

# Ellis School Newsletter

432 Main St. Fremont, NH 03044

www.sau83.org

## News from the Nurse

Head Lice – There are still a **few** cases of head lice in grades 1, 4, and 6. Please check your children weekly and call the nurse if you found lice or nits and treated your child. Please notify parents of any close friends that you have treated for head lice. Remember the treatment is a small part of the process. Combing out the hair is a small part of the process. Hand picking out nits is a huge part of the process and takes hours on a daily basis for a 3 week cycle. Any student treated must come in to the nurse prior to returning to class. If we could all get over the stigma of embarrassment and realize it is not a health issue just a nuisance, and help one another by reporting after treatment and allowing the nurse to check your child after treatment this problem could be kept under control. I am attaching a memo from Commissioner Tracey of NH public schools regarding this issue and I want to remind you my web page has great resources. Do not waste money on sprays, etc. **The most important part of the treatment is hand nit picking until there are no nits and informing the nurse and close friends so they can check for lice. Parents who have the most success getting rid of the lice spend many hours nit picking immediately after treatment and then checking daily for 3 weeks after that.**

“As you may know, the recommended approach for dealing with head lice is to treat the condition as a nuisance rather than a health hazard and not to contribute to the stigma kids may feel if they get head lice. Ideally, children should not be missing class time related to this issue. Mass screening of whole classes is not normally useful because head lice transmission typically requires hair to hair contact, and that does not normally happen in schools. Screening siblings and other close contacts is appropriate. Also, educating children about not sharing personal items like hats and brushes is recommended. Your school nurse is an excellent resource to help with that aspect.”

For more information on head lice, please go to the following links:  
The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services policy on head lice no longer recommends exclusion:

[http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/NR/ronlyres/eoxknztuzjvca5fspfyc7p4pmx35nbx2ldqrhrylea4wwqmjpfihkqomyo\\_dekej434xtwel26yq5n55le-b7qzgemd/Fact+Sheet\\_Pediculosis.pdf](http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/NR/ronlyres/eoxknztuzjvca5fspfyc7p4pmx35nbx2ldqrhrylea4wwqmjpfihkqomyo_dekej434xtwel26yq5n55le-b7qzgemd/Fact+Sheet_Pediculosis.pdf)

Harvard has some excellent research on head lice that guides practice:

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/headlice.html>

The American Academy of Pediatrics also has some good work that aligns very closely with the current NH School Boards Association policy:

<http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/reprint/pediatrics;110/3/638.pdf>

(see school control measures)

Finally, here is the National Association of School Nurses position statement on the issue:

<http://www.nasn.org/Default.aspx?tabid=237>

**IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS: Letters will be going home to all students who will be in grades: K, 1, and 6 next year reminding them of the new requirement for varicella #2 for all 3 grades and Tdap for 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Please send this update to the nurse as soon as you have it. REMEMBER any 6<sup>th</sup> grader will need a current physical on file with the school nurse if they plan to go to Sargent Camp next spring.**

**STUDENTS registering for K/1 for next year must present a current physical and shot record at the time of registration / screening.**

April 10, 2009

## Upcoming Events:

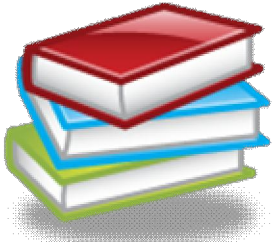
- **April 6-17– PTA Fund-raiser**
- **April 17- A Night with the Stars**
- **April 17- 24– Book Fair**
- **April 23– Snoopy**  
At the Ellis School Gym
- **April 24– Middle School Dance**  
Grades 6-8 only 7–9 pm
- **May 4– Spring Concert**  
At Sanborn Regional High School

## Middle School Dance Information!

This dance is an invitational dance where students can invite a friend from another school. Permission needs to be granted in advance so forms are available from Mrs. Antoine in the library. Deadline for returning forms is Friday April 17th, 2009.



## Spring Book Fair



The Scholastic Book Fair arrives next week!! The fair starts on April 17th and runs through April 24th. All items at the fair are buy one get one free so it is a great time to stock up on summer reading and help out the library and classrooms at Ellis.

Elementary students will visit during their Unified Arts library time and middle school students will visit during language arts. There will be family events on Monday April 20th until 8 PM, and Tuesday April 21st until 7 PM. Watch for more information on Monday including a detailed schedule. All the information can also be found at [www.fremontpta.org](http://www.fremontpta.org). We're still looking for volunteers - please email Cheryl at [rowells4@myfairpoint.net](mailto:rowells4@myfairpoint.net) if you are interested.

