



May 2011

# Principal News

## Upcoming Events

May 2 – School Board Meeting @  
7:00 – Warsaw Library

May 2 – PTO meeting @ Vickery  
5:30

May 12 - Informational Budget  
Meeting @ 6:30 – Warsaw

May 13 – PTO Fundraiser –  
Spaghetti Supper and Basket  
Raffle @ 5:30

May 26 – Budget Board Meeting

May 27 – Memorial Day  
Program @ the Veteran's  
Memorial Park in Pittsfield @  
10:00

May 27 - ½ day for students

May 31 – The Arts Night @  
Warsaw gym & cafeteria  
Art Show @ 5:45  
Music Concert @ 6:30

## STUDENT LED PORTFOLIO CONFERENCES

During the week of April 11<sup>th</sup>, students and their parents participated in Student Led Portfolio Conferences. We had 87% of our students share their portfolios with their parents. Several parents who were unable to attend prior to vacation have been scheduled for the portfolio share after the vacation. We should easily be over 90% attendance. Mr. Lake taped two songs from each classroom for the students to share with their families as part of their portfolio share. Ninety-two families went to the computer lab, logged on to Mr. Lake's website to see and listen to their child's classroom sing. What a great evening!

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER & BASKET RAFFLE/ PTO FUNDRAISER

The PTO will again be sponsoring their annual spaghetti supper and basket raffle on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> with supper beginning at 5:00. Our third and fourth grade chorus will be performing prior to the raffle at 6:30. The PTO continues to fundraise for new playground equipment. I hope you will plan to attend this wonderful evening event.



## END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES

June 6 – PK Screening

June 16 – Move Up Day

June 16 – 7:00 – School Board Meeting

June 20 – Last Day – Early Dismissal

## CELEBRATING THE ARTS NIGHT

Our annual spring music concert /art show will be held on Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> in the Warsaw Gym. Our new art teacher, Ms. Lee, will display children’s art beginning at 5:45 and Mr. Lake will lead our Kindergarten to Grade 4 students in song beginning at 6:30. Our Grade 3 & 4 chorus will also perform. This night will surely bring a smile to your face. Please plan to attend!!!

## WALK/BIKE TO SCHOOL DAYS

Vickery students are encouraged to walk or bike to school on Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>. Spring is a great time to get in shape for the summer fun. If you drop your child off at school, try dropping them off at the corner of School and Somerset Avenue and have them walk the rest of the way to school. Now is the time to get your child into the habit of exercising for a healthy lifestyle. Ask a neighbor or a friend to walk or bike with you.

## MEMORIAL DAY EVENT

Our annual Memorial Day Event will be held on May 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. Students will walk from the Vickery School to the Pittsfield Veterans Memorial to share patriotic songs, pledge the flag, and learn more about war veterans. This is always a very special event that we share with local veterans and families. I hope some of you will plan to attend. A special thank you to Sue Nile for organizing this yearly event and to Mr. Lake for teaching our students patriotic songs.

## PLACEMENTS

I have attached the information for next year’s placements to this newsletter. All information must be sent back to school by May 6th. I cannot guarantee anything after that date.

## DISTRICT BUDGET INFORMATION

Mr. Gallagher will be presenting preliminary information regarding next year’s budget on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Warsaw Cafeteria. This is a chance for you to ask questions prior to the District Budget meeting on Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. On May 26<sup>th</sup>, the towns will vote on each article and then on June 14<sup>th</sup> we will have the budget referendum vote in each community.



### **WINDHAM CHAMBER CHORUS**

We were so lucky to have the Windham Chamber Chorus visit us on Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. The students were enchanted by their performance. If they went home and said Mr. Lake and Mrs. Anderson were sung to, girlfriends and boyfriends, it was part of the performance. The children thought this was so funny. What an entertaining group of young singers. Our thanks go to Mr. Lake for setting this up for our students at Vickery.

### **AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM – GRADES 3-6**

The Afterschool Program that has been held at the Warsaw School for students in grades 3-6 will be ending on May 26<sup>th</sup>. The staff and students have done a great job.

### ***DROP OFF IN THE MORNING***

*I have begun to notice that several cars are passing parked cars when dropping off students in the morning. Please do not pass cars! That is so dangerous! My concern is that a child will be hit! Some children need to cross the road to get to Vickery and if you pass in the middle you may not see the child. Please do not take a great deal of time when dropping off your child. Some parents are taking time to sign papers, zip backpacks, etc.*

*This delays the leaving of the cars parked behind you. If you wish to take this time, please park in the parking lot, not on the road.*

### **Upcoming Classroom Field Trips**

May 4 – Grade 4 @ Margaret Chase Smith Museum (Ms. Alley and Mrs. Rollins)

May 5 – Grade 4 @ Margaret Chase Smith Museum (Mrs. Bubar and Mrs. Higgins)

May 13 – Grade 4 – Hooked on Fishing @ Manson Park



# PARENT INFORMATION

## Instructional Idea...

### SQ3R - At Home and at School

*SQ3R is not a new reading comprehension technique. We revisit this routine and suggest using it both as it was originally designed and with read-alouds, shared, and partner reading.*

[Adapted from an article for Parents by

Jim Burke (1998) "103 Things to do Before/During/After Reading" found at: <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/82> ].

When reading a story, article or textbook, try this routine:

- **(S)**urvey the reading by first skimming through it.
- Then formulate **(Q)**uestions by turning all sections or chapter headings and subheadings into questions to answer as you read.
- Next **(R)**ead (or read aloud) a section and try to answer those questions you formulated.
- Now **(R)**ecite (or retell) the story/information by turning away from the text as soon as you've finished reading the assigned section and reiterate it in your own words.
- Finally, **(R)**eview what you read by going back to your questions or by using the story sections or chapter headings to help you.

## GET CAUGHT READING MONTH

Did you know May is Get Caught Reading Month? Get Caught Reading is a nationwide campaign established 11 years ago by the Association of American Publishers. Let's help students celebrate reading this upcoming month by modeling reading for them. Make bookmarks with your child and share them with family members or friends or go on a Booknic. Bring quilts or large blankets to the park. Pack a picnic basket of simple snacks like cheese cubes and pieces of fruit and enjoy a good book!