

SHAKER ROAD SCHOOL

Saplings

February 2017
Volume 7, Issue 6

For more information consult
Chalkable or your school calendar.

UPCOMING DATES:

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Edline or your school calendar.

- **FEBRUARY 27 — MARCH 3:** February School Vacation/ Vacation Camp
- **MARCH 4:** SSAT testing
- **MARCH 10:** Report Cards posted grades K-3
- **MARCH 13:** Advisory Reports posted grades 4-8
- **MARCH 13:** Art Show Opening 5-7—viewing all week
- **MARCH 14:** Instrumental Recital 5:30 and 7:00 performances
- **MARCH 15:** Instrumental Recital 5:30 and 7:00 performances
- **MARCH 16:** Parent/Advisor Conferences for grades 4-8 @ 4:00-8:00PM
- **MARCH 23:** Humanities Fair "Documentaries"

Notes from the Editor:

Look for the Saplings on Chalkable 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.

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Winter Olympics





Winter Olympics



This Month's Featured Classroom:



WINTER IN KINDERGARTEN

During January the children learned about animals in the winter. We "researched" by looking through non-fiction books for facts about animals. Some animals stay here, some hibernate and others migrate. A furry friend who visited our porch to munch on our October gourd, was proof that squirrels stay here and are active in the winter. Using these facts, we made a bulletin board with animals in each of the categories. An appropriate song for the occasion is about hibernation: (this was a great review of the facts we learned as well as loud and soft singing.)

Grizzly Bear Grizzly bear, a grizzly bear is sleeping in a cave. Grizzly bear, a grizzly bear is sleeping in a cave.

Please be very quiet,
very, very quiet.
If you wake him, if you shake him,
he gets very MAD!

Little frog, oh little frog is sleeping in the mud, etc
Slithery snake,..... sleeping in a hole, etc

We added verses as we learned more information.



Thursdays we winter fun days. Some students went to Mount Sunapee with their parents to participate in the ski program, while some stayed at SRS for outdoor fun with Mrs. Stewart. They also made some wonderful art projects. We even got to skate and play on the pond on a few Fridays. Thank you for clearing the ice, Mr. David! AND every day we play outside is a winter fun day. We never pass up an opportunity to make a snowman!

February is Dental Health month. What better time to continue our study of the human body. We learned what the different teeth are called, what to do to take care of our teeth, and what dentists do to help our mouths stay healthy. Of course, Raffi's song: Brush Your Teeth was sung! This song even helped us to practice telling time! (If you wake up in the morning, and it's quarter to one.....)

Another math concept that we are practicing is the names and value of coins. It is fun to sort, count, and examine coins. The images on the coins vary so much now! We also talk about the age of coins and who is on each coin. We use a poem to help us out:

Penny, penny, easily spent.
Copper brown and worth one cent.

Nickel, nickel, thick and fat,
You're worth five cents. I know that.

Dime, dime, little and thin,
I remember, you're worth ten.

Quarter, quarter big and bold.
You're worth twenty-five I am told!

One other exciting development in Kindergarten: we can now sound out CVC words. All we do is say the letter sounds as we tap our fingers. We practice this skill while making word families: -in, win, pin, fin, tin. So much fun.

Don't get me wrong, we are ready for spring, but winter was fun in Kindergarten this year.

ANANSI AND THE MOSS-COVERED ROCK



The first, second and third grade drama students “wowed” us on February 8th, 2017 with their performance of Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock, narrated by Giulia Conserva. The students worked tirelessly for months to put this production together. The play, written by Ron Fink and John Heath, was about Anansi the Spider (Kaylie Reeve) discovering a magical moss-covered rock and trying to use it to trick the other animals of the jungle. Anansi would lead different animals to the magical rock and try to trick them into saying the phrase “Isn’t this a strange, moss-covered rock?” When those

words were spoken, the animals would magically fall asleep, allowing Anansi time to sneak back to the animals’ homes and steal all of their food.

The wise old zebras (William Bartlett, Nellie MacDonald, Abigail Perkins, Connor Weeks) were the first animal group to take the stage to pass on their advice to Anansi on how to use the “magical” rock in order for him to steal food from the animals of the jungle. So Anansi took their advice and began to roam to the homes of all the jungle animals. The Lions (Benjamin Larson, Eliot White, Lily Campbell, Cole Tokar, Abigail Vlacich) took a break from digging up their yams to take a look at the magical rock in the jungle. The Rhinos (Evie Rosso, Garrett Blake, Jeffrey Bartlett, Laith Radwan) were also lead to the magical rock but not before they finished performing the tango with their mangos. However, the monkeys (Ada Sansone, Leena Degieux, Victoria Thissell, Anna Pope, Charlotte Belanger) could smell trouble in the jungle. They knew Anansi was up to no good and wanted to warn all the other animals. The herd of elephants (Ellie Kozikowski, Maggie Szal, Stella Langner, Sophie Linden) jazzed their way up to the magical rock and fell into Anansi’s trap. Then Little Bush Deer (Hazel Curry) appeared from behind her coconut trees. She had been watching Anansi and knew all of her tricks. Little Bush Deer turns the tables on Anansi and teaches her a lesson. “Down, down, down” went Anansi and Little Bush Deer returned all the food to the jungle animals.

