



Roger Sherman Elementary

March/April 2012

Mrs. Moss's Message

L. Moss - Principal

On June 20th at 1:20 school officially closes for summer vacation. Roger Sherman students have made academic and social growth over our ten months together. Students have learned to respect self, others, and the school. Our boys and girls have earned many Positive Behavior Supports' activities including: Popsicle Treats, Holiday Store, Hot Chocolate and a Movie, Block Party, a Prom, and Zumba. Academically, Sherman students have made progress with reading comprehension, vocabulary usage, and mathematical thinking skills. Students were motivated to learn their basic math facts and participate in "Are You faster Than a Fifth Grader?" competition. We continued to host many after school family events including the Boo Bash, CMT Circus, Mother's Day Tea, Plant Sale, and two Book Fairs. Our attendance at Parent Teacher Conferences was the best it has ever been. We have been successful because every member of the Roger Sherman community saw the importance of helping each and every student achieve to his or her fullest.



As we head off into summer and go our separate ways it would be remiss of me not to ask parents to keep their children reading everyday by participating in the **Governor's Summer Reading Challenge**, writing about books or summer experiences, practicing math facts, and keeping students safe when swimming or riding bikes.



It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your principal for these past six years. Thank you for all you have done to make Roger Sherman School a wonderful place for children to learn and all you will continue to do assist the students to grow socially and academically. I wish you well in the fall as you welcome Dr. Lysette Torres as your new principal.

The first day of school for the 2012-2013 school year is Wednesday, August 29, 2012. As in the past, the bus routes will be published in the Record-Journal in August, but they will also be available on the district website.

Best wishes to all students and their families for a restful and enjoyable summer vacation.

WELCOME

Dr. Torres' Message

Dear Sherman Parents/Guardians:

I am excited to begin my tenure as Principal of Roger Sherman. I look forward to meeting you and your children and working collaboratively with you over these important years that your child has with us. You will receive a letter from me in July with more information about myself and my vision for Sherman. As I officially begin July 1st, please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns or comments. I am proud to be part of the Sherman family!

Best Wishes for a Great Summer!
Dr. Lysette Torres

Pre-K and Kindergarten

S. Conway, M. Rarey, R. Nutcher, K. Kalber

The preschool classes of Mrs. Rarey and Mrs. Conway are finishing out the year with a bang. We have mastered many preschool skills both academic and social and are ready to move on to kindergarten.

We will be celebrating our achievements with a graduation ceremony on Monday, June 18th. Come join us in saying goodbye to the last APPLE preschool class at either 9:30 (morning class) or 1:00 (afternoon class).

On Tuesday, we will have our "pool" party event in the backyard where, weather permitting, we will get wet and wild! Thank

you all for your help and support this school year. You have helped make this one of the best years ever. Good luck in our new full day kindergarten, yeah!



The kindergarten students have been getting buggy this spring. They enjoyed an informative presentation by Mrs. Olsen (The Bee Lady). Ask your child what they learned about bees and preventing being stung.



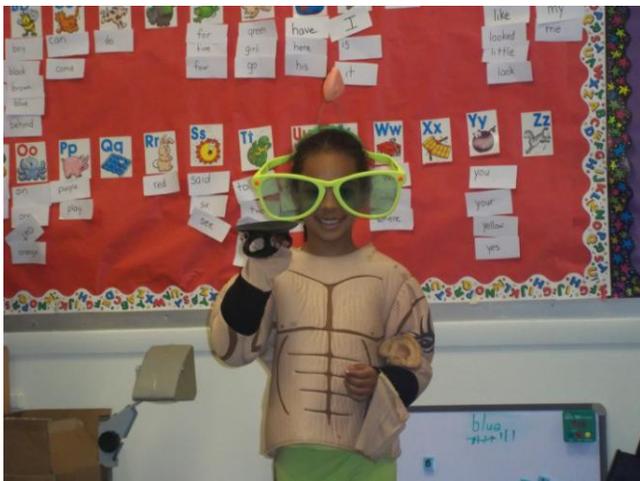
We also learned about different types of insects during an in school enrichment program. Students classified insects, dressed as a bug, and made their own insect.



We are getting ready for our trip to Washington Park. The students are really looking forward to their class picnic.



As we wind down the school year, continue to read with your child during the summer months.



Practicing sight words, addition and subtraction will keep them on track as they get ready to enter first grade.

