



# Mettawee Messenger

May 12, 2022 Principal: Brooke DeBonis 645-9009

## Principal's Corner:

### Bikes are coming to Mettawee

We are excited to share that we will now have bikes here for TWO WEEKS!

Mettawee will be hosting the Kohl's Kids Bike Smart trailer where our students in K-6 will be able to learn bike safety and will have the opportunity to ride bikes during their PE classes the week of May 16th - May 20th and May 23rd - May 27th. Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Chalmers are working together to get things organized for our school. There will be bikes and helmets available for all of our students. If you would like your child to bring in

their own helmet that is completely fine. It would be helpful to have the helmets labeled with your child's name on it so we can keep track of all of them. There will be more information that we will share with you in a separate letter.



## NO KINDERGARTEN

Friday, May 20th

To allow for Kindergarten Registration for the 2022-2023 school year.

# Kindergarten

## Mettawee Walk to School Day!

Have your child dress appropriately because

we are **"WALKING TO SCHOOL"** on

May 19th! Don't worry, no one is REALLY walking to school since we don't have safe sidewalks, but we will do an all school walk

first thing in the morning.

We will start our day exiting off the buses as usual and doing our morning routine at the flagpole. We will remain in our classroom lines and all staff and students will have a walk safe reminder, exit the parking lot and circle back around to the parking lot entrance for a very short but fun walk.

This experience goes hand and hand with the Bike Smart program that we will have the weeks of May 16th and May 23rd.

This will be a great way to start our day with fresh air and community spirit.

If you are a car drop off, please be on time and use caution exiting the parking lot.





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**Bring your dancing shoes to Mettawee on May 27th for a luau dance party!**

**K-6th Grade**

**Cost: \$1 per person or \$3 per family.**

**Parents will be required to stay at the dance with their children.**

**Below is a link to a sign up genius survey - many hands make light work!**

**[Can you help? Sign up here!](#)**

## After School Program News

We are excited to announce that on May 18th at 3:00 Officer Ben Doucette will be visiting the After School Program with his canine partner Moose. They will be joining us from the Manchester Police Department.



Moose's job is to detect drugs, track evidence, and provide community support. He is extremely friendly and loves attention. If you are an already enrolled After School Program student, and would like to stay after school for this event, please let Heidi Hawkins know.



Next meeting May 12th at 2:45

**Books & Beyond**

The last day to turn in

B&B sheets:

**TOMORROW**

Friday, May 13th



**Next 4 Winds meeting: May 17th @ 8:30**

## CALLING ALL KINDERGARTENERS!

Kindergarten Registration for the 2022-2023 school year will be May 20th. If you know anyone in Pawlet or Rupert with a child who will be 5 years old by September 1st, please have them call the school at 645-9009 to register for kindergarten.

If you have an age eligible preschool student you will also need to call for an appointment!

**KINDERGARTEN**



**REGISTRATION IS COMING!**

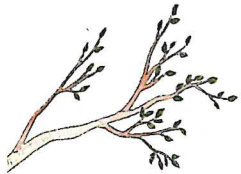




# Mettawee Messenger

May 12, 2022 Principal: Brooke DeBonis 645-9009

## Author & Illustrator Event



Emmaline the Porcupine:  
*A Rhyming Animal Tale*

Written by Alexandra Langstaff  
Illustrated by Gretchen Hammell



We are excited to announce that local author, Alexandra Langstaff, and local illustrator Gretchen Hammell, will be joining us on May 25th for a K-5 author and illustrator event!

### Introducing:

### *Emmaline the Porcupine: A Rhyming Animal Tale*

Families will have the opportunity to pre-purchase the book and have it autographed. The order form was sent home last week in your Big Blue folder and electronically following your Messenger. It will be sent electronically again this week. Order forms must be returned by May 20th in order to be autographed. Late orders will be fulfilled but not autographed.



