

Walden School News

June 6, 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:

June

6/1, 6/5 & 6/6 - Artist in Residency Taiko Drumming

6/7 - Stewardship Day & Field Day

6/8 - 8th Grade trip to the Great Escape & Adirondack Tree Adventure

6/8 - Field Trip to Shelburne Museum Grades K-2

6/11 - 3-5 Field Trip to Sugar Ridge

6/11 - 8th Grade Commencement Exercises @ 6:30

6/12 - Last day of school
Early Release 11:45

July

7/9 - 8/2 Summer School Program

Principal's Message:

Artist in Residency: The Walden School community is enjoying an artist in residency of Taiko Drumming featuring Stuart Paton, Sensai. Students participate in 45 minute workshops honoring the Japanese traditions and rituals. There will be two community performances on Wednesday, June 6th. The first is an afternoon rehearsal at 1:30 PM and an evening performance at 6:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Walden School is registered with the Quaglia Institute to conduct online surveys in an effort to capture feedback about Walden School from a variety of stakeholders. Parent Voice, Student Voice, and Teacher Voice surveys are currently activated. Data obtained from the surveys will be utilized to assist in the review of practices as well as for future planning.

The link for parents is: <http://surveys.quagliainstitute.org/survey>

Survey Access Code: 415064



3rd and 4th Graders play the Taiko Drums

Preschool

Mrs. McDonough

Students created symmetrical mandalas with poker chips Ms. Patrice purchased at a yard sale. She also purchased a doctor's play kit and the students had a fun time playing veterinarian and listening to a puppy's heartbeat. They all enjoyed Rich Caratee's song, *Pets Go to the Vet*.

Kindergarten

Mrs. Langmaid

Math: Building and drawing flat and solid shapes and using ordinal numbers is the final math unit for this year. The students are building flat shapes with varying side lengths and recording their drawings; composing solids using flat shapes as a foundation; decomposing flat shapes into two or more shapes; and composing simple shapes to form a larger shape. They have been using pattern blocks, wooden solid shapes, attribute blocks, and mini marshmallows and toothpicks.

Reading: The students are recognizing, naming, and explaining many of the features of non-fiction text. They have been reading a number of short plays and presenting them to the preschool, first, and second grades.

Writing: Daily plant observations are being recorded in individual student plant journals.

Grades 1 & 2

Ms. Thomas (for Ms. Lowe)

Reading - Students are working on their sight words. Students rotate from reading groups to Daily 5 where they are reading to themselves, a partner, working on their writing, word work, or listening to a book.

Writing – Students will continue working on a research project about their favorite animal. They will use their knowledge of text features to create a presentation to share with the class.

Math - 1st Grade Math: Students will add and subtract numbers within 100.

2nd Grade Math: Students are continuing to gain a greater understanding that multiplication is repeated addition and groups.

Social Studies -Students will recognize and use different map features, such as map keys, cardinal directions, and map scales. They will create their own map of the classroom.

Technology - Students will practice typing for a short time each day this week.

Grades 3,4 & 5

Humanities - Mrs. Thompson

3rd and 4th Grade - Students will read *Moonshot* by Brian Floca and *One Giant Leap* by Robert Burleigh to compare and contrast the events of the Apollo mission. They will use their findings to write a 4 paragraph opinion essay answering the following question: Would you like to have been an astronaut on the Apollo 11 mission.

5th Grade - The final lessons of this module culminates in a written exploded moment scene that follows the narrative structure of episodes in *The Phantom Tollbooth*, carries on wordplay with Juster's characters and the ideas they represent, and conveys a central theme of the novel in the form of wisdom that Milo offers to one of the demons of Ignorance. As students work on drafting and revising their writing, I will conference individually with students.

Grades 3, 4 & 5

Math & Science – Mr. Hill

3-5 Math - We are in the home stretch now. Classes are continuing on their Eureka units. The third graders are going to be working on Geometry concepts. They will identify various attributes about polygons. They are also working on long division using the standard algorithm. Fourth graders will continue to work on fraction concepts. They are learning to add fractions with unlike denominators. The fifth grade group is finishing up a unit on multiplying and dividing with fractions and decimals.

It has been a great year. I really appreciate all of the students and parents who have made this year so enjoyable and successful.

Grades 6, 7 & 8

Math & Science - Mrs. Russell

6 Math - 6th Graders are finishing up their final module with exploration of box plots. They will celebrate their learning this year with a scavenger hunt incorporating an all modules' review.

7/8 Math - Students in 7/8 math finished final assessments and are now working to revise any errors. Students are adding math and STEM to their PLP's with exemplars. Students are reviewing 7th grade work and adding it to the PLP's as well.

6/7/8 IDU - Students are studying inter species relationships like predation, competition and mutual benefits. Students are creating iMovies to demonstrate their class details (Aves Reptilia, Amphibia, Mammalia) for the middle school.

Grades 6, 7 & 8

Humanities - Mr. Snow

6th Grade Humanities - Students have finished up their study of the "*Hero's Journey*" with the completion of their Comic Books. They are wrapping up the year revising their comic book for perfection before the end of the year.

7/8 Humanities - Students have finished up with their study of WWI with the completion of their podcast. I strongly urge you to ask your student to play their podcast for you. They have demonstrated excellent learning! We are finishing up the year with our reading of Shakespeare's play "*A Midsummer Night's Dream*" along with the viewing of the BBC production of the play for comparison of interpretation.

Please visit the school website: walden.ccsuvt.net

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



Kindergarten students at the Spring Concert