



NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF June 5, 2017 LAST WEEK

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Have a great summer!

News and Notes

This Week

Tuesday 1:00 K-1 Tully Mtn. hike

Wednesday Field day in the morning. Dress to get wet. Possibly barefoot.

6:15 p.m. **4th-6th art show**, parents can bring refreshments

7:00 p.m. **Graduation:** Students share special memories of their Village School experience.

Thursday June 8 The Last Day of School

11:00 The Preschool with parents in the classroom.

11:30 All parents and children gather on the front lawn for our closing circle, followed by an All School Pot Luck. **Bring a simple dish or fruit.** We'll have a collection box for pizza too.

If you are around in the morning, please help set up the potluck. After the potluck, don't forget to clean out your child's cubby and take everything home, including bags of papers, lunchboxes, and spare clothes. Cubbies should be empty when you are done. Double check the Lost and Found. There is no Lunch or After School Program.

ALL PARENTS:

DON'T FORGET TO CLEAN OUT YOUR CHILD'S CUBBY BY THIS THURSDAY AFTERNOON. CUBBIES SHOULD BE COMPLETELY EMPTY.

Staff Next Fall

Thank you, Kyra Kristof, for teaching music at the school this year. We will miss hearing your lovely voice. We are in good hands next year, as Kyra is handing the music-teaching reins to Village School alum and Berklee College of Music grad Isaac Richardson. Thank you, Lucy McCurn, for teaching Spanish this year. Lucy took a new job and cannot continue. We are looking for a Spanish teacher, so please spread the word.

Thank You Parents

Thank you parents for attending all the Theme Shares and classroom events and being awesome listeners, for driving for field trips, for taking care of loose ends, making snacks and bringing in food, sharing your talents and time and caring for the school in general. We make a terrific team!

The Garden Needs Weeding and Watering

Let's take care of the garden this summer, so the children can return and harvest in September. Stop by anytime—June and July weeding are essential— just 1-2 hours would be wonderful. It also needs to be mowed regularly. Check in with Rise.

Thank you everyone for pitching in, and/or attending this past Saturday morning's event—it was a spectacular morning.


Preschool

Today the preschool went to the Royalston Library and sang Paula a song as a way of saying thanks for all the new and wonderful books she read to the class this year. Paula always chooses just the right book for each visit. The class has been working on thank you gifts to give to their Reading Buddies this week. On Field Day, Wednesday, the children will be outside most of the morning. Please apply bug spray and sun block at home so they will be comfortable. We celebrate Romaine's summer birthday on Wednesday. Our last day of school is this Thursday. Join us at 11:00 in the preschool room for a Book Share, when your child shares with you the baby book and the egg book they made in the

last while. The class will sing a few songs and then you are invited to join us in a parent/child yoga class led by Loren. After, we'll go outside for All School Sing followed by a pot luck lunch with the whole school.

What a year it has been! The children grew, made friends, learned to name their feelings and learned how to solve problems with their classmates. Thank you to all the preschool parents and grandparents for your support during the year. As Rise reminded us at the groundbreaking last week - it takes a village and we feel fortunate to be in this village with all of you. Have a wonderful summer!

June 2017 Last Week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 8:45 All School Sing CHECK LOST AND FOUND IN HALLWAY	6 1:00 K-1 hikes Tully Mtn. IN PURSUIT OF THE LOOT The play DVD is available in the hallway for \$10.	7 FIELD DAY (<i>morning</i>) Dress to get wet GRADUATION 6:15 4th-6th portfolio showing 7:00 graduation 	8 LAST DAY 11:00 Preschool & parents 11:30 Whole school, parents and kids, on front lawn, followed by potluck and pizza. Bring a simple dish. Clean out cubbies	9 SCHOOL VACATION BEGINS Help take care of the school garden in the summer. Weed and mow.

Kindergarten—1st Grade

Last week the class shared their work on Air and Wind for our final Theme Share. The class engaged with enthusiasm the whole year as we worked with themes on the four elements. It's always interesting to see what new books, ideas, and activities come into the classroom related to theme.

Last Wednesday we had a magical moment at the groundbreaking for the new Village School building at Camp Caravan. The class enjoyed seeing the work in progress. It was like one large sand box to explore. In a year's time we'll be moving in!