It was a joy to watch the talent of these young aspiring actors that put in much time and effort to perform an amazing rendition of Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock.

Submitted by: Kim Stewart and Kristyn LaRochelle



STONE IN THE ROAD



On Thursday February 16th the fourth and fifth grade drama students performed “Stone in the Road” by Kristi Thielen. The lights dimmed as Queen Mariana, played by Eleanor Taggart, and her trusty servant Barcarole, played by Ali Cabot, enter the stage. Walking purposefully to center stage, the Queen has decided to teach the town of Brie a lesson in kindness. Barcarole dutifully places a stone right in the middle of the road. The two proceed to hide in anticipation of which of the town folk will be the first to rid the road of the ridiculous rock.

First to happen upon the stone is Signora Rigolleta, a barber with an enormous ego, played by Alexa Wang, and Nico, her committed “yes-man”, played by Austin Dow. The two personified their characters with excellence and humor, yet they were not destined

to impress the queen.



Next to enter were the three thieves played by Chilton Cabot, Tyler Reeves, and Kaden Towle. The trio stole the scene with their slap-stick antics and “Keystone Cop” routine. As one can imagine the three bypassed the stone to avoid running into the law.

Scampering in on the heels of the thieves come the bratty children played by Alli Como and Frances Butterfield, followed closely by their doting mother, Belen Bernal-Doggart. All three actresses won the hearts of the audience with their candid portrayal of a “loving family.” Lest not forget the extremely patient artist played by Sierra Nieves who did an outstanding job expressing the understandable frustration of painting their portrait.

Making their way from the town of Brie enter a lost milkman, a run away principal, and a retired fortune-teller, played in order by Isabel Kim, Connor McIntyre, and Amelia Butterfield. This group of misfit characters did a wonderful job with their comedic timing and delivery, but turned running from the stage at the sight of the local tax collector before they could move the stone.

Finally, in walked the kind and wholesome Jackie, played by Ali Como. Her thoughtfulness and kindness shine through as her actions demonstrate her character by moving the stone, winning the blessing of the queen, and completing the night’s performance. As the lights brighten, the fine actors and actresses take center stage for their final bows. They did a fantastic job and should be very proud.

Submitted by: Becky Carter
and Cathi Patterson



Socially Shaker

Written by Caitlin Connelly

Last weekend, the Wild, Wild West descended on Shaker Road School's auditorium as part of the Socially Shaker event series. More than 120 parents, teachers, and friends of the school attended the evening's festivities ... all in an effort to bring the community together for a fun night of socializing and to raise funds for the PTG.

My involvement with the PTG began this past September because I wanted to be more integrated within the SRS community and give back to the incredible school that my husband and I had selected for our children. Since all three of my children attend SRS, and since my youngest is enrolled in the infant program, I know our tenure at SRS will be lengthy. To be honest, I wasn't exactly sure what the PTG was all about, or what I was getting myself into, but I knew that I wanted to be more involved and contribute to my children's education in ways beyond the classroom.

At my first official PTG meeting, I learned about the group's mission:

To build community, bring families together, and strengthen the relationship between parents, caregivers, and teachers.

I love this mission – an organization that is 100% dedicated to bringing families together and enabling people to get to know each other better.

The PTG offers so many amazing community building events throughout the year including:

- The Welcome Back Picnic
- Grandparents Day
- Movie Nights
- The Polar Express Holiday Event
- Socially Shaker
- The Pancake Breakfast
- The Spring BBQ, and so much more!

When the PTG decided to host Socially Shaker in February (after a 10-year hiatus), I volunteered to co-chair the event. Reviving an event like this was a huge undertaking, but we were thrilled by the amazing support and enthusiasm of the SRS families, teachers, and Concord-area businesses and restaurants. The event's silent auction and gift basket raffle were a tremendous success with more than 70 items available for bidding, resulting in thousands of dollars raised to support the school. But, Socially Shaker did something even more important than raise money – it brought families together and strengthened our community.



As we approach the spring season, the PTG will review the requests from teachers and students to help enhance the community, classrooms, and overall education at SRS. In the past, the PTG has provided funds to purchase Smart-Boards for classrooms, a music recording studio, sports equipment, and more. I am excited to see how the Socially Shaker funds and the work resulting from the PTG's efforts this year will further enhance our community in the future.

I realize that everyone is busy...but I encourage you to join us for a PTG meeting in the near future. We meet the first Tuesday of every month for one hour – not a huge time commitment. And, the more families that become involved, the more we can accomplish for Shaker Road School and for our children. I hope to see you at the next meeting!



PTG PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The annual PTG pancake breakfast was held on Saturday, February 18, in the Bishop Brady High School cafeteria. Teams of teachers and parents worked collaboratively to make a delicious breakfast for families and friends. There were raffles for the children, a 50/50 drawing, all included in the morning fun. The children loved seeing their teachers in the now famous “yellow pancake shirts” bringing them hot pancakes, orange slices, bacon, and juice. The event raised \$750 for the PTG, which provides enrichment programs and supplies for the teachers at SRS.

Submitted by: Patti Hicks