First Grade

A. Weaver, K. Fedora, B. St. John, A. Sharnick

This past few weeks have been busy in first grade! We are working hard and getting ready for our next adventure- second grade!

In May, we received Painted Lady caterpillars. We were able to watch them grow and develop into beautiful butterflies. We learned all about their life cycles and were able to keep observation logs like real scientists. While we were busy learning about butterflies, we were also being gardeners. We planted, watered, and nurtured marigolds. We were able to see the seeds sprout and grow. We learned all about plant life cycles, their parts and functions, and what plants need to survive. All of this background knowledge about life cycles and needs really got us ready for our trip to the Beardsley Zoo. At the zoo we were able to experience animals and insects from all over the world. We even got to pretend to be prairie dogs!

For our Reading Workshop unit, we are immersed in our author study of Tomie dePaola, who just happens to be from Meriden. We are enjoying his books and illustrations, all while making connections. In writing, we are exploring poetry. We are learning to write acrostic, list, Haiku, cinquain, shape, repetitive, and rhyming poetry. In math, we are busy being bankers. We are counting coins, making change, and trading money.

Second Grade

K. Baransky, A. Jensen, J. Crouse



Miss Ivy with Isaac, Jaxson, Laleishka, Murceyiss, and Dakota at the Beardsley Zoo.

The Second Grade classes have had a very busy year. We have spent the last few weeks learning about character traits. We have all learned that character traits are not just what a character looks like but also how they act. We learned to ask ourselves "What kind of person is this character? How do I know what kind of person that they are?"

We have also been very busy learning about multiplication, division, and place value. We will all be practicing over the summer to make sure that we are ready for Third Grade.

We went on a fieldtrip to the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford. What an amazing place! We learned about dinosaurs, our solar system, sports, and many other things.

Please encourage your child to read over the summer. We wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.



Mrs. Fedora and Miss DeMore's classes enjoyed their trip to Les' and Washington Park.



Andrew and Jeniris at the Science Center in Hartford looking at the river.

Have a great vacation! We will see you in the fall for another exciting year.

Third Grade

B. Higley, K. Mastriano, B. Cabell

My Favorite Part of Third Grade

By: Mrs. Mastriano's Class

- My favorite thing about third grade was learning everything fun and recess! By: Eric B.
- My favorite thing about third grade is my friends! By: Jonathan V.
- My favorite part of third grade was gym! By: Manny C.
- My favorite part of third grade was when I was in the Fastest Factor because it was a big competition and I won the first round! By: Derek C
- My favorite part of third grade was the field trips we go on, like Norwalk Aquarium and Les'! It's so fun, and I also love the teachers! By: Lilly B.
- My favorite part of third grade was doing math, art, and gym! By: Abraham G.
- My favorite part of 3rd grade was when we went to the Norwalk Aquarium because I had my favorite group. We saw all kinds of things. We got to touch sharks and sting rays. It was cool! By: Jake W.
- My favorite part of third grade was making new friends! By: McKile
- My favorite part of third grade was the Norwalk Aquarium because we got to watch a movie called "To the Arctic!" We got to touch rays. Some were hurt and some weren't.

They were slimy and had long tails that had stingers. By: Rachelle F.

- My favorite part of third grade was our field trip to the Norwalk Aquarium because we got to take pictures of the manta rays and we also got to touch the manta ray with 2 fingers! By: Nicole T.
- My favorite part of third grade was going to Les' and going to Washington Park because it was so hot outside in the summer that I felt like I was at the beach! By: John
- My favorite part of third grade was the Fastest Factor because everyone gets to experience how good they are at math facts (subtraction)! By: Elyssa W.
- My favorite part of third grade is art because I make stuff for special occasions! By: Leo R.
- My favorite part of third grade was when we went to the Norwalk Aquarium! We even saw jelly fish! By: Emma S.
- My favorite part of third grade was reading, math, and field trips because it is fun to learn! By: Ariana V.
- My favorite part of third grade was learning and reading! By: Ashley P.
- My favorite part of third grade was math because I like adding! By: Elias M.

- My favorite part of third grade was nothing because I liked them all the same. By: Toby C.
- My favorite part of third grade was when we learned multiplication and division. I liked this because I love math! By: Jocelyn B.
- My favorite part of third grade was going to our field trip because we all had a fun time! By: Lisbeth F.
- My favorite part of third grade was the Norwalk Aquarium because I had a lot of fun! By: Coniyah C.
- My favorite part of third grade is when we go on field trips and watch the movie Little House on the Prairie! By: Treauna A.
- My favorite part of third grade was watching all of my students grow and learn throughout the year! I am so proud of each and every one of my students! By: Mrs. Mastriano



Abraham gets up close with a Meerkat!