**May 12th** - PTO Meeting 2:45

**May 13th** - Books & Beyond Sheets Due

**May 19th** - "Walk to School Day"

**May 20th** - Kindergarten Registration

**May 20th** - No Regular Kindergarten classes

**May 16th - May 27th** - Bike Smart Weeks

**May 25th** - Author/Illustrator Event @1:50

**May 27th** - Luau Dance @ 6:30

**May 27th** - Memorial Day Ceremony at 8:30

**May 30th** - NO SCHOOL Memorial Day

**June 2nd** - K-6 Spring Concert

**June 3rd** - Field Day @ 12:00

**June 10th** - Last day of After School Program

**June 13th** - Books & Beyond Celebration @1:00

**June 14th** - GOTR & H&S Ceremony @ 6:30

**June 15th** - Last Day of Preschool

**June 15th** - 6th Grade Graduation @ 6:30

**June 16th** - Last day of school K-6 @ 12:30

## No School May 30th

## Memorial Day







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## Summer Camps

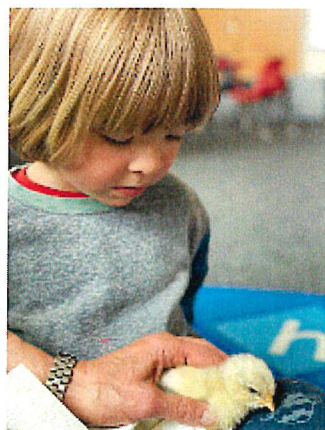
Summer Camp flyers are rolling in! To keep things organized and the Messenger packet a reasonable size, we will be sending Summer Camp flyers in a separate email called "Summer Camps", that way you will have all summer options in one place to cross reference dates and times. New flyers will be in the front followed by flyers from previous weeks.



Gretchen Hammell, illustrator of *Emmaline the Porcupine: A Rhyming Animal Tale*, and illustrator and author of *How to Really Look at Art*, came to read and draw with a few classrooms on Thursday. She and author Alexandra Langstaff will be here on the 25th to do an all school author/illustrator event.



Our After School Program hatched some chicks who went on a field trip to prek last week!



Mrs. Porrier's students have built birdhouses to put out on the Merck Land.

# **Mettawee Girls On the Run Needs Your Help!**

**We are collecting donations for Lucky  
Puppy Rescue in Argyle, NY.**

**We will be collecting donations for the next  
two weeks (until May 27<sup>th</sup>) in the lobby.**

**Here is a list of donation ideas:**

**Small, soft training treats**

**Leashes**

**Long Lines**

**Garbage Bags**

**Gallon Sandwich Bags**

**Puppy Chew Bones**

**Canned Dog Food**

**Red and Blue Martindale Collars**

**Laundry Detergent**

**Dry Dog Food (Purina Puppy and Adult, Loyal Life Chicken  
and Rice, 4-Health, Diamond Naturals)**



## END OF YEAR DATES



- Friday, May 13th - 5th Grade to Fort

Ticonderoga

- Friday, May 20th - Kindergarten Registration
- Wednesday, May 25th & Thursday, May 26th - 6th Grade to Merck Forest
  - Friday, May 27th @ 8:30 - Memorial Day Ceremony
  - Monday, May 30th - NO SCHOOL Memorial Day
  - Thursday, June 2nd @ 6:30 - K-6 Spring Concert
  - Friday, June 3rd - 6th Grade to Great Escape
  - Wednesday, June 8th @12:00 - Field Day
  - Friday, June 10th - Last Day of After School Program
  - Monday, June 13th @ 1:00 - Books & Beyond Ceremony
- Tuesday, June 14th @ 6:30 - Girls on the Run/Heart & Sole Ceremony
  - Wednesday, June 15th - Last Day of Preschool
  - Wednesday, June 15th @ 6:30 - 6th Grade Graduation
  - Thursday, June 16th @ 12:30 - Last Day of School (K-6)

Dear Parents,

**We are excited to be starting our Bike Weeks on Monday, May 16th with Bike Smart!**

[http://bit.ly/Parents\\_Guide\\_Bicycling](http://bit.ly/Parents_Guide_Bicycling)

The Bike Smart trailer will be visiting our school for the next two weeks. This program brings around 30-40 bikes (of all sizes), helmets, and bike skills training materials to our school at no charge. Your child will improve their bike skills through games and on-bike activities designed to help them become a safe and confident bike rider.

