

# Walden School News

September 12, 2018

Walden School

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Liz Benoit, Principal

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- **Principal's Message**
- **News from Pre-K—Grade 8**

## Upcoming Dates:

### September

**9/13** - Hopes and Dreams  
Night @ 6:00

**9/17** - CalCoop School Board  
Meeting 6:00 @ Waterford

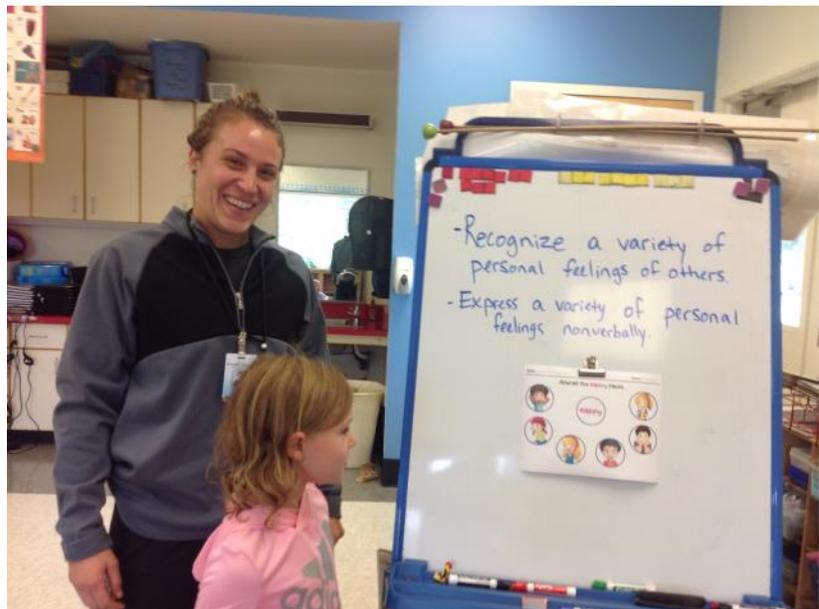
**9/21** - No School - In Service

**9/24** - ELO begins

## Principal's Message:

### Stacey Fox is the 2018 CCSU Teacher of the Year !

Physical Education and Health teacher, Stacey Fox is the 2018 CCSU Teacher of the Year. Miss Fox is solid in the knowledge of learner development, the application of content, planning and execution of instructional practices, professional learning and ethical practice. She presents herself as a team player in every way, assisting colleagues without skipping a beat. Stacey strives to perfect her professional practice and not only welcomes feedback, but applies it with immediacy in future lessons, continually honing her craft. As a facilitator, Stacey sets the stage for students to actively plan, participate and thrive in developing practices enabling students to create healthy, life-long habits, as well as ethics.



The Walden School Community is slated to host the annual Hopes & Dreams Night on Thursday, September 13th. With guidance from their teachers, students will establish academic and behavioral goals prior to Hopes & Dreams Night. Parents will have an opportunity to meet their child's teachers and identify their hopes for the child during the 2018 – 2019 school year.

## **Preschool**

Kendra Darrell

Preschool has had an exciting start to the year getting to know our classmates, teachers, and school. We are establishing classroom routines and rules and practicing them every day. We have learned about our expectations within our classroom, the hallways, and even the playground. We enjoy singing songs and exploring various ways to count, read, and write such as reading the pictures of a book rather than the words or making our name out of paper strips rather than writing it.

## **Kindergarten**

Marie Langmaid

Students in Kindergarten are beginning the year by learning, reviewing, and practicing the social skills necessary to have successful interactions as we work and play at school. Everyone is becoming familiar with our classroom routines and we have reviewed the use of some of our school materials. Last week the kindergarten were the first class to earn 100 tickets for being respectful, responsible and safe.

The students are learning the names of new classmates, singing songs, listening to stories read aloud, counting, working with the alphabet, and reporting the weather.

The kindergarten class have met and worked with Mrs. Clayton (music teacher), Ms. Fox (physical education and health teacher) and Mrs. Donahue (art teacher).

## **Grades 1 & 2**

Randi Collins (Lowe)

**Reading** - Students are working on their sight words. They are also practicing daily 5, where the students either read to self, read to a partner, work on writing, word work, or listening to books. Students will also start their reading groups this week. For read aloud we are reading books about learning and working together in school.

**Writing** – Students are working on their handwriting. They are also creating narrative stories. They are creating a list of true stories about them that they can write about. We are also working on brainstorming a list of events to a story to help us tell our story in order.

