



THE BLACKBIRD BUGLER

MR. THOMAS B. REARDON, PRINCIPAL

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 5

JANUARY 2012



A NEW YEAR - A NEW ENTHUSIASM!



Welcome Back! I hope you found this holiday season restful and rejuvenating! Though the weather continues to send a chill through our bones (particularly the past two days), the days are getting progressively longer, and soon we'll be speaking of summer plans!

The weeks prior to the holiday season were filled with hands-on learning in classrooms, and class celebrations recognizing the amazing accomplishments of the first half of the school year! The power and strength of our music program was certainly illustrated prior to vacation, during our Annual Holiday Sing-a-long on Friday, December 23rd. Our K-5 community gathered once again for a preview of our fifth grade concert, which will take place on **Wednesday, January 18th at 7:00 p.m.** Thanks to the direction of Dr. Morgan and Mrs. Beauregard, all of our students had the opportunity to hear the concert line up of our chorus and band. One could have heard a pin drop during the crisp,

clean performance of various holiday favorites.

As we continue to progress through the 2012 school year, we would like to take the opportunity to encourage you to share your talents, interests, and areas of expertise with our students. Attached to this issue you will find a handout asking you to once again consider offering a session after school on a topic of your choice. Our *Go Beyond* series has been extremely successful last year in providing students with opportunities from Juggling to learning the basics of . The possibilities are truly endless, and we will certainly work with you to develop a program that fits your needs and schedule. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me!

I want to thank you for continually offering your input on the recently-posted survey, which solicited your feedback regarding the offering of full day kindergarten. As we look to make this potential program change for the 2012-2013 school year, please don't hesi-

tate to provide us with any further feedback or comments.

The winter season is also the start of our budget planning process for the subsequent school year. I highly encourage you to stay informed, and attend Board of Education meetings. your involvement in our school truly makes a positive impact!

Once again, as we approach the mid-point of the school year and the end of the second marking period, I want to once again thank you for allowing me to lead such a successful community building. If there is anything I can ever do, never hesitate to let me know!

Have a wonderful, warm January!

Tom



Mr. Burns' class interactively working on division.

Upcoming Dates of Interest

January 9th - BOE Meeting- 7:30 p.m.

January 13th - Grade 5 Activity Night 7-9 p.m.

January 16th - No School (Martin Luther King Day)

January 18th - Elementary Winter Concert 7:00 p.m.

January 19th - PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m. Elementary School Library

January 20th - Talent Show - 6:00 PM - Lydia C. Tobler Performing Arts Center - Proceeds to Benefit *Make A Wish Foundation* - Admission \$2.00

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Please use the following directory for your convenience:

Voorheesville Elementary School 765-2382
 Thomas B. Reardon, Principal

School Nurse:
 Colleen Brackett 765-2382 Ext. 506

Attendance Office:
 Email - MMoss@vcsdk12.org or 765-2382 Ext. 514

Kid's Club Program (afterschool) 765-2043
 Cindy Abelseth, Director

Transportation Department:
 Mike Goyer 765-2382 Ext. 508
 Priscilla Clark 765-2382 Ext. 521



VES welcomes Brian Pastiglione in first grade and Jamie Glath in fifth grade.

REMINDERS



When sending in money for your child's lunch, please be sure to include their first and last name, teacher and grade on the envelope or check. We would appreciate your help with this so that your child's account is credited properly.

A reminder to please dress your child appropriately for outdoor recess each day. We will be going out as much as possible. We feel it is very important for our students to get exercise and fresh air. We check the weather and wind chill before we make our decision regarding recess.



Parents - please remember to call your child in sick or tardy if they are going to be absent or late due to an appointment. If we do not receive a phone call we will need to call you to verify their absence/tardiness. **We would appreciate it if you could call before 9:30 AM.** Also if your child is coming in late you need to walk them in and sign them in late in the main office.

Go Beyond

Help us to help our students "Go Beyond" the basic school curriculum and have some fun. The Site-Based Management Team is looking to start an after school activity series for students of all grade levels. Some ideas for after school classes could be:

Learn To Juggle

Engineer A Bridge

Basic Balloon Animals

Snow-shoeing (the school has a set of 25)

Astronomy/Constellations

Other: _____

We are looking for many more of your fun-filled and educational ideas for this series. Each session would run as a one-time event from 3:00-4:00 after a school day. The sessions would be designed to give students a quick introduction to a skill, activity, or subject of interest.

If you feel that you could help us out with ideas or participation, **please fill out the form below and return it to Mr. Reardon as soon as possible.** We will then work out a schedule that is good for the volunteers who can help with a given session.

____ I would like to lead a "Go Beyond" class on

____ I would like to help someone who is leading a class.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Please join us for a
Garden Planning Meeting

Thurs, January 19th at 9:30am

Everyone welcome, no experience necessary

Contact Bri or Pam for location

vvillegarden@gmail.com



The Voorheesville Farm to School Initiative

A PTA sponsored Garden Project Program



Good Eats (Healthy Snack) Program (K-1)



November: Kale

- Learned about calcium
- Tore leaves into pieces
- Composted the stems
- Enjoyed kale chips

January – we will study carrots

Chefs Move Program (K-12)

Our First Graders are busy writing to Michelle Obama. They are thanking her for our new cooking equipment, telling her their favorite things about our F2S/Garden program, and inviting her to join us!

Local Harvest Program (K-12)

Chef Tim Mulligan continues to cook up great local foods which can be purchased as part of a meal or separate as a side dish. Some upcoming features:

Friday, January 19th – Honey Glazed Carrots

Friday, February 9th – Sweet Potato Casserole

Friday, March 15th – A Cabbage Dish – details to follow!



Voorheesville Farm to School Initiative

Want to get involved or learn more?

Contact us at VvilleF2S@nycap.rr.com and visit [http://vcsd.neric.org/garden/garden_home .htm](http://vcsd.neric.org/garden/garden_home.htm)