



P.O. BOX 97, HARTLAND, VERMONT 05048

HARTLAND COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January 2016

"To listen well is as powerful a means of communication and influence as to talk well". John Marshall

THANK YOU

Chris Scelza – for redesigning the HCNS website. Check it out at www.hcnsvt.org. Feedback is welcome!
School Families – for generous contributions of requested items at the holiday parties; and for participating in the Hartland Christmas Project

MORNING CLASS SHOW AND TELL

Show and Tell for the morning class **will begin on Tuesday February 9th** and will be held on the second Tuesday of each month, the same day that we have visits to the library. Your child may bring one thing – an item from nature, a photograph, a favorite stuffed animal, etc. to show and tell about at circle time. Show and Tell gives children an opportunity to speak in front of peers and listen to others (VELS: Communication and Expression – Language Development)

OPEN HOUSE

Open House for prospective students and their families will be held at HCNS on Wednesday February 10th from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Please spread the word to your acquaintances! With the full adoption of Act 166, the universal Pre-K law, students from Vermont may attend tuition free as long as they turn 3 years old by September 1, 2016.

ECERS VISIT

Our external program assessment (ECERS = Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale) happened on January 13th. The summary report from the assessor just arrived. Our program received an overall score of 5.11 (Maximum score is 7) which will give us the points needed to maintain our 4 star rating in STARS. A program improvement plan will be written and submitted, which will complete our 3 year STARS renewal process.

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Since the holiday break both classes have been exploring a winter theme, with activities and projects related to snow and ice, some of which have been used to decorate the classrooms (VELS: Creative Arts and Expression; Science; Growing, Moving & Being Healthy). When you are in the classroom be sure to check out the creative artwork displayed on the walls and lights! Exploration of the ever changing outdoor conditions has taken place; the Outside Fridays have continued to be blessed with favorable weather. The afternoon class will complete the Foundations introduction to letters and their sounds this week. Next week we'll start work on learning to identify and write lower case letters.

By the end of the month post offices will be set up in each classroom which will encourage the children to learn about how sending and receiving mail works (VELS: Social Studies) as well as to use literacy and numeracy skills through play. The afternoon class will visit the Hartland Post Office for a short tour. Both classes will attend a theater performance at the Lebanon Opera House.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2016

Attendance: Val Raney, Nikki Raney, Harriet Dumas, Bethany LaHaye, Meggan Wehmeyer, Heather Findlay, Luke and Danielle Blake, Seth and Kanako Wyman

- 1) Approval of last month's minutes-motion approved.
- 2) Director's Report
 - a. Inspection visit has not yet occurred, anticipated in the next few weeks. (*Update: See ECERS section of newsletter.*)
 - b. VCPC grant mid-year report in progress
 - c. Registration for next year to be opened to current families prior to general public availability
 - d. Fun Run fundraiser scheduled for Sat. May 14 (weekend after Mother's' Day)
 - e. Toilet maintenance in progress for slow flushing toilet in 3 year old room
 - i. plumber to install sinks in bathrooms
 - f. Request for suggestions for poster for preschool fair
 - g. Damon hall poster is up
 - h. New grant opportunity upcoming- will review for eligibility and interest
- 3) Admissions Report
 - a) Discussed board's recent decision to implement two multi-age classrooms with 15 children each. One morning, one afternoon.
 - i) discussion for age-based quota to even age distribution
 - (1) concerns voiced regarding mixed age classrooms
 - (2) Notification will be made clear to all current families regarding mixed age decision
 - ii) One additional student added to 4 year old class, bringing enrollment to 10 in 3 year old class, 14 in 4 year old class.
- 4) Fundraising Report
 - a) Original works paid.
 - b) No Winterfest planned at this point
 - c) Fun Run (mandatory fundraiser) scheduled May 14
 - d) April 1 tentative date for Tip Top Pottery cork and canvas fundraiser. 24 person limit. Tickets \$50/person (\$20 profit to the school per ticket). Wine to be donated, will look into food donations.
 - i) artwork choice to be made
 - ii) open to the public after offering to HCNS families
 - iii) discussed offering childcare at HCNS
- 5) Treasurer's Report
 - a) Net income: loss of \$507.92
 - b) \$1536.98 checking, \$27,583.55 savings balance
 - c) VCPC budget report to be developed, tuition discount for the rest of the year will be determined
- 6) 2016-17 Program Structure
- 7) Open House: February 10th, 2016 from 5:30-7:30 at HCNS
- 8) Preschool Fair: January 14th in Hanover, NH 6-7:30pm @ Ray School in Hanover
 - a) Nikki to bring computer
 - b) Harriet to bring banner
 - c) Val to bring registration forms
- 9) Website Update-
 - a) presented new website, watched video
 - b) several links noted as broken (*Update: these have been fixed.*)
- 10) Committees to be made:
 - a) Flyers to be distributed to notify each family of need for volunteers for hiring committee and by-laws committee

- b) By-laws and hiring committees to be formed
- i) State of Vermont regulations regarding teacher qualifications available online at department of health and human services

Board meetings to come:

February 8th

March 14th

April 4th

May 9th

June 6th

SONGS AND FINGER PLAYS

I'm a Little Teapot

I'm a little teapot, short and stout.
Here is my handle, here is my spout.
When I get all steamed up hear me shout.
Tip me over and pour me out!

I'm a Little Snowman

I'm a little snowman short and fat.
Here are my buttons, here is my hat.
When the sun comes out I can't play.
I just slowly melt away.

The Mittens on My Hands

(Wheels on the Bus tune)

The mittens on my hands keep me warm
Keep me warm, keep me warm.
The mittens on my hands keep me warm.
All winter long!

Chubby Little Snowman

A chubby little snowman had a carrot for a nose.
Along came a bunny and what do you suppose?
That hungry little bunny, looking for its lunch,
Ate the snowman's carrot nose, nibble, nibble, crunch!