### Donations Needed

Mrs. Gobeil's class would greatly appreciate yarn and plastic straws. Please send them to her room if you can help out 3G.

## Family Night @ The Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair Family Night will be on Monday, April 20th from 3:30 - 8:00. The PTA will be selling spring scented gel candles, made in Maine, for those families who are missing the Yankee Candle fundraiser, or who need a gift for mom on May 10th, grandma on September 13th, a teacher on May 5th (or the last day of school in June,) a favorite secretary/administrative professional on April 22nd or for an upcoming birthday. Candles are \$10.00 each, and we have the following scents to choose from - French Vanilla Creme, Fresh Baked Apple Pie, Gardenia, Heirloom Roses, Honey-Do, Lavender Fields, Lilac Bouquet, Lily of the Valley, Macintosh, Maine Blueberry, Pina Colada Paradise, Simmering Cinnamon, Sunkissed Raspberry, and Winter's Over. They are made in an 8oz. Mason Jar, with lead free wicks, and will burn for over fifty hours. For every candle purchased on Family Night, your name will go into a drawing for two FREE McDonald's sandwiches (of your choice) and one FREE medium McCafe coffee. And because this is a BOGO Book Fair we will be drawing TWO names!! Candle quantities are limited, if you are interested in a specific scent, please contact the PTA at [fremontpta@comcast.net](mailto:fremontpta@comcast.net) or Faith at [679-9537](tel:679-9537).

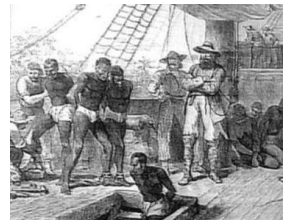
## Second Grade News

The Second graders have been busy, busy, busy! We enjoyed a field trip to the Exeter Bowling Alley to show off our newly acquired bowling skills. Thank you Mrs. Jackson for organizing it! In Writing we have been working on writing second grade sentences. Second grade sentences include capitalization, punctuation, our best handwriting and details. We have also been working on writing paragraphs and stories. We are continuing with daily reading lessons during our Readers Workshop time and working on money and measurement in Math. In Science the children had a great time doing experiments in Matter. Lastly, as we approach third grade we need to make sure the children are becoming more independent. The second graders will be charting their independent skills at home. We will then be using these charts to create graphs and to find the medians.



## Fifth Grade Language Arts

### *Historical Fiction, Biographies, Autobiographies, OH MY!!!*



Students are reading **biographies**. They should be composing their rough draft that is due on Friday, April 10. Students will then conference on their writing then edit and revise the following week. Biography reports are due on **April 17**.

**Our week begins** by students exploring the origins of slavery.

Next, they will research and learn how African slaves were captured in their homeland, sardined into slave ships, and transported to North America via the Middle Passage.

During many of our lessons, students will be utilizing higher order thinking skills by analyzing information and synthesizing questions, opinions, and observations. Students will be engaging in thought provoking and provocative dialogue regarding this time in America's history. I have discussed with the class that if at any time they are uncomfortable with the content, they may be dismissed to do an alternative activity.

### **Historical Fiction:**

During two classes per week, students will research and experience the following concepts through interactive and arts integrated activities:

The History of Slavery  
The Middle Passage  
Slave Living Conditions  
Abolitionists

The Capture  
A Slave Auction  
The Underground Railroad  
Emancipation and the 13th Amendment

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade News...

We have been learning about fractions in math and reviewing multiplication and division. The students are learning fractions through the math manipulatives from Everyday Mathematics Program. They provide fraction cards in the math journals which reinforce the fraction concepts and really gives the students a solid foundation of what fractions are all about. At home cooking is a great way to reinforce fractions.

In Reading, we are focusing on character traits and poetry. The students are integrating their poetry into their writing through the five senses. They have been exposed to a variety of poems like limericks, haiku, sonnets and many more. These poems have also been written by the children and shared with their classmates. We had the opportunity to have a poet laureate, Marie Harris who wrote the poem G is for Granite. Thanks to the PTA we were able to have this experience and the students really gained an appreciation for poetry and their state as well.

Community has been a unit of study that we have been working on in Social Studies. The students have learned what a community is made up of and how it has changed over years. To conclude this unit of study the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will be going on a field trip throughout the community of Fremont, NH, this will take place on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please keep your eyes open for a permission slip that will be coming from your child's classroom teacher.

