

SHAKER ROAD SCHOOL

Saplings

December 2016
Volume 7, Issue 4

UPCOMING DATES:

For more information consult Edline or your school calendar.

- **DECEMBER 21:**
Holiday Parties
- **DECEMBER 22 & 23:**
Vacation Camp
- **DECEMBER 26:**
SRS Closed
- **DECEMBER 27—30:**
Vacation Camp
- **JANUARY 2, 2017:**
SRS Closed

Notes from the Editor:

Look for the Saplings on Edline the first Friday of every month this year. A classroom team will be featured with updates from special events, school trips, athletics and alumni. If you have any photos of sports or school performances that you would like to share, we would love to have a copy. Hope you enjoy the articles.

Editor: Patti Hicks

Copy Editor: Tad Curry

Photos:

Mary Beth Burgess
Flo Chapman
Stefanie Curry
Tania Minery
Nikki Stuppard

ADVISORY OF THE MONTH

Friendliness

There are many different ways that people can be friendly to each other. It can be something as simple as a “Hello!” in the hall or on the walkway. It could be a larger gesture such as going out of your way to help someone with a task or challenge. Our Citizenship group decided we wanted to encourage the students and teachers of Shaker Road School to show each other examples of friendliness throughout the day on Friday, November 18. We created Random Act of Kindness cards that were passed along from person to person as they did something friendly or kind for someone else. The person who received the card then had the opportunity to pass along their card by doing something nice for another person!

As part of the directions on the card, anyone who received a card was asked to write their name on the back. That would show us how many people received that card during the day. Although we only received 10 of the 20 cards back at the end of the day, we saw the cards floating around all afternoon and many students and teachers were enjoying the idea.

We would like to consider doing another day, or even days, of Random Acts of Kindness and extending it further into the Primary grades and Preschool!

Mrs. Nevers' Citizenship Group:

Avery Bacon
Ashley Brust
Didi Harding

Emma Labrie
Aiden LaCroix
Emma Larson

Gus Raymond
Ben Rothenberg
Emily Senko





Paragraphs, Paragraphs, Paragraphs

by Shaker Road School First Graders

The first grade students have been busy writing paragraphs. They have focused on using capital letters, punctuation, and complete sentences to write their paragraphs. To show off their great paragraph writing skills, the students worked in cooperative writing groups to write about all of the exciting learning taking place within the first grade. Enjoy reading their paragraphs below!

In math we work hard. We all started with addition and subtraction. On the computers we do XtraMath every day. Everybody works hard on fact families. We do pictographs, bar graphs and tally charts. First graders do their best in math!

In Foundations we learned a lot of things. We learned about digraphs, quadrants, glued letters and bonus letters. A digraph is two letters that make one sound. The bonus letters are S, F, L, and sometimes Z. Foundations helps us with our spelling and reading!

