

# Shapleigh Shark News

## Taking Learning Outdoors

Students had an awesome time participating in activities outside and learning about nature during our 1st Outdoor Education Day. All students in grades 4-8 participated in different activities which included building terrariums, nature scavenger hunts, working in our Shapleigh rain garden, planting bulbs in our garden beds, and photographing different species of leaves, trees, and plants. All students and staff came together at the end of the day for a culminating school photograph on our field! Students and staff all enjoyed a chance to bring learning outdoors and spend time in the beautiful New England fall weather!

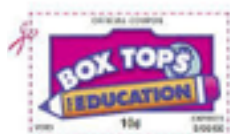


## The Writing Process

Students in the seventh grade just completed a study of the writing process using a variety of media to investigate the idea of a process (starting with sculpting clay pencil holders), comparing a sculptor to a writer, using terminology associated with writing such as drafting, revising, and editing, and then developing their own writing process. Students created a visual through any medium they wished (poster, Prezi, slideshow, stop motion movie) and explained their process in writing, and then presented their process to their classmates in a presentation that was videotaped for their portfolios. Immersion in this work hopefully helped students to understand that all writers use a process to create publishable work, certain vocabulary words help us to discuss writing more accurately, and that THEY are writers with a process!

## Box Tops Wanted!

Box Tops add up quickly and help the PTA fund programs like field trips and visiting artists. Please be sure that the expiration date is intact and still current. Box Tops can be dropped off in the main office!



## Thank You!

Thank you to the Kittery Dunkin' Donuts for organizing an amazing Back to School Supplies



Drive! Students and teachers were overwhelmed by the support and are looking forward to utilizing all the supplies in their classrooms!

## 8th Grade Walk-a-Thon

On Wednesday, October 18th, the 8th graders used the beautiful fall weather to complete their Walk-A-Thon fundraiser. Students walked laps around the Shapleigh track for an hour. Through the pledges they obtained, the 8th grade has been pledged \$1700! While every little bit helps, we had four students fundraise over \$100 each: Emma, Alexis, Kevin, and Lily. We had some excellent walkers too; both Justin and Cassius walked 15 laps which is a total of 3.75 miles! The Walk-A-Thon will also be connected to our Math curriculum when we learn about linear functions. What a great activity!

## Social-Emotional Learning



The school counselor, Mrs. Martin, visited all of the fourth grade classrooms to discuss relational bullying, which included a reading of *My Secret Bully* by Trudy Ludwig. Each class identified various types of bullying behavior and shared ideas using a word web.

Discussion included the difference between "being mean" and "bullying". Students identified specific examples of relational bullying that took place in the story. For each example identified, Mrs. Martin crumpled a section of a large drawing of the story's main character. The crumpled picture represented the impact the behaviors had on the character. Students brainstormed ways to stand up for themselves and others, identified who the trusted adults are in their lives, and the importance of reporting bullying incidents to these trusted adults. As the students reflected on the importance of standing up for oneself and others and reporting bullying, Mrs. Martin flattened out the picture to show that the character stood tall again, yet the wrinkles remained. The wrinkles were associated with negative memories and emotional scars created by bullying behaviors; a stark reminder of why we should treat everyone with kindness and respect.

## Composting Fun!

Dirt may not seem like the most exciting subject. Let's face it; it's dirt! However, when you take the time to analyze soil you will discover many interesting elements to soil. Currently, the sixth graders are exploring the world of soil. They started by discovering soil is not "dead" or "alive", but composed of both abiotic and biotic material. Next, the students investigated what chemicals are found in soil. After testing their soil samples, they determine the pH, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium levels.

Now the students are seeing how decomposition can alter the chemical composition of soil. The students built decomposition columns out of plastic soda bottles and are performing experiments that they designed on how different materials can affect the soil's chemical composition. If you see a bunch of soda bottles hanging from a rack by the Manson Rd. entrance you will know the sixth graders are actively being scientists.



## LOST & FOUND

Is your child missing a sweatshirt, raincoat, water bottle, or perhaps one shoe? Our Lost & Found is located outside of the gym doors and we have many items looking to be found! Please encourage your child to check the Lost & Found, or stop by at Parent Teacher Conferences next week!



## Learning Through Nature

Fourth graders enjoyed Shapleigh's first Outdoor Education Day. They used their knowledge of rotational symmetry to work as a team to create Mandalas from items in nature. This along with making self-watering green houses, using iPads to take photos of symmetrical patterns in leaves and identifying leaf types. The day was a wonderful educational experience for the students.



## Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast

On November 9th from 7:40am - 8:45am, Shapleigh School will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast as our way of saying THANK YOU to our Veterans and Active Duty service members. All are welcome to attend! Please RSVP to [kbeach@kitteryschools.com](mailto:kbeach@kitteryschools.com). We are looking forward to seeing you there!

## Relief for Puerto Rico

Thank you to our Shapleigh School Student-2-Student club for their efforts in organizing a hurricane relief fundraiser for those affected in Puerto Rico. With the help of donations from our wonderful Kittery community, students were able to

gather 620 pounds of supplies including baby food, batteries, canned food, and personal items that will be headed to Puerto Rico through the help of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard! Thank you to everyone for helping our neighbors in need!



## PBL Shark Bite

Did you know that Shapleigh School uses two different types of assessments? A **formative assessment** is a task or assignment that helps students form their understanding or practice a skill. In JumpRope these are given a weight of 0.01. A **summative assessment** is a body of work that shows what a student has learned and is able to demonstrate. In JumpRope these assessments are given a weight of 1.0 or 2.0. Although formative assessments do not carry much weight, it is imperative students complete and work through formative assessments in order to get adequate practice and preparation to demonstrate their learning on summative assessments.

### Important Dates

- 10/27: Gr. 6-8 Dance
- 11/1: Early Release Day
- 11/2: Parent Conferences
- 11/9: Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast
- 11/10: Veterans Day Observed (No School)
- 11/13: Picture Retake Day
- 11/17: Gr. 6-8 Dance
- 11/22-11/24: Thanksgiving Break

### ODYSSEY OF THE MIND SIGN-UP

Applications for participation in Shapleigh School's Odyssey of the Mind are due Friday, November 13th! If you or your student is interested/has any questions please reach out Brenda Bladen at [bbladen@kitteryschools.com](mailto:bbladen@kitteryschools.com) or Blayne Matty at [bmatty@kitteryschools.com](mailto:bmatty@kitteryschools.com).