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Mathcounts

Congratulations to the SRS Mathcounts Club Members (sixth grade: Garrett Blake, Lily Campbell, Hazel Curry, Ethan Friedburg, Ari Mistretta, Maggie Szal, and Victoria Thissell; seventh grade: Mei-Ling Bielagus, Ali Cabot, Alli Como, Avery Sahr, and Alexa Wang; eighth grade: Nicolo Anastasy, Catherine Gettens, Sidney Magnus, Lucy Szal, and Liam Taffe) who have earned Gold Level Status in the National Mathcounts Club!

For the first time, Mathcounts offered a service project as a way to earn Gold Level as a math club. SRS club members were excited by this choice and quickly began brainstorming project ideas. At the time, social gatherings were already being discouraged so students designed a project that they could complete amongst themselves while making a positive impact on the Concord community.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR:

Look for the Saplings on PowerSchool each month this year posted online at www.shakerroadschool.org. A classroom 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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All Facebook, SRS Remote Learning Contributors and SRS Parents



The SRS Mathcounts Solve-a-thon was born! A plan was put in place to tackle 90 minutes of problem solving in small groups. Students gathered support of family members and friends who pledged to donate a dollar amount (of their choosing) for each problem that was answered correctly. Students quickly identified Friends of Forgotten Children as the recipient for any money raised.

Although plans were altered, remote learning did not deter these students from accomplishing the task—Skype meetings served as collaborative workspace for club meetings and project work. Members went above and beyond their new school day expectations to make this happen: a true reflection of their character and commitment.

Solve-a-thon by the numbers:

- **All 17 SRS Mathcounts Club members participated.**
- **A collective 1,470 minutes (over 24 hours) of time spent working on project problems.**
- **Donations from 58 sponsors.**
- **Over \$1,360 raised for Friends of Forgotten Children.**

Students, parents, families, and friends: I can't thank you enough for your support and hard work to make this happen!

Submitted by Chrissy Raby

Music Lessons

The music department has been hard at work this month! We have been teaching virtual private music lessons, brainstorming ways to showcase our students' hard work, and providing remote music experiences for all age levels.

Our private music lessons have been very successful, and we have had more than half of our students continue with their private music instruction virtually. Students are enjoying using technology to meet with their teachers, access sheet music, and record themselves playing. Sadly, our in-person recitals have all needed to be cancelled, but many of our students have been able to record their recital songs and we will be posting those to the SRS website to share with family and friends.

Mrs. Minsinger (Ms. Rachel to the little ones) has been busy recording videos of sing-along. Our youngest students have been enjoying watching these videos and singing along with our favorite songs! Each week, students are asked to create different types of instruments at home. We have made shakers, sticks, drums, rain sticks, and instruments that you rub. If you have any photos of your students participating in sing-along remotely, we'd love to see your photos. Please share them with #srssing-along.

While we can't wait to get back to school to make music together in person, we have been enjoying seeing how engaged and excited our students have been to make music at home. Keep up the great work!

Submitted by Rachel Minsinger



A composite image. On the left, a girl with long dark hair, wearing a purple shirt, is smiling while playing a silver flute. She is in a video call, as indicated by the small video window in the bottom right corner of the screen. On the right, a computer monitor displays sheet music for the song "Dona Nobis Pacem" in musical notation. The screen also shows a browser tab for "Shaker-Road-Composition-Project.sites.no...". The date "4/17/2020" and time "2:14 PM" are visible in the bottom right corner of the monitor.

Ninth Grade Travels

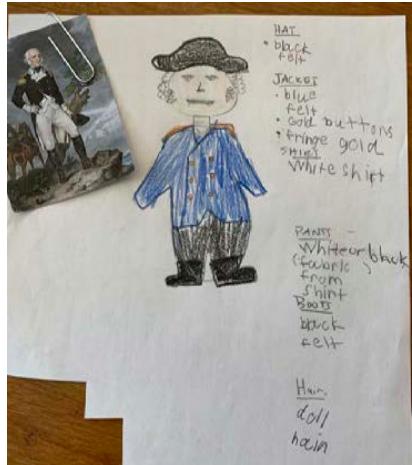
This March, the ninth graders took a trip to Florida. The trip was focused around our Biology class, so while we were down there, we learned about the plant and animal life of the ocean and the Everglades. During the week, we climbed up the Gasparilla Island Lighthouse, which has 134 stairs! We also went to the Mote Aquarium where we learned about the red tide, manatees, different kinds of fish, and giant squids. We also got to pet sharks, stingrays, and see otters, turtles, and manatees. Another highlight was going to Siesta Key Beach and collecting lots of shark teeth.

The biggest day trip was probably to the Everglades, where we took a boat tour and saw different birds, dolphins, and lots of alligators. At the end of the tour, a lady who works there taught us about the history of the Everglades. She led us in a debate about conservation vs. preservation, and she talked about how people are deciding how to best protect the Everglades today.

The week wasn't just all academic though. We were able to spend some time at the beach, where one of us got a little red (turned into a lobster)! In our down time we rode bikes around the neighborhood, and one of us learned how to ride bike. We made pancakes one morning and tried pickle flavored ice cream, which was actually really good. We also did some shopping in Venice. The weather was really warm, in the 70s and 80s all week. That made it even harder to go home!

Submitted by Rosie, Eve, Jackie, Didi, and Griffin





Third Grade's Travels: Our Journey Through New Hampshire

The third graders began their journey through New Hampshire before even entering the classroom! They traveled with Nicholas the mouse in the assigned summer reading book *Nicholas, A New Hampshire Tale*, written by Peter Arenstam. Nicholas was on a mission to find his cousin Francis who had taken the precious copy of his family journal to New Hampshire. Nicholas followed clues left by his cousin Francis and traveled through New Hampshire's vast mountains, scenic lakes and much more. Nicholas's adventures were a great introduction of what was to come in the third grade New Hampshire curriculum.