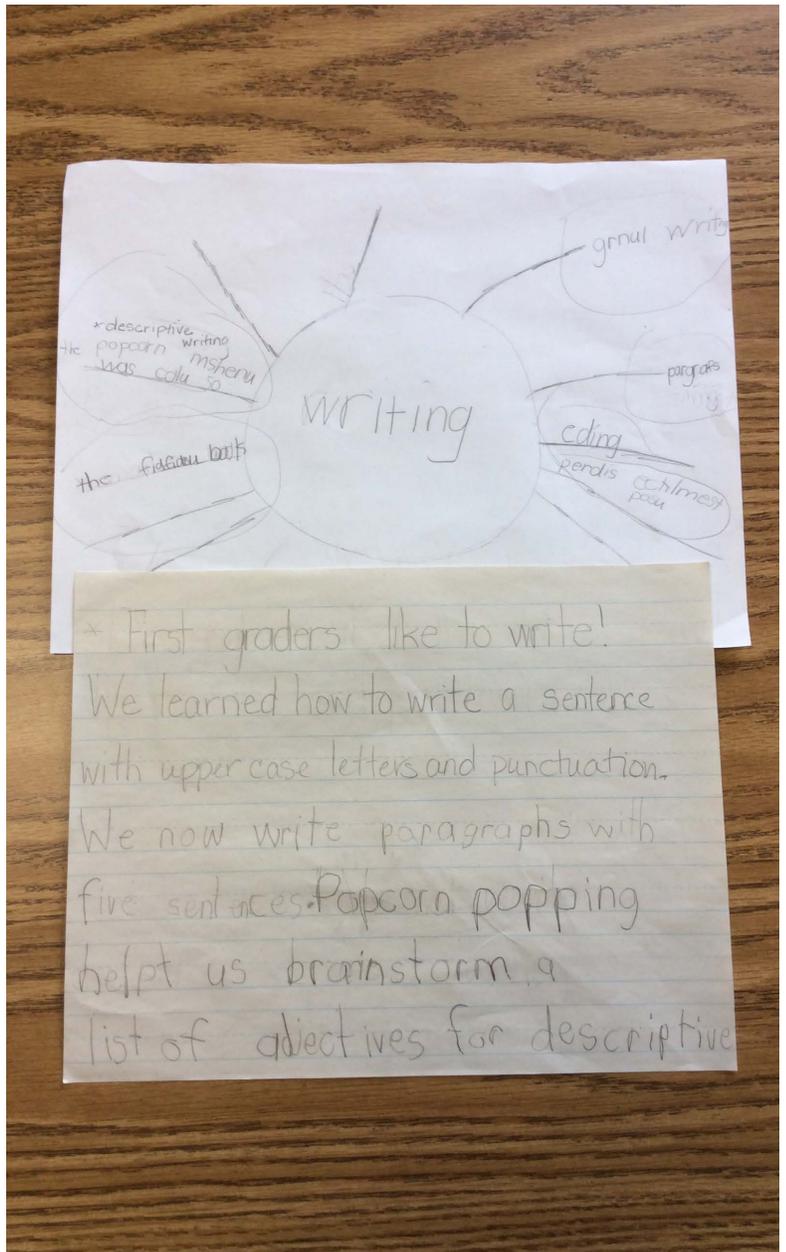
First graders like to write! We learned how to write a sentence with uppercase letters and punctuation. We now write paragraphs with five sentences. Popcorn popping helped us brainstorm a list of adjectives for descriptive writing. We also write in our journals. We really like writing!

We know a lot about science. Living things need sunlight, space, water, and air. We did an experiment with plants. Some plants didn't have water, didn't have air, didn't have space, or didn't have anything. Only one plant had all a plant needs. Science is lots of fun!

In Social Studies we learned good stuff. We learned about neighborhoods. We learned the firemen help people get out of fires. A compass rose tells you which way you are going. Never eat soggy waffles helps you remember directions. Social Studies is really fun!

As you can see, the first graders are rapidly gaining new skills each day. They are excited to see what they will be learning next!

Submitted by: Ms. Burgess and Mrs. Stewart



Respect of People's Traditions

December is a month full of traditions and holidays. Some traditions and holidays are Christmas, Chanukah, Chinese New Year, Winter Solstice, Boxing Day, and Ramadan. Always remember to respect others' traditions even if you don't celebrate them. Always remember, respect ROCKS!!!!!!

Submitted by: Mr. Hicks' Advisory



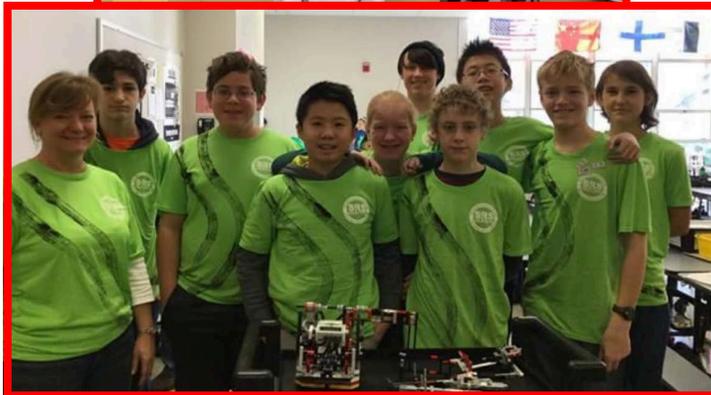
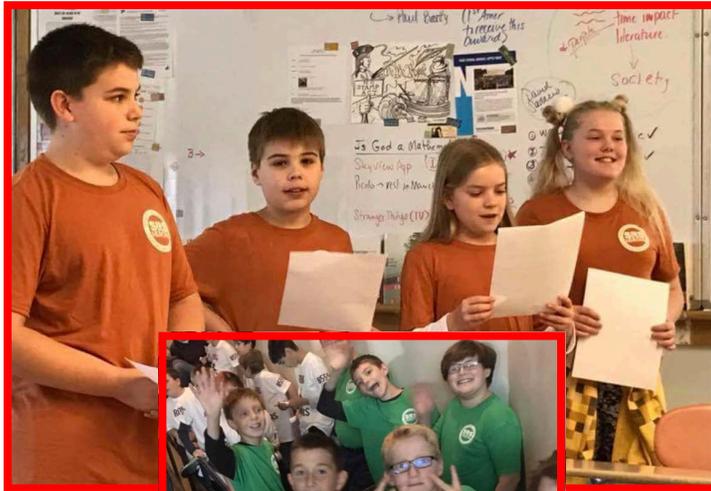
ROCK CLIMBING: SRS' NEWEST ADVENTURE

