

# Shapleigh Shark News

## Learning Culture Through Literacy

Recently students in the seventh grade finished a unit on multicultural literature and were asked to demonstrate their understanding with a culminating project. They were given nine choices but could also choose their own with teacher approval. We wanted to highlight three that were unique and informative, as well as representative of the books they chose. One was on the book The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba. Students chose to recreate the windmill that was central to the book, but what made this unique was they scavenged for materials, just like William did. They described how they got the materials and why the windmill was important. Another project was on the book Refugee by Alan Gratz in which three main characters go on journeys during different time periods. The students chose to represent this information on a map, with the different journeys and timelines represented by different colors. They explained each storyline and then how the stories overlapped. Finally, a third group read I Will Always Write Back by Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda. They created a poster scrapbook for each character to represent their pen pal friendship over many years and the important moments and artifacts from their communication. We are proud of our students!



## Elementary All-State

Eight fourth and fifth grade students attended the first Elementary All-State Honors Music Festival last Saturday, April 27 in Gorham, ME. Students spent the day rehearsing with about a hundred other students selected from around the state and ended the day in concert.



## Eco Maine at Shapleigh

A representative from EcoMaine in Portland came to speak to students and staff about their work with recycling and how that helps the environment. The presenter took the students through a step by step process from when the trash is picked up, to how it is disposed of in environmentally friendly ways. The students and staff were given great ways to reuse and recycle at home!



## MUSIC NOTES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

May is an exciting month for our student musicians here at Shapleigh! The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade band are preparing for the annual Kittery Memorial Day Parade which takes place this year on Saturday, May 25th at 9:00 a.m. The following week Shapleigh School will present their spring concert on Thursday night May 30th. At 5:30 p.m. we will have performances by the 4th grade select chorus, the 4th grade full chorus, the 5th grade chorus and the 5th grade band. Then we will clear the gym and parking lot and present our second performance of the evening at 7 p.m. featuring the 6th grade band, 6th grade chorus, Woodwind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, 7th and 8th grade chorus and 7th and 8th grade band. It should be a wonderful evening of music featuring your student musicians! Finally, on Saturday June 1st the 6th through 8th grade band and chorus will be taking our year-end celebration trip to Canobie Lake Park leaving the school parking lot at 10 a.m. and returning at 5 p.m. Also, just a reminder, the 6th and 7th grade band and 7th grade chorus will be performing at the 8th grade promotion ceremony on Thursday, June 13th at 6 p.m.

## C RTP Accolades

Congratulations to our Civil Rights Team Project Visual Arts and Writing Contest participants! There were a few amazing submissions made on behalf of Shapleigh School. One of our students was chosen as the state-wide elementary school winner, congratulations to 4th grader, Mary A.!!! This year's theme was, "create an original piece of artwork to show that race and skin color, national origin and ancestry, religion, disabilities, gender (including gender identity and expression), and/or sexual orientation are pieces and parts of who we are." Her description of her original artwork read as follows: "My artwork represents all different parts of

a person including: gender, skin color/race, religion, ancestry, disability and sexual orientation, which makes us, "us"! By using a variety of pictures, I showed how so many things in life make up who we are AS UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS!!!"



## Ready, Set, Debate!



Fifth graders in Ms. Sheldon's social studies class have been studying the American Revolution. As a part of that study, they participated in a debate about the Boston Massacre.

Students had to state whether or not they felt the British soldiers were justified in firing upon the colonists on March 5, 1770. Debates were held in both Ms. Randall's and Ms. Sheldon's classes. All of the judges were extremely impressed by how well spoken the students were. It was very exciting to see the students engage so deeply with their learning. In the end, the colonists won in Ms. Randall's class and the British won in Ms. Sheldon's class.

## Japan Club Fun

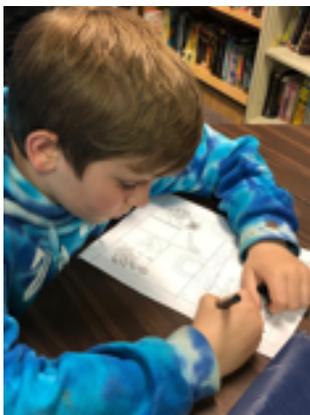
Japan Club members have been busy with creating interactive notebooks and designing vases for their cherry blossoms! The wild cherry tree is the town flower in Rokunohe, in the prefecture of Aomori. That is where some of our older Japan Club members will be visiting this summer. Since the start of the Kittery Tobu Exchange program, more

than 200 Japanese students have visited Kittery and our students have visited there three times.



