

Benson Village School

September 29, 2017

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K - 5 Parents: Join us on **October 24th** from 5:30 - 7 for **Parent Night**. The date has changed! We will have tips on what you can do at home to help your child be successful at school. There will be interactive activities for you and your child to participate in as well as additional tables with information on nutrition (and snacks!) and social development. Our new Home/School Coordinator, Mrs. Cote will be here too. Your child's teacher will have materials you may take home focusing on Literacy and Math, but of course, she can answer questions about all curriculum areas! Hope to see you there!



Library - Mrs. Witt

We have many new book arrivals the start of each school year which include the [Dorothy Canfield Fisher Nominees](#), the [Red Clover Nominees](#), and, this year in particular, Makerspace books.

Amazing Makerspace DIY Electricity by Kristina A. Holzweiss

Amazing Makerspace DIY Fliers by Kristina A. Holzweiss

Amazing Makerspace DIY Movers by Kristina A. Holzweiss

Amazing Makerspace DIY Basic Machines by Kristina A. Holzweiss

PreSchool has visited the Library each week to check out books to their classroom. They love using the shelf markers to mark the space showing their book's space on the shelves. "***Frankencrayon***" by Michael Hall, a Red Clover nominee, was one book students heard for their story time.

Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2 students library class students have been enjoying a story time along with choosing books to take home or to their classrooms. "***Do Not Bring Your Dragon to the Library***" written by Julie Gassman, "***We Found a Hat***" written by Jon Klassen, and "***Dragon Was Terrible***" written by Kelly Dipucchio. "***Dragon Was Terrible***" is a Red Clover nominee.

Grade 5 students are working on a Dewey Decimal Poster using Google Docs. This project presents them with the opportunity to review the Dewey Decimal System, change the size of their document using Page Setup, change the size and color of their font, find, copy, and paste clip art to a document.

Grade 3 and 4 students have participated in a storytime starting with the Red Clover nominees titled ***“They All Saw a Cat”*** written by Brendan Wenzel as well as ***“We Found a Hat”*** by Jon Klassen. Grade 3 and Grade 4 students did have the opportunity to practice their tech skills during a Google document practice.

Middle School students have been working on a coding project. They are writing a very short story and coding it at Gamestar Mechanic Jr. or Play Lab at Code.org. They are just finishing their project this week and have created wonderful stories in code.

Grades 3 & 4 - Ms. Hobart

Science



Over the last two weeks, we’ve started a worm lab. We were out digging up worms and have been observing them. The students have been discussing the structure of the worm and the functions that help it to live. We will be doing a series of tests to see how it handles light vs. dark environment and dry vs. moist environment as well.

ELA

For our first unit, students are learning about Heroes! We will be discussing what it means to be a hero and who can be heroes. Last week we went back in time and began to learn about heroes of the middle ages! By the end of the unit we will be talking about unsung heroes-the people who do heroic deeds every day and always seem to go unnoticed.



Orwell Fall Family Festival-Orwell Town Green Oct. 7th, 11-3 Rain Date: October 8th, 12-4. Obstacle Course, Bounce House, Games, Petting Zoo, Pumpkin Decorating, Hot Dogs, Cotton Candy, Cider & Donuts! ALL FREE!

Music - Mrs. Broughton

PreK - We are singing songs that reinforce vocabulary about ourselves, such as “Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes”, “Where Is Thumbkin” and “Hokey Pokey”. We are also singing songs that encourage gross imagination and movement, such as “Hop Old Squirrel” and “Here’s a Baby Birdie”.

K/1st/2nd - Students are learning to use their singing voices with attention to speaking vs. singing voice, loud vs. quiet voice, and high pitch vs. low pitch. Some of our songs include “Cowboy Joe”, “Oh My, No More Pie”, “Johnny On the Woodpile” and "Ebenezer Sneezer".

3rd/4th/5th - We are learning the names of the pitches (A B C D E F G) and we are using the pitches to play harmony parts and bass lines on boomwhackers and ukuleles along with our song "Walk in the Light". Other songs include "Stewball" and "Ebenezer Sneezer". Special Note about 5th Grade: We have had our first band instrument lesson. You will receive a instrument care slip to sign next week. At that point, instruments may travel home for practice.

6th/7th/8th -We are playing the ukulele and learning about chord progressions. Some of the songs that we’ve played on the ukes have included “Riptide”, “Sweet Caroline”, “Wagon Wheel”, and “Best Day of My Life”. Play-along videos of these songs are available on the [DrJillReese channel on YouTube](#). Habits of Work skills will be tracked on Class Dojo. More details about this in the next newsletter.

MS Band - Musicians need their instruments every Wednesday and Thursday afternoon. It has been great having band students twice per week! We are off to a great start on “Tempest” by Robert W. Smith and “Bang the Drum All Day” by Todd Rundgren!

Dates to Remember:

10/2	5th Grade Starbase	10/5	Football Game vs. Otter Valley
	7/8 Soccer Game@Christ The King 4:30		Spelling Bee practice 3-3:45
	Student Acknowledgment@8am	10/6	8th Grade Calendar Form due
10/3	Cross Country Meet@Castleton 4:30		5/6 Soccer Game@FH 4:30
10/4	5/6 Soccer Game Home vs Poultney 4:30	10/7	Orwell Fall Family Festival 11-3
	K-2 Paramount Theatre	10/24	K-5th Grade Parent Night