities for the month of April:

The three day Kindergarten registration held at KCS screened twenty-three 5 year olds during the week of April 6th. The youngsters met with the team for about an hour each to partake in motor, language, and concept skill activities. Parents were given the opportunity to speak with the kindergarten staff. We expect additional students to register between now and the 2015- 2016 opening day.

Grade 2 and 3 had walking field trips to the Swift House in Kent; Grade 3 also went to the Institute for American Indian Studies in Washington, CT, as well as to Music Mountain in Falls Village.

Our Inventors Fair was held on April 9th. There were 29 students in grades 1-7 who participated. The judges selected the following students to compete in the CT Invention Convention State Finals on May 2nd at UCONN: Danielle Woodin, Gussie Smith, Lanna Kennedy, and Zoey Greenbaum. Inventions for those selected to go the state competition included *a multi nut cracker, toothbrush tidier, a light-up garbage can, and a backpack bug zapper*. We are proud of all our students who participated in the fair this year. Thank you to Cindy Willson who organized the fair.

Local artist Judi Barrett visited Grade 2 on April 10th. The KCS Library was transformed into Chewandswallow, the imaginary town in her world famous book, *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*. During art class, students created giant 3-D food items that were hung from the ceiling to symbolize falling food. Second graders spent three weeks preparing for Judi's visit. They participated in literature circles, developed questions, wrote "food" poems, and completed many art projects. During her visit, Judi shared her childhood crafts, sketches/galleys, answered the students' questions and read several of her published books. The morning ended with a picnic lunch of pizza, chocolate chip cookies, and chocolate covered strawberries.

After School French classes began after our April vacation for grades 1 and 2. Valerie Vega does a fantastic job with the youngsters and the students really enjoy their classes and learning French phrases. The classes run for 6 weeks.

Our Annual Arbor Day Celebration took place on April 24th. A tree, donated to Kent Center School, from the Kent Conservation Commission and the Kent Garden Club, was planted outside the front of the school near the library. Representatives from each grade took turns shoveling dirt on the tree roots. Third graders Marra Elsesser and Shane Miller each received a tree for their winning poetry. The following students also received a tree in recognition of their tree-related art work: Adam Hock, Harley Pane, Aislynn Fitzpatrick, Isabelle Houck, Aden Bishop, River Greenbaum, David Ma and Nathan Winter. In addition, winners were announced by Mrs. Starr for their recycling posters. A special thanks to Al Coffill, Susan Makarewich, and Betsy Morrow for organizing this special event.

Our SBAC testing for grades 3-8 began on April 27th and is drawing to a close this second week, of May.

Sandra Kleisner and David Poirier received a \$700 grant from the Arts Fund for Region One. The grant will be used for the Competition Choir and Senior Strings of KCS. The Choir and Strings will participate in “Fantastic Festivals” on June 5, 2015. Each group will perform 15 minutes of music which will be critiqued by professional musicians and educators. They will have the opportunity to watch performances by other groups from school outside Region One. Congratulations to Mrs. Kleisner and Mr. Poirier!

UPCOMING MAY EVENTS:

May 7	Art Show 7-8:30 pm
May 8	Art Show 8:30 am – 5 p.m.
May 8	Grade 6 Audubon Program
May 9	History Day in CT State Contest at Central CT State Univ.
May 11	Grade 6 to visit Sharon Audubon
May 13	Kindergarten to visit HVRHS VoAg Petting Zoo
May 13	STEM EXPO at the Mahoney-Hewat Science and Technology Center
May 14	Region One Track Meet – Grades 6-7-8 (rain date 5/15)
May 15	Kent Town Vote
May 20	Grade 3 Sharon Audubon Program
May 22	Grade 6 to Macedonia Brook State Park – trout release
May 25	Memorial Day Parade
May 27	Grade 5 to Museum of Natural History
May 27	Grade 6 to Clark Museum, Williamstown, MA