



P.O. BOX 97, HARTLAND, VERMONT 05048

## **HARTLAND COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

March 2016

*"You live that you may learn to love; you love that you may learn to live. No other lesson is required of you."*  
Mikhail Naimy in *ExchangeEveryDay*

### **MRS. BONNIE IS RETURNING!**

After further reflection, Mrs. Bonnie has decided that she will remain at HCNS next year. We are lucky that we'll be able to continue to benefit from her knowledge, experience and skills in relating to young children and their families!

### **NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION (NOFA) PARTNERSHIP**

We were invited by the local NOFS representative, Sharon Irwin, to participate in a partnership with a local farm. The partnership involves writing letters back and forth with the farmer and taking a field trip or trips to the farm. We already had a connection with Sherry Clarke who raises Dwarf Nigerian goats at her Bly Acres mini-farm. The morning class has been corresponding with Sherry by mail. Both classes have participated in walking field trips to the farm. We plan to visit more times before the end of the school year. It is "kidding season" on the farm. The morning class was able to observe and pet the first babies of the year (1 week old) during their visit last week. Sherry encourages families to visit the farm at other times as well.

### **ANNUAL PARENT SURVEY**

Our annual parent survey is now live. We value your opinion and do consider your suggestions. You should receive a digital copy of the anonymous survey unless you let us know you'd like a paper version. It should take only a few minutes to complete. We hope to get at least an 80% response (suggested by STARS) from school families. A parent board member will collect the survey results and present a summary of them at a future board meeting. Please complete the survey by **Friday April 1<sup>st</sup>**.

### **NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS**

At the beginning of March, we tapped the big maple tree adjacent to the playground. The children have enjoyed tasting the sap on the spouts and checking daily to see if there is sap in the buckets. The morning class will visit Withington's sugarhouse this week. The afternoon class has been creating weekly journal pages (drawing and writing); they have also been working on name writing using lower case letters. We have seen lots of growth in both activities! The morning class has grown in many ways, most notably in social interactions; we see many examples every day of sharing, caring and friendship development. Both classes celebrated the arrival of spring by making and eating pancakes with maple syrup. The children are looking forward to beach day (afternoon class) and pajama day (both classes) that will happen before the end of March. Signs of spring are appearing everywhere such as abandoning snow pants and sometimes jackets, the departure of snow, ice and mud, the return of more bird sounds and sightings and renewed sandbox play. The children have been making weekly observations during our Friday excursions. On our last Outside Friday outing the children helped locate trash along the walking path that the adults picked up – several grocery bags full. During this Easter week we are finding lots of way to use plastic eggs – painting projects, parachute popcorn, alphabet matching, magnetic exploration, and movement activities.

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

March 14th Board Meeting

Agenda

Attendance: Val Raney, Nikki Raney, Harriet Dumas, Bethany LaHaye, Michele Summarsell, Meggan Wehmeyer

1. Approval of last meeting minutes- approved
2. Treasurer report
  - a. 2nd installment of VCPC grant received. Net income \$6365.20
  - b. Financial tuition issues discussed
  - c. Budget draft for next year presented, final budget will be submitted next month
3. admissions report
  - a. 23 students enrolled for next year
    - i. 12 for am, class 11 for pm class
4. Directors report
  - a. Licenser visit- no violations, suggested posting what snack will be for the day
  - b. Act 166 meeting attended by Harriet, Val and Michele
  - c. Looking for ideas for parents who are employed full time to be involved if they can't aid during workday
  - d. NOFA partnership w/Sherry Clarke at Bly Acres goat farm and HCNS
  - e. Discussion of going away video for Mrs. Bonnie (*Update: Mrs. Bonnie is not retiring yet!*)
  - f. Slate for next year's board needs to be prepared for April's meeting
5. Fundraising report
  - a. a.Cork and Canvas fundraiser-letter to be sent home, save the date for April 2 6:30-9:30. Sign up is on the Tiptop Pottery website. 24 person limit \$55/person
  - b. raffle at fundraiser--sell additional? Simon Pearce bowl/vase, Amy Rob pottery shop donation, wine donated, appetizers donated
  - c. spring fun run--planning bake sale/food May 14
  - d. unknown whether babysitters will be needed/hired yet.
6. Other items for discussion
  - a. Hiring committee will be working on job description- Elizabeth Craib, Sarah Taylor, Dorian Ford, Val Raney, Harriet Dumas have volunteered

Board Meetings to come:

April 4<sup>th</sup>

May 9<sup>th</sup>

June 6<sup>th</sup>

### **SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS**

#### **Here Is a Bunny**

*(Fingerplay)*

Here is a bunny with ears so funny.  
And here is its hole in the ground.  
When a noise it hears, it pricks up its ears,  
And jumps in its hole in the ground!

#### **I'm an Easter Bunny**

*(I'm a Little Teapot tune)*

I'm an Easter Bunny, watch me hop.  
Here are my two ears, see how they flop.  
Here is my cotton tail, here is my nose.  
I'm all furry from my head to my toes.