



# The Sherman Star

October/November 2013



## Principal's Corner

Greetings! We are happy to highlight several of our students who have been recognized at Board of Education meetings. On November 6<sup>th</sup> our Model Citizens led the Pledge of Allegiance and were honored by Board President Hughes and Secretary Cardona. Those students were: Mackenzie Hamilton (K), Manuel Castro-Ramirez (1), Hana Haxhaj (2), Riley Pavitt (3), Alizae Galonski (4), and Danna Hijosa Torres (5). These students consistently demonstrate Respect for Self, Others and School. We are very proud of them! Also, each year a fifth grade student is presented with the Connecticut Associations of Public Schools Superintendent (CAPSS) Award. This year's recipient is Devon Shortell. Congratulations Devon!

Our School Governance Council (SGC) elections have taken place and our first meeting is Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. The following are teachers and parents who are serving on the SGC this year: Teachers- Andy Hutchinson, Kim Candelaria, Dawn Martorelli, Kristin Mastriano, Anne Sharnick Parents- Nolberto Gonzalez, Asaad Elsaadani, Joseph Crispino, Lydia Haxhaj, Tony Martorelli, Michelle Haag, Gary Gardner.

Thank you to all the teachers and parents serving on this important committee. We appreciate your time and dedication.

We will begin asking parents to complete the climate survey at our December Family Night. More information will be coming.

-Dr. Torres

## Upcoming Events



- ❖ December 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>-Conference week
- ❖ December 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>-Book Fair
- ❖ December 5<sup>th</sup>-TPT meeting 6:30pm
- ❖ January 10<sup>th</sup>-Reading/Pajama Night



Second graders had a special visit from Hunter's Ambulance to kick off their unit on communities. Students learned about the services that Hunter's provides. Students got to assist the EMT with giving oxygen and strapping a patient into the stretcher. At the end of the presentation, the second graders were able to view the inside of an ambulance.

**Kindergarten-** Students have been learning so much in kindergarten. They have been learning letters and letter sounds, sight words and reading strategies to help them become good readers. Students are learning how to count to 20 this month. They are recognizing sets of numbers that have more and less. The boys and girls had a fantastic time on our field trip to the orchard and came home with delicious apple treats. We are studying holidays and cultures this month as we get ready to celebrate Thanksgiving. The children have been doing a great job with their homework. Thank you for your support in helping your children develop responsibility.

**First Grade-** In first grade, we are practicing reading words that have blends (words that begin with pr, tr, cl, fl, etc. or end with ck, mp, lt, etc.). We are also practicing our retelling skills during reader's workshop. Please remember to read with your child for at least 10 minutes every night! In Social Studies we are learning all about Christopher Columbus and the Colonial times. We also just finished up a math unit on addition and subtraction to 10, and are now moving on to identifying numbers within 20 and adding and subtracting within 20.

**Second Grade-** We have finished our study of matter. Students learned all about the 3 states of matter: solids, liquids and gases. We are now learning about communities. We had a presentation by Hunter's Ambulance and had the chance to view the inside of an ambulance. Students are working on retelling fiction stories during Reading Workshop. In math, students are continuing to focus on number sense.

**Third Grade-** Grade 3 has been very busy. In math, we have completed our place value unit, and we then used that information in addition and subtraction with regrouping. We have been using estimation (rounding) to solve problems. In reading workshop, we have moved on from schema and making connections, and are now asking thin and thick questions as we read. We have also been improving our fluency, and will soon be studying Nonfiction Text Features, and how they help us to understand Informational Text. We have many fun activities planned as we come to the end of 2013 and move into 2014!

**Fourth Grade-**The fourth grade team welcomes back Mr. Wilson and his team from 3M for our water demonstration. The students will learn how water filters work and what materials best filter water. The students will continue to review place value during math success time. The students work in groups to re-teach concepts or work on enrichment projects. The students will work on numeric patterns and multiplication. During reading, the students are continuing to utilize challenging text and pull evidence from the text to support their thinking. The students are also generating questions that can be answered in the text, can be inferred, or would require an outside source to answer. Students are working on developing a suspenseful segment that leads to a well elaborated main event. Please make sure your children are dressing appropriately for school as the weather gets colder

**Fifth Grade-** Many fifth grade students were honored for their achievements and accomplishments at school. Danna Hinojosa Torres was the grade 5 Model Citizen for Roger Sherman School. She received an award at the Board of Education. Ariana Medina and Jocelyne Horan presented at the Board of Education for the CT Fans Initiative for grade 5. Devin Shortelle was chosen as the Roger Sherman representative for the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents Award. Jocelyne Horan's essay on Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech was chosen to represent Roger Sherman in a citywide essay contest. The fifth grade teachers are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication to education shown by these students.

**EIP-** The Early Intervention Program held their first Family Night. Thank you to all the families who came out and enjoyed the YMCA's Exploration Station. We look forward to seeing all our families soon at our next family event.