

YOUR SCHOOLS

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKVILLE CENTRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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DATES TO REMEMBER

November

- 30 Elementary report cards distributed

December

- 7 Elementary 1/2 day 11:45 dismissal for Parent/Teacher conferences
- 10 SSHS Progress Reports distributed
- 11 Board of Education Meeting
- 12 SSMS Progress Reports distributed
- 14 Elementary 1/2 day 11:45 dismissal for Parent/Teacher conferences
- 24-31 Schools Closed—Winter Recess

The Rockville Centre School District Holds First Annual Family Fun Fitness Day

On Saturday, October 20, 2012 the Rockville Centre Wellness Committee and the RVC Drug, Alcohol and Violence Prevention Task Force held its first annual Family Fun Fitness Day and Substance Use Awareness Walk at South Side High School.

During the event, participants were able to visit wellness merchants, consult with medical experts and participate in family fun fitness games such as relay races, juggling, hula-hoop, lacrosse, soccer, basketball, bootcamp, zumba and bouncy castles!

Activities were run by volunteers from South Side High School's Athletes Helping Athletes program and members of the wrestling, soccer, softball, volleyball, and lacrosse teams.



Participants of all ages join in a Zumba class hosted by Sky Athletic club during the Family Fun Fitness Fair

National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist



Pictured above: Coordinator of Guidance, Laurie Levy, with National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist Noah Dion and SSHS Principal, Dr. Carol Burris

Officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) recently announced that Noah Dion is one of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 58th Annual National Merit Scholarship Program, representing less than one percent of the nation's high school graduating seniors. These academically talented students have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,300 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million that will be offered next spring.

Noah is a remarkable student. In addition to his obvious dedication to academic achievement, Noah is passionate about so many other things. He is an integral member of Chamber Singers, Wind Ensemble, and Pit Orchestra. He writes for our school's literary magazine, "Context", and has competed as a member of Mathletes and Quiz Bowl. As the Musical Director of Centre Stage, Noah contributed his talent and leadership to help produce an event that touched many lives, especially his. He is a positive presence within the South Side High School student body and will certainly continue to excel in college and in life.

School Roundup

COVERT

On Friday, October 26th, every 5th grader at Covert Elementary School worked to make crafts for the 1st Annual Raymar Children's Fund Holiday Craft Fair and Festival. Each 5th grade classroom housed a different craft and the students got to choose the room where they wanted to work. During this time students worked on duct tape wallets, string bracelets and/or lanyards, and hand decorated ceramic bowls. The Craft Fair will be held at Covert on Saturday, December 1st and all proceeds will be donated to the victims of Hurricane Sandy within our community and their family members who were affected.



HEWITT



Fifth grade students at Hewitt Elementary School have been using technology to research both Presidential candidates since September. The project they are working on is broken up into 3 phases. In phase 1, the students used the iPads to research the candidates' background. They looked up facts such as where and when each candidate was born, where they went to school, and their family life. In phase 2, the students used the iPads again to research the candidates plans for 7 major issues our country is facing today; economy, immigration, education, military/defense, taxes, environment, and health care. In the final part of the project, phase 3, the students will choose a candidate they would vote for based on their research and create either a book using the Story Kit App, a slide show using the Educreation App, or a puppet show using the Sock Puppet App.

RIVERSIDE



During the months of September and October, every student at Riverside Elementary School got the chance to write and illustrate their very own book! Students worked on their books during their Stellar & Enrichment periods by using an on-line student publishing website, studentpublishing.com. The website allows for picture production using the website's illustration tools as well as creations using paper and crayons. Photos and original pictures can be scanned and uploaded into their book.

Each student received a story book ID to log on to their book which will allow them to log on at school to edit their work and also at home to view their work. Teachers are also able to monitor and edit student progress directly from teacher log in.

The program came to an end on November 8th. Printed books will be mailed back to school by Winter Recess. Each student will receive a free softcovered copy of their book and Riverside will have a Student Publishing workshop week (Oct.22nd-26th) to showcase program and process.