- **Your child is free to bring their own helmet to use in class!** Don't forget to label the helmet (masking tape and a sharpie work well) so that it doesn't get misplaced. If you choose not to bring a helmet that's fine too. The trailer comes equipped with helmets for the students. **The helmets will be disinfected after each use.**
- **The bikes in the Bike Smart trailer may be different from the bike that your child currently rides.** They have hand brakes and gears. We'll be using this training as an opportunity to help students transition to "grown-up" bikes, if they haven't already.
- **During the time that the trailer will be at our school, we'll be dedicating PE classes to bike skills and safety.** We will be learning how to check that a bicycle is safe to ride, as well as how to brake safely and effectively, turn smoothly, avoid road hazards, be alert for vehicles on the road, and more.
- **This is an excellent opportunity to go on bike rides with your child to practice the skills we will be learning in class.** You can reinforce the bike skills that your child will be learning this week by going on bike rides together. Perhaps you might choose to bike to school together, or go on adventures after school, or on the weekend. Your child will have many new skills and games that they can share with you, and a family bike ride is always a lot of fun!

**We were able to bring this trailer to our school through the generosity of the Bike Smart program.**

Bike Smart is funded by annual grants from RiseVT, Governor's Highway Safety Program, and Kohl's Department Stores to the Vermont Children's Hospital at Fletcher Allen Health Care. The program is powered by Local Motion, Vermont's nonprofit advocate for safe walking and biking. For more information, visit [https://www.localmotion.org/bike\\_smart](https://www.localmotion.org/bike_smart)

**We are thrilled that your child will be spending time on a bike the next two weeks!** By the time the trailer rolls out of the school parking lot, your child will have made some great strides in bicycling. Let's hope for good bicycling weather!

Sincerely,



Brooke DeBonis

funded by:





# Mettawee Community School

is excited to announce a children's book event on May 25th!



Introducing:

## Emmaline the Porcupine: A Rhyming Animal Tale

Written By: Alexandra Langstaff

Illustrated By: Gretchen Hammell

Emmaline the Porcupine:  
*A Rhyming Animal Tale*

Written by Alexandra Langstaff  
Illustrated by Gretchen Hammell



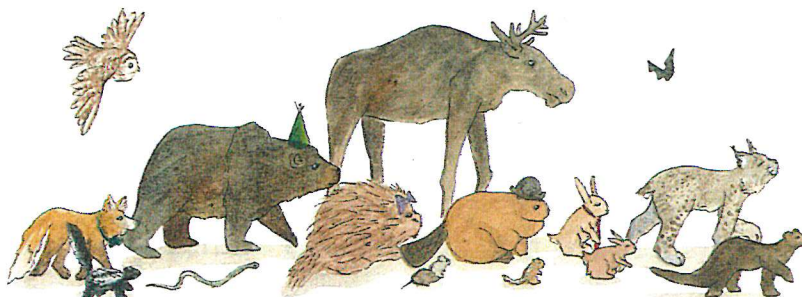
**How is a prickly porcupine going to make friends? Maybe when she spends time alone she will come up with some ideas.**

*Alexandra lives in Dorset, VT. With a BS in early childhood education and a master's in Creativity Studies, she spends most of her time developing themes and activities for her program, Hullabaloo Danceshop, providing creative movement and yoga for children ages 14 months to 97 years of age! Her writing in Virtuous Sinner and at her blog Namastewhatthehay.com inspire the reader to remember, reflect, and rejoice in their own life stories. Her children's book Emmaline the Porcupine will be cherished by a wide variety of ages!*

*Gretchen lives in Pawlet, VT. She is currently a student at Smith College where she is majoring in Studio Art with a concentration in Book Studies. You may have seen her work in the Metawee Library, she is the creator of the mural "A Book is a Dream You Hold in Your Hand". She also is a Mettawee Community School 2014 graduate!*

Alexandra and Gretchen are coming to join us for a book reading and draw along for children in grades K-5. You will have the opportunity to pre-purchase the book and have Alexandra and Gretchen autograph it for you! Please fill out the order form on the back and return it to school along with a check for \$14.00 (which includes tax). Order forms need to be returned by May 20th in order for them to be autographed. Any orders after May 20th will be fulfilled but not autographed.

**Books will be delivered on Thursday, May 26th in your Big Blue folders.**





# ORDER FORM



Emmaline the Porcupine:  
*A Rhyming Animal Tale*

Written by Alexandra Langstaff  
Illustrated by Gretchen Hammell



## Emmaline the Porcupine: A Rhyming Animal Tale

Written By: Alexandra Langstaff

Illustrated By: Gretchen Hammell

How is a prickly porcupine going to make friends? Maybe when she spends time alone she will come up with some ideas.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

How many books would you like to purchase? \_\_\_\_\_

\$14.00 each

TOTAL Payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Who would you like your book(s) autographed to?

