



The Sherman Star

October/November 2012

Principal's Corner

Greetings Families! We have some exciting things happening at Sherman this month. We are fortunate to have two community resources starting with us that will assist us in providing families with more support.

Through a grant received as an Alliance District School, a Family Resource Center (FRC) opened the week of November 12th. There are two other FRCs in the Meriden Public Schools: Barry and Franklin. We are fortunate to be joining the group. Some of the initiatives that the FRC has are facilitating Learn Together Groups, ESL training, Lunch Bunch with our students, among many other things. Please feel free to stop by and visit the FRC.

Also joining our Sherman family are social workers from the Department of Children and Families. They will consult with our teams to identify community resources, participate in team meetings and school events, partner with the Meriden Family Zone and Family Resource Center staffs, and provide families with information about the department. They will be here on Monday mornings from 8:30-12:00 and Thursday afternoons from 1:00-4:30.

We welcome the following staff members from FRC and DCF:

FRC:

Dagmar Santaella is the Site Coordinator for our FRC. She received her Associate degree in Early Childhood Education and was a preschool teacher for 15 years in New Haven. She recently accepted the position as site coordinator for the Meriden Board of Education. Beginning in January she will continue her education pursuing a Bachelor's in Early Childhood Studies.

Benjieana Colon is a parent educator with the FRC. She has been working in for the Meriden BOE for nine years as a paraprofessional. A great opportunity arose for her to join the FRC team and she states, "I'm very happy with the change and look forward to working with all of you."

Milta Torres joined the Family Resource Center as a Program Assistant and soon to be certified Parent Educator. With over 13 years experience in office administration she also has an extensive history assisting families in need. Milta is an avid Makeup Artist pursuing her license in Cosmetology as well.

DCF:

Anthonia Ubaiké has been a social worker with DCF for 15 years. During that time, she has worked in ongoing services and investigations. She is currently one of the social workers in the Meriden DCF office assigned to Voluntary Services. She states that she is very excited to be part of the team at Sherman and is greatly looking forward to positive outcomes that could result for this collaboration.

Ryan Skal has been with DCF for five years. He is currently serving in the Meriden DCF office as an investigator. He states "I am passionate and dedicated to my work and feel the task we perform day in and day out are vital to the success and development of the families we serve".

Upcoming Events



*December 3rd-5th - Report Card Conferences

*December 3rd-7th -Scholastic Book Fair

*January 25th -Snow Ball

*December 6th -TPT meeting-6:30pm

*December 7th -Spirit Friday-Mismatch Day

Kindergarten- The children went on a field trip to Bishop's Orchard. Students toured an orchard, picked out a pumpkin and viewed animals. In math, students are working with numbers 0-10. Students learned letters and sounds. Students are learning about culture in Social Studies. Feel free to share your cultural diversity with your child's class. Homework began in October, along with sight word contracts. The students are doing a great job with this new responsibility.

First Grade- Thank you to the Meriden Public Library for welcoming us and providing the students with a free book and pencil. Another visit is set for the spring. Students studied Christopher Columbus and are reading about the first American colonists. Kindergarten sight words have been mastered by most students and we are moving on to first grade sight words and vowel team patterns. Turn arounds and fact families are the focus of math. Parents- please review spelling words and addition facts.

Second Grade- Second graders have been busy learning how to make different kinds of connections in Reading Workshop. Students are writing descriptive paragraphs using their five senses. In math, students practiced place value and will be starting a unit on money. All the second grade classes had a visit from the Connecticut Historical Society in October. The CHS taught students what life was like for children in the colonial times.

Third Grade-Grade 3 has been hard at work learning many fun things! In math, we studied addition and subtraction with regrouping. In writing, we have been learning about adding details, such as adjectives, action verbs, and adverbs. We have completed our study of personality and physical traits and are learning about nonfiction text features. We are very excited about a new after school program which will start in the spring...we hope you are enjoying your lettuce plants!

Fourth Grade- Fourth graders have completed estimation and money units in math and are currently focusing on graphing. We are continuing our focus on narrative writing and the students are creating wonderful stories. To help students better understand the election process with the Presidential election this month, all classes read Grace for President and The Road to the White House. Happy Thanksgiving to all our Sherman families!

Fifth Grade- On Monday the students in fifth grade participated in their 50 blue ticket celebration. The students made turkeys out of leaves and construction paper, decorated leaf-shaped sugar cookies, watched a movie and played Giants, Elves and Wizards. It was very exciting. The fifth graders are working on determining important details when reading and division in mathematics. We hope to see everyone at parent-teacher conferences at the beginning of December.

Answer the questions and return to your teacher by November 28th.

1).What upcoming event is happening from December 3rd-5th?

2) First grade is learning about fact families. Can you finish the fact family below?

$6+2=8$ _____

$8-2=6$ _____

3) Who is learning about adjectives, action verbs, and adverbs? Why?

Name _____ Teacher _____