In science, students have been focusing on weather and a guest speaker, from WMUR is coming to reinforce all aspects of weather. He will be here on May 12<sup>th</sup> to give a presentation about weather and the weather tools. This is a great opportunity for Ellis to experience especially since he is on a local television station. The students will be able to better relate to their community since Kevin Skarupa is on a local television station.

## Eighth Grade News

Our eighth grade class will be venturing into the growth of America from "sea to shining sea" and its cause and effect on our new unit called "A Divided America". In the coming weeks, we will be studying the Civil War, one the most profound and saddest events in our nations history.

Students will

- Discuss major differences between the North and South and how the differences led to the Civil War.
  - Examine conflicting opinions about Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War.
- Explore and analyze a famous speech or writing by Abraham Lincoln.

Some Essential Questions posed

- Did the Civil War end when the fighting stopped?
- What were the conflicting perspectives on slavery?
- Was the Civil War only about slavery?
- If you were president? What actions could you employ to avoid armed conflict?
- Has Lincoln's promise of a new birth of freedom come true for everybody?

As Americans, can we still feel the impacts of the Civil War

As they continue their unit studies, the students will work to reinforce and improve their study skills. Including, note taking, and concept mapping.

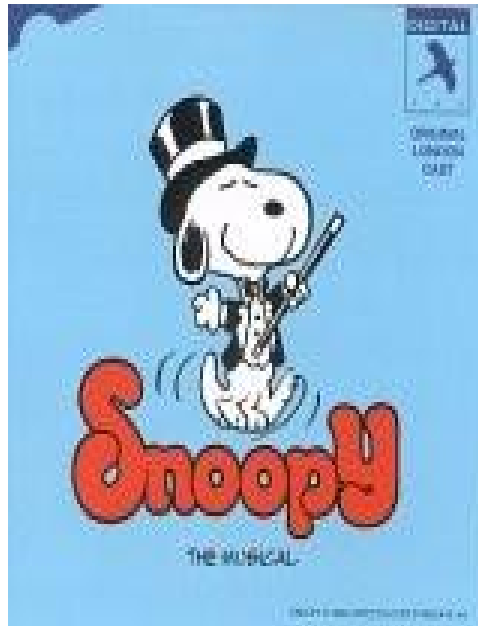
### **Mystery Radio Show**

By: Jolene Levesque

In the beginning of March, we did a Mystery Radio Show. We got to make groups and were asked to write a mystery story that we would present to the class and record on Mrs. Lee's camera! We started with the mind map, plotting our story idea. Next, we crafted our introduction and details of the mystery. Last, we ended with the captivating conclusion. When we were finished with all the videos we got to watch them. It was very exciting! Some of the groups dressed up and others did not. It was a fun writing process! You might just want to ask your child what they thought about it!

### ***SPRING CONCERT INFORMATION***

- \* May 4, 7:00 pm
- \* Sanborn Regional High School
- \* Grades 1-4 and 5/6 chorus
- \* Chorus to arrive by 6:00 pm
- \* 1-4 to arrive by 6:30 pm
- \* There will be assigned waiting areas per grade level
- \* All students need to wear red, white and blue
- \* Grade two needs to have small flags



Presented by the Ellis Chorus

Featuring: Vincent Potvin as Snoopy  
And David Elliot as Charlie Brown

April 23 at 7:00 p.m. with two school shows on Friday, April 24th

### The Great Debate

Did you know that you could buy a slave for very little money? In Language Arts class we are going to have a debate about slavery. Have you ever felt strongly about something then have fought to change it with a group of people in a civilized manner? Well, that is a debate. During early America some people thought that a slave was a necessity. Others did not.

In our debate, there will be five different opinions; the slaves, the slave traders, the abolitionists, the conductors, and the slave owners. Students will be playing all five unique rolls. The groups will get to state and debate their opinion. What is yours? We would like to know. We will have a suggestion box at the front office. So tell us your opinion.

#### Middle School Homework Helpline

Parents or students call the school number of [895-2511](tel:895-2511) after school hours and dial one of the following extensions:

175 - 5th grade	176 - 6th grade
177 - 7th grade	178 - 8th grade.

**Middle School Hours—7:50—2:20**

**Elementary Hours—8:35—3:05**

#### **Telephone Extensions**

**Nurse—dial—8**

**Absent & Tardy Line—dial 7**