

Shapleigh Shark News

Sailing Through Social Studies

Aye Matey!! Mrs. Bertrand's 5th grade Social Studies students have been participating in an exploration simulation where students became part of a sailing crew. Each day the crew encountered several real life situations that needed to be resolved through choice and compromise. Sometimes, students were required to turn a spinner which dictated that result of their choice. Students had fun acting out and experience some of the real life situations that explorers of the early 1500s had faced while being the first to cross the ocean in the early 1500s. Students made daily journal entries in their hand-made personal logs that described the days adventures. Some of the things student sailors faced were big storms, crew unrest, less than desirable food, meeting native Tainos, experiencing new foods for the first time, and encountering dangerous coral reefs. Students were able to sample real hard tack and learned the dangers that sailors faced in reaching out into the unknown. A good time had by all!



Little Free Library



Shapleigh School students have been enjoying a "Little Free Library" the last few months. Built and designed in the spring by Shapleigh students through a grant funded by the PTA, a Little Free Library helps inspire a love of reading, builds

community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges. Little Free Libraries are also outside Traip and Mitchell School. To learn more, visit littlefreelibrary.org.

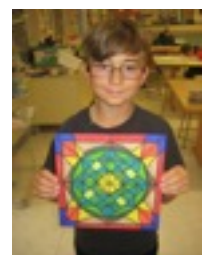
Percentages in Math

In 6th Grade Math, students are focused on the importance of estimating percents. As adults we use estimations on a regular basis for shopping and budgeting. Students will start to find percents of numbers (20% of 40). It is important that students have a grasp of the concepts before they start

computing answers. Next, students will be using a 10x10 grid to look at what percent looks like. This concept is important and will take several weeks to master. Students will also be using a double line graph with percents on the top of the line and the number on the bottom of the line. This method will help build students' understanding of this new math concept.

Art Updates

Kittery Community Center Student Artwork on Display: Artwork from Shapleigh 5th, 7th and 8th graders will be on display at the Kittery Community Center for the next 6 weeks. Here are descriptions of the projects that will be showcased if you'd like more info. Also, shout out to parent Noelle Grattan and KCC board member for organizing the KCC student art displays from Mitchell, Shapleigh and Traip students. **Kaleidoscope Design Drawings** - 5th graders took a peek inside of a Kaleidoscope for



this project! The designs they discovered were the jumping off point for these fantastic and complicated drawings. Students focused on the art elements of shape, color and line as well as incorporating symmetry and pattern. **Personal Mandala Drawings** - 7th graders created a self reflective Mandala drawing using symbols to represent different aspects of their personality and life. Students also incorporated composition into their design, thinking carefully about how their symbols work together to create an interesting layout design. Try looking at the symbols in the artwork before reading the artist statements. Did you figure them out? **Self-Portrait Hand Collage** - 8th graders focused on the art element of value in two different ways for their self portrait collage. First, they created a monochromatic collage background that shows different hues of the same color. Next, they created a drawing study of their hand incorporating different shading techniques to also show value. Make sure to look closely at these collages. You'll discover lots of details and surprises.

Math in the Real World

7th graders are finishing up their fractions unit by looking at real-world problems. We are discussing how people use fractions when building, baking, quilting, reading music, and so much more. Fractions are everywhere! Working in pairs, students created recipe cards that half and quadruple original recipes for recipes such as blackberry cobbler, eggnog cheesecake, cream cheese sugar cookies, and many other yummy desserts.



4th Grade STEM

The 4th graders competed in a Marshmallow Stem Challenge. They were given string, spaghetti, tape, scissors and a marshmallow. The goal was to build the highest free standing structure to support the marshmallow. All the teams worked hard and had great ideas. Congrats to the winning team!



WINTER BREAK MEALS

GATHER (formerly Seacoast Family Food Pantry) will be set up outside of the Kittery Post Office on Thursday, December 21st from 3:00-4:00pm. Any students or families in need of food support can pick up Winter Break Meals 4 Kids boxes which will include fresh ingredients for 5 lunches and 5 breakfasts! No RSVP required!



Literary Symbolism

Students in the eighth grade have been reading and analyzing William Golding's novel *Lord of the Flies* and they have become particular experts in finding symbolism within the novel! To demonstrate their individual understandings, each student created a mask to illustrate an important aspect of the novel. Some students used the mask to illustrate an important theme within the novel, while others emphasized the personality traits of a character.

Whichever aspect students chose to illustrate, they used color, shape, texture, and other artistic techniques to symbolize their ideas -the masks are currently adorning the 8th-grade hallways and have been so much fun to admire!