Summer Vacation
An Acrostic Poem
by Mrs. Higley's class

See you next year
Under the bright, yellow sun
Mrs. Moss- We'll miss you!
Memories
Earned knowledge
Reading a lot

Very fun to learn
Activities and adventures
Completed another year
Achieved a lot of work
Teachers we will miss
I will miss Roger Sherman School
On June 20th
No school, No homework!



McKile and Rachelle touch the rays at the Norwalk Aquarium

Fourth Grade

C. Smith, A. Bryers, F. Wagner

In May, the Roger Sherman 4th Grade classes were paid a visit by Pete Wilson, a senior sales specialist with 3M Purification Incorporation. Mr. Wilson and his team of assistants taught us some valuable lessons about 'The Water We Drink' and the cycle it goes through before ever pouring out of our faucets. We learned some new vocabulary words,

such as permeability, contaminants and absorption. We were amazed to find that water is our most important recycled resource since the amount of water on earth is constant. Mr. Wilson and his expert team helped us experiment with removable contaminants and even purify water using a filter. We are extremely thankful that the 3M team came to our school and provided us with a lesson on Hydrology!



Fifth Grade

S. Owen, A. Abbott, R. Tellez

It is hard to believe that we are wrapping up another school year in fifth grade. It has been a fantastic year! The students have worked exceptionally hard to master skills and objectives in all content areas. They have achieved success in meeting the expectations we have set in the areas of respect for self, others, and school. They have been role models to all students in the building. And they have strived to do their best each and every day. We couldn't be more proud of these future middle schoolers!

As we wrap up this year, we are looking forward to celebrating the successes of the students, both academically and behaviorally. There are many yearend events in place for the students and for their families as well. We look forward to seeing you at the following activities:

DARE Graduation on Monday, June 11th, from 1:30-3:00 in the Roger Sherman Gymnasium. The fifth grade promotion ceremony on Tuesday, June 19th, from 6:00-8:00 in the auditorium of Maloney High School. The fifth grade picnic to be held on Wednesday, June 20th, from 10:15-12:30 on the back field at Roger Sherman School. These events are a special time for students and families, as we honor and celebrate their many successes, and enjoy our final opportunity to make some memories together as a fifth grade community.

Please keep in mind we will also be having health talks for the grade 5 students, on Tuesday, June 12th. We will be taking a walking trip to Les' Dairy Bar on Thursday, June 14th, with a raindate of Monday, June 18th. The fifth grade teachers have planned many special events and activities for the students as the year comes to a close.



Mrs. Abbot's brother Shaun came in and read to the entire school. Thank you!

On a final note, the fifth grade teachers would like to share their best wishes and congratulations to all the fifth grade students, as they head off to the middle schools in the fall. It has been an absolute pleasure working with this group of

students, and we couldn't be more proud of them! Have a great summer!!!

MLT, Art, Music, Media, PE



M. Muir – MLT
K. Hettrick, R. Modzelewski - Art

Kindergarteners are becoming increasingly independent on the computers and are continuing to strengthen some of their academic skills in the computer lab. They are extending their understanding of sight words, color words and number words. They are also learning to copy and paste rather than recreating objects over and over again.

First graders are doing an amazing job of creating documents in Microsoft Office Word. They created their names in WordArt. They copied and pasted their names, and then flipped the image to create symmetry. They revisited the concept of ordinal numbers, and copied and pasted text rather than rewriting the same sentence. They are also demonstrating increasing independence and problem solving. They have also used two new programs to create documents that they can utilize in real life. They learned how to make cards in Publisher and how to make calendars in Excel.

Second graders finished their PowerPoint presentations about Meriden. They did an amazing job of identifying places in Meriden that they had seen, and writing about these places in their own words. Some are now creating graphs in Excel.

After finishing their research on Mexican holidays, third graders created amazing

pamphlets in Publisher. They are now creating their own multiplication tables in Excel. Maybe they can be used for practice over the summer so that they can become the Fastest Factor in fourth grade!!

Fourth graders created beautiful reports in Publisher on rainforest animals. There is an increasing emphasis on accurate research, putting research into their own words and not plagiarizing work, and citing sources.