Students in fifth through eighth grade are now participating on SRS's first indoor rock climbing team. At their initial practice, 14 students learned how to safely tie in to climb and how to belay. The team is looking forward to participating in their first school league competition with nine other school teams, on January 7, 2017, at Evo Rock and Fitness in Concord.

Submitted by: Nikki Stuppard



FIRST LEGO LEAGUE



This year, nearly 40 students on five teams at Shaker Road School competed in the FIRST LEGO League competition. These teams worked together at least twice a week between September and their Regional Qualifier events in November. Of the five teams, Team Alpha (a team of 8th grade students) and Team Epsilon (a team of 5th grade students) earned invitations to the State Championship Tournament in December. Only 48 invitations were available for the hundreds of teams competing in New Hampshire.

This year's competition theme was Animal Allies. Along with building and programming a robot to autonomously complete mission challenges, the teams were challenged to design an innovative solution that improves the way that animal and humans interact. An estimated 32,000 students in 80 nations competed in this challenge hoping to earn an invitation to the World Championship competition through their local Championship Tournaments.

After a full day of competition and presentations, Team Alpha finished 29th in the robot competition and team Epsilon finished 36th in the robot competition among the 48 teams at the State Championship Tournament on December 3rd. Great job students and coaches! This was Shaker Road School's 16th year in the FIRST LEGO League challenge and we continue to grow each year. If you are interested in helping coach a team, please let us know!

Also, a big shout out to Mr. Hicks! Without his knowledge, our teams at the Championship Tournament nominated Mr. Hicks for a Coach and Mentor award for coordinating the five teams at Shaker Road School. He also coached one team and helped with others. The judges at the tournament decided that he deserved recognition and presented him with their Volunteer of the Year Award! Congratulations, Mr. Hicks & thank you for all that you do to make our LEGO Robotics program a success!



Dear Families,

The SRS PTG is excited to announce that Socially Shaker will return to campus on Saturday, February 4, 2017! Save the date for an incredible evening of fun, dancing, socializing and fundraising for Shaker Road School's Parent Teacher Group.

Once an annual tradition, Socially Shaker returns this year with a Western theme. A strong fundraiser for the PTG, the evening is centered around a number of silent auction and raffle items. Prizes currently include front row seats to a number of SRS events (Spring Fling, theatre productions, Graduation), concert and athletic tickets, a weekend getaway to Cape Cod and more! Hors d'oeuvres will be served and a cash bar will be available. Tickets are \$35/person or \$50/couple and can be purchased at the Heron's Nest or in the main office.

We have begun to work with members of the community to gather donations for the evening. If you or your business are able to make a donation, we would be incredibly grateful for your support. A list of donation ideas is included below:

Raffle Basket Ideas: These are gift baskets with an assortment of items that follow a general theme. Some ideas are listed below, but we encourage families to be creative in coming up with new ideas!

Boston Sports Teams
 Disney Lovers
 Chocolate/Candy
 Pet Care
 Movie Night
 Lottery Tickets
 Camping
 Beer and Wine
 Baking and Cooking
 Car Care or Car Emergency Kit
 Date Night
 Art Supplies
 Game Night

**If you plan to donate a gift basket, please be in touch so that we can avoid duplicate baskets. Thank you!

Silent Auction Suggestions: These are bigger ticket items that will be used in the silent auction. Families or businesses may be able to donate these to help increase the amount of money raised at Socially Shaker.

Airfare
 Vacation Home Rental
 Hotel stay
 Ski Passes
 Sporting equipment: kayaks, skis, bikes
 House Painting or House Washing
 Electronics: computer, digital camera, Go Pro
 Gym Membership/Personal Training
 Landscaping
 Limo Service
 Concert or Sporting Event Tickets
 Music Lessons
 Family Photography Session
 Estate Planning
 Picture Framing Gift Certificate

Thank you for your continued support of Shaker Road School and the PTG! See you on February 4!

With Gratitude,

Co-Chairs of Socially Shaker: Caitlin Connelly and Brooke Belanger