Like Nicholas, the third graders set out on their own journey. The first stop was a field trip to Great Bay Discover Center for their Fall Cultural History Program. The third graders learned first-hand how Native Americans lived over 400 years ago. They took on the role of an Abenaki tribe member, acquiring what the typical day in the life as an Abenaki tribe member looked like and how they used the many natural resources that inhabited the area. They also participated in activities that taught them about the Colonists and their way of life along Piscataqua Basin. As we all know, the important part of our history is learning about the people who came before us. This field trip helped kick off our unit on the Native Americans and Colonists of our state.

Our next stop was in room 504, Shaker Road School with long time parent Mrs. Karen Badau. Mrs. Badau introduced the third graders to New Hampshire's state symbols through her own artistic presentation of the Red Newt, the Blue Karner Butterfly, the Purple Lilac, the White-Tailed Deer and the Purple Finch. The third graders colored and researched fun facts on their chosen symbol. Then the information was turned into cards to be distributed to our New Hampshire Veterans. The students not only explored their state symbols, but also learned the meaning of being a Veteran and how we can give back to them for their services.

Back on the road again, the third graders ventured to the New Hampshire State House after learning of its history in class. The students were officially greeted by tour guide Brenda and House Rep Christy Bartlett. Brenda and Representative Bartlett brought the students to Representatives Hall and had a lively discussion of how bills are passed that become laws. Then, the students participated in a voting lesson on making a bill and law. Next, the kids visited the Senate chambers. From there it was on to the Governor's office and Executive Council chambers. Surprisingly, Governor Sununu himself welcomed the class to the office! The kids were so excited and had many great questions that the Governor invited them to be asked. Students took on the role of the Governor for a minute sitting in his official chair. After saying farewell and thank you to Governor Sununu and Brenda, the students ended their State House trip with a visit to the statues in front of the State House learning who each statue was and why the statue is placed there. But before heading back to school, we had one more stop, the gravesite of President Franklin Pierce. It was truly a New Hampshire history trek.

Future travels for the third graders include a virtual tour of Strawberry Banke, an outdoor history museum located in the south end historic district of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. It is the oldest neighborhood in New Hampshire to be settled by Europeans, and the earliest neighborhood remaining in the present-day city of Portsmouth. Here the students will get a chance to view the many historic buildings and homes. This is a daylong adventure with so much to take away, which has always been a favorite from previous third graders.

Throughout all the third-grade travels, they have learned of many important, notable people. Although some of these people were not born in New Hampshire, their skills and knowledge has been well documented. In order to share with others about these important people, the third graders will present a famous, notable person through a research project and most importantly through the creation of a Biography Bottle. The bottles will represent their assigned person. So be sure to watch for an invite to room 504 to see the well planned out Biography Bottle Museum and to reminisce through our travels!

Submitted by Kim Stewart and Peter Daley





Pre-K Teddy Bear Picnic

The SRS Teddy Bear Social is a beloved springtime event when Pre-K4 students invite their families to the classroom for a teddy bear picnic and teddy bear-related activities.

This year's social was a little less so, yet the class connected with each other through a shared activity making teddy bear masks. They enjoyed a picnic at home with teacher-suggested snack ideas and listened to their teachers read teddy bear stories remotely. Miss Debbie even performed the 'Teddy Bear Picnic' song just for the Pre-K students. We loved seeing photos from families! (The last photo is a drawing by Miles of a bear hug for Miss Melane!)

Submitted by Caitlin Connelly





Cairn Challenge

The results are in for the Cairn Building Blue Heron Challenge! A total of 37 students and faculty participated in the challenge by making Cairns not only with rocks but also with household objects! The judges had a tough job choosing winners from all the amazing entries! Great work, everyone!

BEST ARCHED CAIRN – Lily C., Sixth Grade

MOST CREATIVE NON-ROCK CAIRN – Ben P., Kindergarten

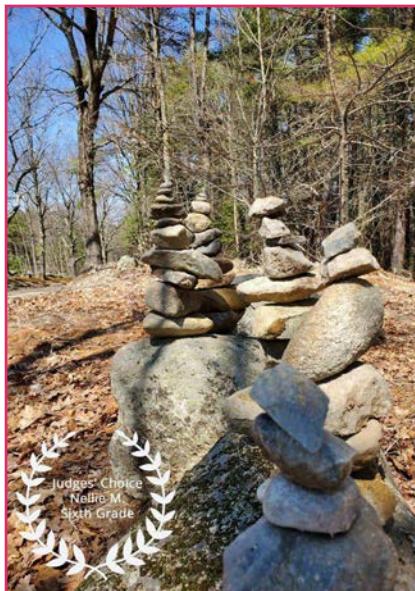
MOST ARCHITECTURALLY PLEASING CAIRN – Matthew Hicks, Faculty

MOST SYMMETRICAL CAIRN – Kiran P., First Grade

JUDGES' CHOICE – Daphne J., Kindergarten

JUDGES' CHOICE – Ruth C., First Grade

JUDGES' CHOICE – Nellie M., Sixth Grade





School Spirit Week

The annual SRS tradition of Spirit Week, which is the week before April vacation was no different this year, just a more virtual one! It was a fun-filled week for all our energetic students who sported all sorts of attire: SRS blue and white, class color day, crazy hat or hair day, show your passions/favorites day, and the all time Friday favorite pajama day!