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

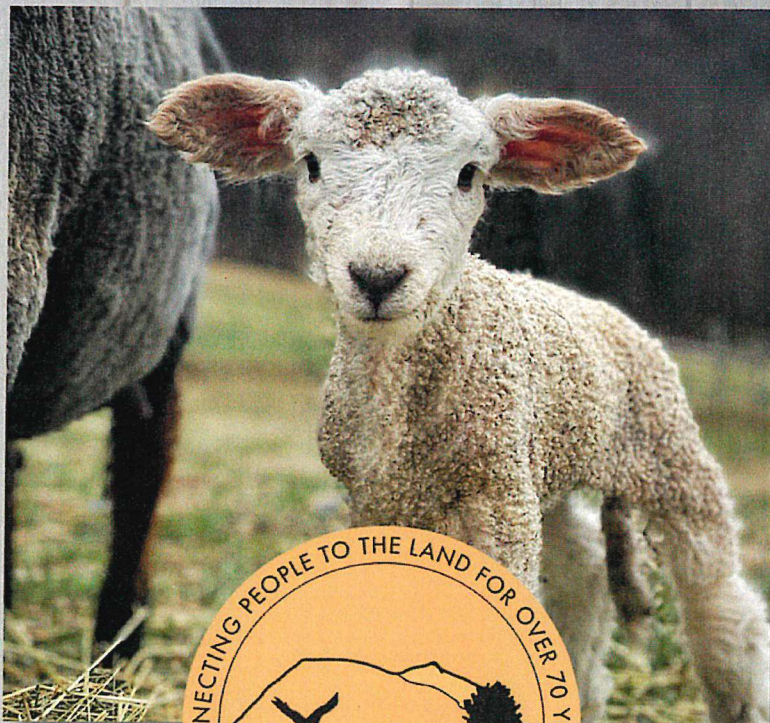
Payment method:

\*Check \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Venmo \_\_\_\_\_@Alexandra-Langstaff

\*checks should be made out to Hullabaloo Danceshop

Order forms need to be returned by May 20th in order for them to be autographed. Any orders after May 20th will be fulfilled but not autographed.





- Hands-on farm and garden demonstrations
- Wool & fiber crafts
- Touch a tractor
- Lambs, chicks, piglets!
- Children's activities
- Food available



[merckforest.org](http://merckforest.org)