Music Notes

The 6th through 8th grade band will be performing in the Kittery Christmas Parade on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 3 p.m. Band members should meet at the post office at 2:30 p.m. wearing a santa style hat and white gloves (available from Mr. Roth for \$2). Our annual Winter Holiday Concert will take place on December 14th in the Shapleigh gymnasium. 5th and 6th grade band and 6th grade chorus will perform at 5:30 p.m. (musicians should meet in the music room at 5:00 p.m.) and 7th and 8th grade band and chorus will perform at 6:45 p.m. (meet in the music room at 6:15 p.m.). 5th grade band members are encouraged to dress festively in any colors they choose. 6th through 8th grade band and chorus members should wear their music polo shirt and dark pants or skirts. The Kittery Music Boosters will be selling refreshments during both parts of the concert. Also the Shapleigh Student Council will be collecting canned goods for our local food pantry so please bring in a canned good or non-perishable food item to the concert with you!

School Counseling Updates

The school counselors and civil rights team advisors introduced all students in grades five through eight to *The Sneetches*, by Dr. Seuss. Students watched a video production of the book and identified incidents when the *star-bellied sneetches* mistreated

the *plain-bellied sneetches*. Through this exercise, students gained a better understanding of bias and harassment as it relates to the civil rights of Maine citizens. The students shared personal experiences and observations of situations where incidents were influenced by bias (intentional or not). Many students were motivated to join the Civil Rights Teams, be more conscience of their words and actions, and committed to interject when incidents occur in the future. Our 5th and 6th Grade Civil Rights Team is represented by 35 Shapleigh students, and our 7th and 8th Grade Civil Rights Team is represented by 20 Shapleigh students. In fourth grade, Mrs. Martin worked with students on how to be a good **digital citizen**. Students were given a role to play or an emotion to express (i.e., comment on someone's clothes, you are sad, laugh at everything someone says, disagree with everyone, comment on their hair). Through this activity, students made connections to how someone's current state of emotion influences their reaction or response to someone's comments. They discussed various web-based games and technology communications that they engage in and the importance of being respectful and thoughtful in their dialogue. The students also discussed ways to stay safe on the internet (never reveal identifiable information), how to block and report others, the importance of capturing evidence if others are being unsafe, and report incidents to adults.

Lego Robotics

The Shapleigh School RoboSharks team has qualified for the State Championship Meet at the Augusta Civic Center on December 9th! Great work and good luck to our students!



Upcoming Community Education Events

12/4, 6-8pm Community Discussion ~ We are Kittery! Working Together to Create a Bias and Harassment-Free Culture. Please join us at the Kittery Community Center's Star Theatre for an interactive and engaging evening to address the challenges in our schools and community. Doors open at 5:30 for coffee and dessert. Childcare will be provided, register for this event and childcare at <https://goo.gl/28EkFf>. Registration is not mandatory, but we appreciate knowing if you plan to come.

12/6 Workshops presented by the *Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)*; open to all Kittery School District parent/guardians. The two morning workshops will be held at the Kittery Community Center. Targeted toward elementary and middle school parent/guardians: 9:00am - **Persistent and Challenging Behaviors**. 10:00am - **Learning Styles**.

From 6:30-8:00pm at Traip the trainers will present: **Mindset and Building a College Mindset**. Directed more towards middle school and high school parent/guardians.

Japanese Cultural Exchange



We are in need of volunteers! Every year in April, our sister school in Japan sends a group of Japanese students, teachers, and community members to Shapleigh School as part of a cultural exchange program. Each year brings new experiences and lasting memories for our students and our Kittery community. We are looking for 2 or more volunteers to help coordinate activities and homestay accommodations while our guests are here. If you are interested in becoming part of a wonderful exchange program, please reach out to Principal Anne Ellis at aellis@kitteryschools.com

PBL Shark Bite

Did you know that in addition to academic grades, students are also assessed on their Habits of Work? Habits of Work (HOW) are an essential part of a student's success in school and beyond. At Shapleigh School, students' Habits of Work are separated into two categories; Responsible Learner and Engaged Learner. These categories include student soft skills such as coming to class prepared, meeting deadlines, actively participating in classroom discussions, using feedback to make improvements, and collaborating with peers and teachers. Students are given a grade on their Habits of Work every two weeks by their teachers which are reported through the JumpRope grading portal. For more information on Habits of Work and what they mean at Shapleigh School, please see page 5 and 6 in the Shapleigh School PBL Family Guide.

KITTERY K-8 PTA FUNDRAISER!

Join us on Saturday, December 9th from 10am-2pm at Barnes & Noble in Newington, NH. There will be festive performances by our own Shapleigh Brass Ensemble, as well as special guest readers, gift wrapping, and holiday crafts! Proceeds will go directly to our Kittery K-8 PTA!

Important Dates

- 12/1: Trimester 1 Grades Close
- 12/2: Kittery Holiday Parade 3pm
- 12/4: "We are Kittery" Community Forum
- 12/6: Early Release Day
- 12/8: Trimester 1 Report Cards
- 12/8: Grades 4 & 5 Social
- 12/9: PTA Barnes & Noble Fundraiser
- 12/14: Shapleigh Holiday Concert
- 12/20: Early Release Day
- 12/22-1/1: Winter Vacation