Last week in art we did splatter painting in the style of Jackson Pollock. We read the book *Action Jackson* by Jan Greenberg. Then using big sheets of paper on the driveway, the children walked between buckets of paint, selecting colors, and splattering away.

On Tuesday afternoon we'll hike Tully Mountain in Orange. We'll leave the school at 1:00 p.m. and return by 3:15. If you can help

drive, please see Martin. This Wednesday is Field Day. Activities include face painting, rope climbing, bottle rockets, bubble making, and a water relay.

This week we'll send home children's work from the year. Look for paper bags filled with artwork, journals, books, and more. Please check that your children's cubbies are cleared out ready for vacation.

In math, 1st graders are completing a project making 3D boxes out of paper and following compass directions. Last Friday we planted corn in the garden. This week we'll plant pumpkins and lay down mulch to help keep the weeds down over the summer.

We complete our school year this Thursday morning with a farewell circle on the lawn at 11:30 a.m. followed by a Pot Luck lunch, which ends the school year. All parents are invited to join us at 11:30 for the circle.

2nd - 3rd Grade

We had a wonderful end of year celebration. The children loved sharing their research and buddy books. They did a great job. Their reflections were thoughtful and covered a myriad of memories from the year. The whale watch was one highlight and so were building the timber frame, Colonial School day, dragon books, working on fractions and doing research. Thanks for coming in to make the day special and celebrate with the children. It's been a great year, full of energy, surprises and growth. They've certainly come a long way since September.

Jackson Pollack Day was a huge success (as usual). The paintings were varied, colorful and fun. Some of the children even became works of art. The children loved seeing Elizabeth's car splattered with colors. They also had fun and felt a sense of pride creating the table for the Silent Auction.

The children put a lot of work into their book review boxes. They were creative, telling, thoughtful and fun. They all presented their books well and enjoyed sharing with each other. They liked the project so much, they asked if they could do it again next year.

Please send in a bag with your child's name on it this week, so the children can take home their belongings. A grocery-sized bag or bigger works well. We will try to collect and send everything home by Wednesday. On Thursday, please completely clear out your child's cubby.

As we finish up, we are nearing the end of our whaling voyage. We made a stop at Barbados, rounded Cape Horn (whew!) and will finish in Hawaii. We look forward to a presentation from Chris, Malachi's father, a native Hawaiian, tomorrow afternoon.

Keep your eyes open for a list of suggested books for summer reading. The list is a collection of the children's favorite books. It's important for children to continue reading over the summer to stay in practice.

4th - 6th Grade

We had a very successful final field trip last Friday, when we visited the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown. It was a beautiful day to drive up the Mohawk Trail and we all enjoyed the stunning views from the higher elevations. The class viewed the museum's comprehensive collection of Renoirs and other Impressionist paintings, as well as classical European works and some very fine landscapes by Americans such as Inness, Remington and Homer.

After touring the museum we had a picnic in the spring sunshine, and took a hike through the museum grounds, before returning to the school via the Bridge of Flowers in Shelburne Falls. It was an informative and enjoyable outing and we particularly appreciated the fact that the Clark is a very child-friendly and welcoming museum. We highly recommend it if you want a destination for a summer outing, and now your child should be an experienced guide to the collection!

As well as Field Day this week, the class will engage in familiar classroom rituals such as the end-of-year quiz – a light-hearted affair in the British mold – and a closing class council meeting. On Thursday morning the whole class will watch the DVD of this year's play, which will be the first time the children will have seen the production from the audience's point of view. We're expecting some hilarity!

Science lessons are continuing until the last minute, and the children have been working in pairs with Cathy to take photographs of each other - as part of our unit on optics - and they are now enlarging and printing them in the darkroom (also known as the classroom closet). The photo-portraits will be on display Graduation night, along with photos from the past.

Graduation night starts at 6:15, with the children's art from the whole year on display for you in the 2nd-3rd classroom. Parents are welcome to bring refreshments— fruit, dessert, etc.

Graduation itself starts at 7:00. Every student has prepared something to say. All are welcome, not just class parents.

For September, a packet will be mailed home in late July, with papers to return for the start of school. Mark your calendars for the start of school next September: **Tuesday September 5** is Preschool and K-1 Orientation **Wednesday September 6 is the First Day of School**, a 1/2 day until 12:30 (11:30 for Preschool).