WATSON

Students in Ms. Kate Zimmer's first grade class at Watson School were abuzz over the arrival of Today Show correspondent, Jenna Bush Hager. The students had been working on the Presidential election and learning about the voting process and the importance of their voices being heard.

Mrs. Bush-Hager came to Watson School to tape a segment about how young children learn about citizenship. She was delighted to hear the children sing about democracy and witness them vote in a mock election.

This experience is one the students will not soon forget. They were pleased to watch themselves on the Today Show on November 6th.

Watson School Principal, Joan Waldman stated, "Watson School was honored to welcome Today Show correspondent Jenna Bush Hager to observe democracy in action. It is never too early to teach our children the principles on which our nation was founded."



School Roundup

WILSON

Every student at Wilson Elementary School got an extra special treat on October 26th when the school held their annual "Autumn Surprise" event. During the Autumn Surprise students are taken outside, by grade, to find the Wilson front lawn converted into their very own pumpkin patch. Teachers bring their classes out to the patch to pick a pumpkin, get an apple and receive a mini lesson outside related to the autumn season.



MIDDLE SCHOOL



Eighth grade students at South Side Middle School got a special lesson in the history of their town on October 24th, when teacher Mike Flynn facilitated a historical walking tour of Rockville Centre. Stops on the tour included the RVC Post Office, the First Library, Village Hall, St. Agnes, the Church of the Ascension, and the Philips House. During the tour, students learned fun facts that might not be found in the history books, such as the first ATM machine in history was located at what is now the Chase Bank in Rockville Centre.

HIGH SCHOOL



Homecoming Queen, Josie DeMarco and homecoming King McKingsly Ryan Williams pose for a photo after they are announced.

South Side High School's Junior Class took first place for their float during this year's Homecoming Parade with their theme, Beauty and The Beast. Each grade chose a theme from the category of Broadway musicals and then based their float on that. The Senior Class chose the Lion King, while Sophomores picked Mary Poppins and the Freshman selected Wicked. The Juniors also won first place for overall Spirit Week. This was based on other Spirit Week events that included a lip-synch contest, a pie eating contest, and the Mind Olympics. The Homecoming King was McKingsly Ryan Williams and Queen was Josie DeMarco.





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7th grade students in Anna Elias-Bonet's Chorus class performed at the Annual Golden Gathering, a senior citizen health fair sponsored by Senator Skelos, on October 19th. Pictured above is Dr. Brian Zuar, the South Side Middle School students who performed, Senator Dean Skelos and Anna Elias-Bonet.

SIEMENS SCIENCE COMPETITION

The Rockville Centre School District is proud to announce that Evan Chernack was named a National Finalist for his Study of the Role of the ROCK Kinase Pathway in Dental Pulp Stem Cell Differentiation and Mineralization, in the Siemens Science Competition.

Three other South Side High School students, Samantha Prashad, Kyle Johnson, and Thomas Keady, were selected as National Semifinalists. Samantha Prashad was selected for her study on Creation of an E. Coli Based Fuel Cell and Mathematical Analysis, while Kyle Johnson and Thomas Keady were selected for their research on A Candidate Approach to the Genome Wide Association Study Identifies a Single Nucleotide Polymorphism Which Affects the Likelihood of Developing Myeloproliferative Neoplasms.

Pictured from l to r: Thomas Keady, Herb Weiss, Evan Chernack, Samantha Prashad, and Kyle Johnson



The District uses a communication process for emergency notifications. School closings and other urgent messages will be sent through ConnectEd, a telephone and email communication system. Contact information on file for students and staff will be utilized for these notifications. Other community members who wish to receive District-wide messages should send an email with their name, phone number and/or email address to connected@rvcschools.org or send a letter to the Business Office in the Administration Building at 128 Shepherd Street, Rockville Centre, NY 11570 requesting to be added to this messaging list. Parents who would like to change their contact information should contact the main office of their child's school.