Fifth graders explored the life span of different mammals and turned the research into an Excel graph. They are now doing research into the human skeletal system. They are enjoying the process of finding out information about things in their bodies that they had previously taken for granted. Because they have used so many programs over the years, they are choosing the program that they want to use to highlight their learning. Many are adding voice and video to their websites or PowerPoint presentations.

PBS
PBS Team



Students continue to do an excellent job of showing respect for self, respect for others, and respect for school. Our May PBS Reward was the Prom. Students who chose to participate paid 90 yellow tickets and were able to dress up and attend the Prom, a school-wide dance. All students who attended had a great time!

Our final PBS activity is a Block Party on June 15th for 100 yellow tickets!! There will

be lots of fun outdoor activities like sponge relays and more! Make sure to remind your student to show respect for self, respect for others, and respect for school in order to continue earning yellow tickets.

As you are doing any cleaning over the summer, don't forget to think of donating any gently used items to the PBS team for future activities and this December's Holiday Store. These items can be sent in with your child or brought to the Office.

Thank you to our graduating class of 2012! The 5th graders have been very respectful and great role models for the younger students. Congratulations and good luck in middle school!



TPT

Teachers and Parents Together
Michelle Haag: President
Melanie DeBaise: Vice-President
Laura Graves: Treasurer
Anne Sharnick: Secretary

Thanks to all who are attending the End of the Year Carnival! It will be a fun evening for Roger Sherman families. It is Friday, June 8th from 4 – 6 P.M. We will paint faces, bounce in the bounce house, win delicious baked goods in the Cake Walk, eat hot dogs, make bandana necklaces, win raffle baskets and much more! We hope you can attend and have a great time!

Our new Executive Board was officially voted in. Michelle Haag will continue as our TPT President, Laura Graves will continue as our TPT Treasurer, and Anne Sharnick will continue as TPT Secretary and Box Top Coordinator. Michelle Zvonkovic

will become our TPT Historian/Photographer and Kim Gardner will become our TPT Apprentice Treasurer. Thank you to all those parents who attended any of our TPT meetings this year. We are always looking for more volunteers. Please consider attending a meeting this Fall and volunteering for an event! Thank you to Kirsten Howard who offered to help Laura Graves co-chair the Fall and Spring Book Fairs!

Our final Box Top contest was a success! We collected thousands of Box Tops! The top 3 classes will have a pizza party on a day to be determined by the teachers of the winning classes. Look for a Summer Box Top contest flyer along with the top 3 classes that will be going home with your child soon! Save over the summer to win a prize!! Each Box Top is 10 cents towards our school! We raised over \$1000 this year alone! This money goes right back to your child to support activities, assemblies, and field trips.

Next TPT meeting:
Date in September TBD



Volunteer Committee

Mrs. Edson, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Higley, Ms. Poggio

Volunteers are needed!

If you would be interested in volunteering in a classroom please contact your child's teacher.



Math Minute

The Roger Sherman Math Team

As the school year comes to an end, students in grades 1-5 recently competed in the Roger Sherman Fastest Factor competition. During this time, students raced against each other in the recall and accuracy of their basic facts through 5 rounds until we one student remained left and was declared the "Fastest Factor" for their grade. The following students were the winners: grade 1 – Murceyiss Burton; Grade 2 – Brayden Haag; Grade 3 – Nicole Testa; Grade 4 – Angeliz Osorio; grade 5 – Laura Mendez. The top performing students in grades 3-5 were invited to a district wide competition at Lincoln Middle School on June 11th.

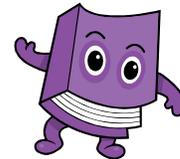
In other math news, students have completed the units of study for the year and teachers are using this time for reteaching and reviewing opportunities. Over the summer, students are encouraged to complete the summer math packet and return it to their teacher in the fall. It is also recommended that students continue to practice their basic facts and challenge themselves with critical thinking and problem solving activities.

Our Mathletix team had a great season. We finished with two of our students being selected for the All League grade level teams. Congratulations!



Kimlyn Vo Grade 5 and Lynna Vo Grade 4

Roger Sherman Book Swap



Look for another swap next year!

"Share an old friend- Meet a new friend!"
Any Questions please contact Mrs. Higley,
Grade 3, Room 201
brenda.higley@meriden.k12.ct.us

Check out our school website at:
<http://sherman.meriden.k12.ct.us/>



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