**Math** - 1st grade - Students will be working on different ways to make 8, 9 and 10. Students will also be working on solving math stories by drawing and writing equations.

2nd grade—Second graders will be continuing to add and subtract numbers to 100 using different strategies including making a ten. Second graders will be taking a small assessment to determine what knowledge they have retained so far.

**Social Studies** –Students are starting our new unit on landforms and bodies of water. This week we are looking at different landforms and learning what they are and what they look like.

### **Grades 3,4 & 5**

Humanities - Tamara Thompson

It has been a great start to the school year. Students have been working with Module 0 from the Wit and Wisdom Literacy program we are using. This is a brief module (6 lessons) that introduce students to the key components and features of the program. It also serves to cultivate a community of readers and writers. They will finish this module on Wednesday and spend the rest of the week planning for and completing a writing assessment for expository/informational writing.

Next week, grade three will begin Module 1 where we will focus on the content of the sea. Our essential question is: How do people explore the sea?

In fourth and fifth grade we will be looking at the literal and figurative meaning of "A Great Heart".

In phonics, students in grade three are working with beginning and ending consonant clusters. Fourth and fifth grade students are working with short and long vowels in multi syllabic words.

For global citizenship (formerly known as Social Studies), students in grades three and four are learning about VT Geography: Does Where We Live Matter? Fifth grade has Science with Mr. Hill.

The only homework for grades 3-5 in the area of literacy is to read 30 minutes each night. If you would like to see your child have more homework, please contact me at [tamara.thompson@ccsuvt.net](mailto:tamara.thompson@ccsuvt.net).

### **Grades 3, 4 & 5**

Math & Science – Travis Hill

The third through fifth grades have started off the year very well in Math. The third graders are using visual models to work with multiplication facts and being introduced to division. The fourth and fifth graders have both been working on place value concepts at different levels and using the base ten system. In the next week, students will begin T Time groups with Mr. Hill and Mr. Benoit to work on skills that students need based on assessments. Thanks for such a good start to the year.

### **Grades 6, 7 & 8**

Math & Science - Tammy Russell

Welcome back Walden students, parents and guardians! I look forward to my new partnership with Mr. Irwin and a new year of Social, Emotional, Physical and Academic growth for Walden middle schoolers. This year has kicked off with 7/8 grade students leading our whole school morning meeting focused on self confidence.

## Grades 6, 7 & 8

Math & Science - Tammy Russell

### Seventh and Eighth grade Mathematics

Students are focused and engaged as they take pre-assessments and STAR to demonstrate their current levels of understanding as we plan our work for the year. 8th graders are engaging with exponential notation including multiplying and dividing exponents. This leads us to scientific notation and working with graphing calculators. Seventh grade students are working with ratios and proportions, specifically calculating a unit rate and working with double number lines and using technology appropriately in math.

### 6th grade STEM

Students are focused as they work collaboratively on challenges and inquiries. They are developing habits of scientists as we collect evidence to answer teacher generated scientific questions. Our next focus is working to explain our evidence collected about cells using LED microscopes borrowed from the Montshire.

### 6th grade Mathematics tutorial

## Grades 6, 7 & 8

Humanities - David Irwin

Greetings! It is great to be at Walden School and I am looking forward to being part of an engaging school year of continued academic and personal growth.

**6,7, & 8th Grade Humanities**-Students have been familiarizing themselves with new learning and discussion strategies such as Think-Pair-Share, the Frayer Model, Annotation, Jigsaw analysis, and 3-2-1 Reflections. We will be using these strategies throughout the upcoming school year to encourage thorough analysis, organized note taking, and thoughtful reflection. 6th Grade students have also begun a deep exploration of Nikki Giovanni's poem, *A Poem for My Librarian, Mrs. Long*. Similarly, 7/8th grade students are engaged in deep analysis of Emily Dickinson's poem, *There is no Frigate like a Book*. Moving forward, 6th grade students will explore resilience during the Great Depression. 7/8th grade students will examine personal and social identity during the Middle Ages.

**7/8th Social Studies:** Students have looked at a very broad view of human migration from 200,000 B.C.E. and today. In our current unit of study, students will speculate on the impact the invention of agriculture has had on the human history.

**Please visit the school website: [walden.ccsuvt.net](http://walden.ccsuvt.net)**

**Thank you for your continued support of your children's education.**



**A GREAT BIG THANK**

**BOOK SHOP FOR THEIR**

**GENEROUS DONATIONS TO WALDEN SCHOOL!**

**YOU TO THE GALAXY**