Shapleigh school's Japan Club will be hosting a "Sail Away Paint Party!" fundraiser to support this program and student travelers at the Kittery Community Center, Sunday, May 19th, 12-4. Vanessa, from Art by Vanessa Marie, will be our instructor to create a painting on canvas to take home. The cost is \$35 per person, all supplies included, and any age is welcome. If your guest is under the age of 6 please let us know and Artist Vanessa will prep the canvas to make it easy for your little one. We hope you can join us for an afternoon of fun and simultaneously we can raise some money for the kids! Please RSVP to Robin Walker at [rwalker@kitteryschools.com](mailto:rwalker@kitteryschools.com).

## Art, Art, and More Art!



### Drawing + Writing = Comic Creating Fun!

Shapleigh's 6th graders enjoyed a three day workshop working with artist in residence, Marek Bennett. Mr Bennett is a published author and comic artist from NH. Students learned how to develop a storyline through creating their

very own comics! Check out Mr. Bennett's website for more info on how to create your own comic too! [www.marekbennett.com](http://www.marekbennett.com)

## Colorful Artwork Coming to The Shapleigh Walls Soon!

A group of dedicated student artists came together and spent two afternoons working with parent volunteer, Amanda Johnson and Mrs. Sutherland to create large and small murals to hang throughout Shapleigh School. Be on the lookout for these bright and cheerful additions to the Shapleigh halls.



## Hands-On Biology



Cellular biology can be a difficult unit for most middle schoolers due to the fact that cells are quite small. It is difficult to understand how something so

small is an integral part of all living things. Knowing what's in cells and what the various parts are responsible for doing goes a long way to understanding how cells work. In order for the sixth graders to gain a better understanding of cells we had to blow it up: literally. Last week, our sixth graders built a giant inflatable model of an animal cell that is fifteen feet in diameter. Inside, you will find the various organelles (tiny "organs" of the cell) located where they would be in any cell. After the students finished the model, they learned the names, functions, and locations of each organelle in the animal cell. They also learned the differences between the plant and the animal cell since these differences are key for identifying the type of cell

observed using a microscope. To reinforce the students' learning, they also gave tours of the cells to the fifth, seventh, and eighth grade classes. It is amazing how much learning can take place with three rolls of 4 mil tarp, 3 rolls of duct tape, and some colored plastic wrap.

## Lord of the Flies Project Museum

This month students displayed their newfound knowledge of symbolism, theme, and psychology of *Lord of the Flies* in a project museum! The projects were diverse and really showcased the talents and interests of each student -original games, artwork, animation, film, poetry, and a cake shaped like an island adorn the 8th-grade hallways!



## OM Fundraiser



Are you interested in incorporating some great families activities and opportunities into your schedule at a discounted rate? Are you also interested in supporting our Odyssey of the Mind Teams as they fundraise to compete in various competitions next year? Check out the Breathe New Hampshire Fun Pass!

Information about what attractions are included in the Fun Pass Book as well as information on how to purchase can be found by clicking on the following link: [Kittery Odyssey of the Mind Fundraiser](#). Thank you for helping support our students!

## Keep Clipping!



We appreciate your efforts in clipping and sending in those Box Tops! We are still accepting Box Tops through the end of the year and very much appreciate them!

## Staff vs. Student B-Ball

The 8th grade hosted a competitive staff vs. student basketball game this week in the Shapleigh Gymnasium. Despite the all-star staff roster, the student team was too tough to beat! The student team squeaked out a win with a final score of 32-31! Congratulations Shapleigh students!



## Important Dates

- 5/3: Grades 6-8 Dance
- 5/10: Mid-Term Progress Reports
- 5/10: York County Special Olympics
- 5/15: PBL Parent Advisory Committee
- 5/16: Kittery Art Assoc. Art Show Opening
- 5/17: Grade 4 & 5 Social
- 5/22: SHARK Awards Night
- 5/25: Band @ Memorial Day Parade
- 5/27: No School / Memorial Day
- 5/30: Shapleigh Band & Chorus Concert
- 5/31: Intervention Day
- 6/6: Showcase of Learning
- 6/12: Shapleigh Field Day
- 6/13: 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony
- 6/17: Last Day of School (Early Release)