

SHAKER ROAD SCHOOL

Saplings

October 2016
Volume 7, Issue 2

UPCOMING DATES:

For more information consult
Edline or your school calendar.

- **10/4:** Open House – Prekindergarten & Grades 1-3 (6:00-7:00pm)
- **10/5:** School Picture Day
- **10/6:** Open House – 4th through 8th grade (6:00-7:00pm)
- **10/10:** SRS Closed Columbus Day
- **10/11 – 10/14:** Parent/Teacher Conferences – K–3
- **10/15:** SSAT test date at SRS
- **10/15:** Soccer Tournaments – Grades 5/6 & 7/8
- **10/16:** Rain Date for Soccer Tournaments
- **10/16:** Making Strides Walk (1:00pm)
- **10/21:** Halloween Dance – Grades 5-8 (7:00–10pm)
- **10/28:** Halloween Parade/Party – PreK through 4th (9:30AM)

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

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Photos:

Flo Chapman
Sam Daniels
Barbara Morrison
Josie Nevers
Chrissy Raby

2016 National Anthem Sing-A-Long

“The Star-Spangled Banner” was sung on Friday, September 9, 2016, by Shaker Road School students from Kindergarten through 8th grade, and by school children nationwide at 10:00am PST and 1:00pm EST. This was the third annual simultaneous sing-a-long event created by the *American Public Education Foundation – 9/12 Generation Project*. The project aims to bring students together – as the world came together – on September 12, 2001.



Mr. Dow spoke to the student body about the meaning, music, and history of our Nation’s Anthem. Mrs. Minsinger directed students and faculty in singing the National Anthem, as many older students learned the words by heart and younger students read along with their teachers.

Submitted by: Patti Hicks



AMC

The seventh grade students had an exciting second week of school, visiting not one but two of the state's beautiful notches. The journey started on a gorgeous, clear day in the Crawford Notch

at the AMC's Highland Center. Here students met their guides for the week, played some team-building field games and took their first hike to Elephant's Head, a small bluff overlooking Saco Lake with beautiful views of the Notch as well.

On Wednesday morning, students learned about hiking necessities and how to properly pack their hiking backpacks in order to keep important items accessible and weight distributed evenly. The 7th grade class quickly learned they were BIG over-packers as trash bags full of items were categorized as unnecessary and left behind! Once all of this was sorted, students were transported to the Franconia Notch to start the next leg of their adventure.

Hiking groups trekked through the forest in the pouring rain to arrive at the Lonesome Lake Hut on Wednesday afternoon. Sopping clothes were hung to dry and students got settled into their new bunk rooms. The skies cleared in time for an exciting night-time adventure that included moonlit hikes and discussions of nocturnal animals and their unique adaptations.

Thursday brought with it cool, refreshing air and beautiful, clear skies. Groups made their way up steep terrain to the summit of either Mount Kinsman or Cannon Mountain. The vistas were breathtaking and well-deserved. A view into our galaxy through one of the hut "croo's" telescopes along with a very animated rendition of The Lorax provided our evening entertainment. Friday morning delivered our first frost which quickly melted away in warm sunshine. Groups made their way back to the trailhead for one last trail lunch and a site that made everyone happy: Mr. Daley!

After saying goodbye to our wonderful AMC leaders, students boarded the bus to our next stop, the Old Man of the Mountain Historic site. Here, Mr. Daley provided a brief history of the formation and a discussion of how the location should be memorialized. Next stop, the Basin. Students walked the gorgeous paths and spent some time taking in the sculptured rocks and flow of water, finding it hard to believe there was still a large amount of it despite our drought conditions at home.

After a week full of laughing, delicious meals, silly songs, bird calls, moose tracks, using the "facili-trees," slug-licking, and many, many steps, we made our way back to SRS. Another successful adventure was had by all!

Submitted by: Chrissy Raby, Chris Dow, and Maria Giberti



ECOLOGY SCHOOL

The 6th graders spent a nearly picture perfect week at the much loved Ecology School in Saco, Maine. Shaker Road School has participated in the school's program for four years now and it continues to be an amazing week for the students, our SRS staff, and the Ecology School's educators and staff.

The students' days and evenings are filled with lessons that allow explorations and observations of the ocean side and its ecosystems. The students worked in small groups to accomplish hands-on activities and were able to express what they learned and understood through creative writing, skits, songs, and drawings.

The growth and excitement that we saw by the end of the week in our students was commendable. Even some of our more reluctant students were eager to participate and excited to learn. From dressing up as ducklings and presenting the weather to their peers, to using their scientific knowledge to explain their tide pool findings, every student stepped up to new challenges in their own ways.

This has proven to be an amazing way to kick off our school year as a sixth grade group. All of our students, both new and old, had the opportunity to spend time together in a whole new way - supporting each other, encouraging each other, and even working together to create great family style dining experiences each day.

We are excited to use much of what we have learned, observed, and discovered in a few upcoming art and writing pieces. As chaperones and teachers, we are very proud of our 6th graders and their growth and willingness to take some new risks over the course of the week.



Submitted by: Josie Nevers, Barbara Morrison and Peter Daley





The 23 members of the Class of 2017 retreated in mid-September to Camp Bernadette, on beautiful Lake Wentworth, for four days of leadership training. They discussed different types of leadership, types of power, majority rule versus consensus, and the concept of followership. They worked together to solve problems (and sometimes to fail to solve problems), earning a trip into Wolfeboro for candy, ice cream, trinkets, and coffee that their parents may not have given them permission to drink, but their parents weren't there, so they were going to try coffee, by gum! They discussed the pressures they face, their future hopes, and their best selves, which led some of them to cry by the campfire. Others sat by the campfire wondering why some were crying by the campfire. And: tetherless ball, volleyball, capture the flag, flower sculptures (or something like that), swimming, walking, talking, cooking, serving, eating, and operating the wonderful Hobart commercial dishwasher.

So, let's recap. Leadership? Yeah, the Class of 2017 it. Communication? Yup. They do it well. Teamwork? Dern tootin' they work as a team. Business sense? Hmm. Let's just say, if one of the eighth graders approaches you to invest money in a company he or she is starting, you'll want to turn them down. That's all we'll say about that.

Submitted by: Tad Curry



COOPERATION

Cooking and cleaning was a task at leadership that required our group's willingness to work together.

Overcoming the differences of opinions was a challenge when it came to cooperation at leadership.

On the rocks at the tide pools students searched for creatures and shared their discoveries with their group members at Ferry Beach.

Patience was necessary to appreciate the journey instead of the destination while hiking with our groups at AMC.

Everyone took turns filling in various trail roles as we hiked each day for the AMC trip.

Respecting our AMC leaders, our peers, and the environment was a group effort during our trip.

At leadership, we had to collaborate effectively in order to earn a trip to Wolfeboro.

Teamwork was necessary at leadership to accomplish various tasks during our sessions.

In the dining hall at Ferry Beach, we collaborated to set up for meals and clean up afterwards.

On the trail during AMC, we participated in games and activities that required teamwork in order to be successful.

No one was left out while finding the mystery ecosystem at Ferry Beach!

Submitted by: Ms. Raby's Advisory