# MEET THE LAMBS



**Merck Forest &  
Farmland Center**

**Saturday,  
May 14, 2022  
10am – 2pm**

*Rain or shine*

**No registration required**

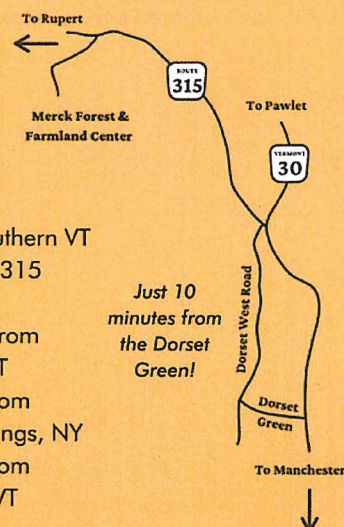
**\$3/person suggested donation**

## Directions

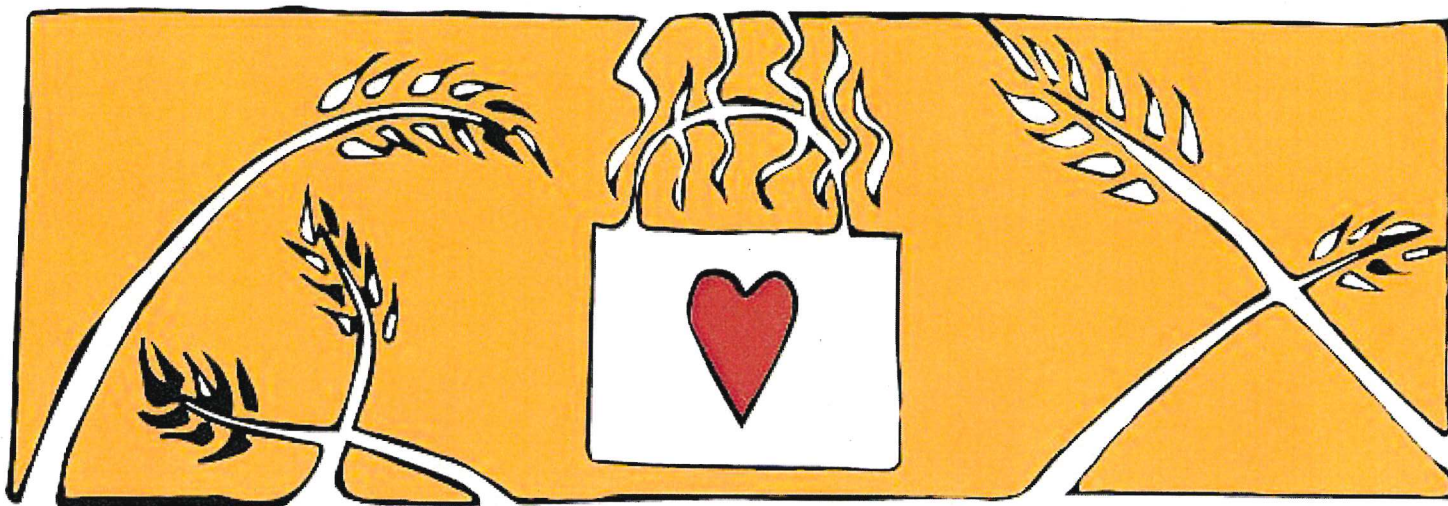


Located in Southern VT  
off Route 315

- 1 1/2 hours from Vergennes, VT
- 60 minutes from Saratoga Springs, NY
- 20 minutes from Manchester, VT







# EVERYONE EATS !

FREE MEALS FOR ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN NEGATIVELY IMPACTED BY COVID-19

## Wednesday 5/11

**COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD**

**Pick up meals 2 - 4 PM**

40 Jeff Williams Way, Manchester Center

Meals provided by The Silver Fork,  
Moonwink & Cold Cow Creamery

## Thursday 5/12

**COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD**

**Pick up meals 10 AM - 12 PM & 2 - 4 PM**

40 Jeff Williams Way, Manchester Center

Meals provided by Sam's Wood Fired Pizza  
New Morning Natural Foods & The Works Café

### ADDITIONAL FOOD RESOURCES:

For Bennington  
Everyone Eats meal  
delivery, contact:  
Becky Arbella,  
Shires Housing  
(802) 442-8139 x3



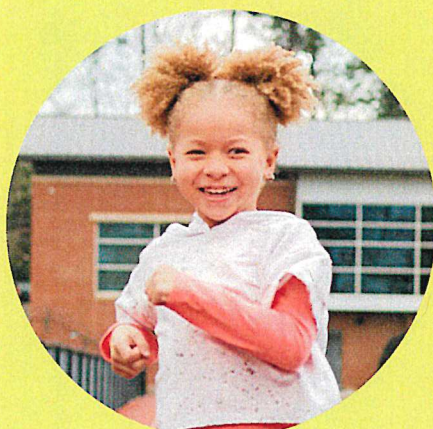
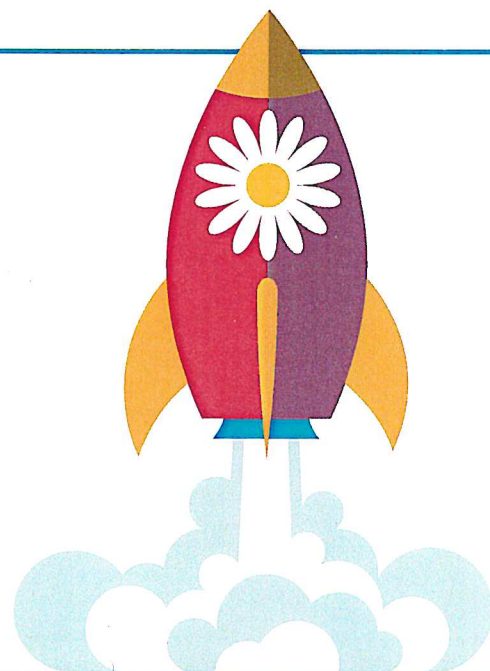
Visit:  
[bit.ly/benn-food](https://bit.ly/benn-food)



For updates, visit: [www.facebook.com/everyoneeatstheshires](https://www.facebook.com/everyoneeatstheshires)



# Play. Grow. Explore. Girl Scouts.

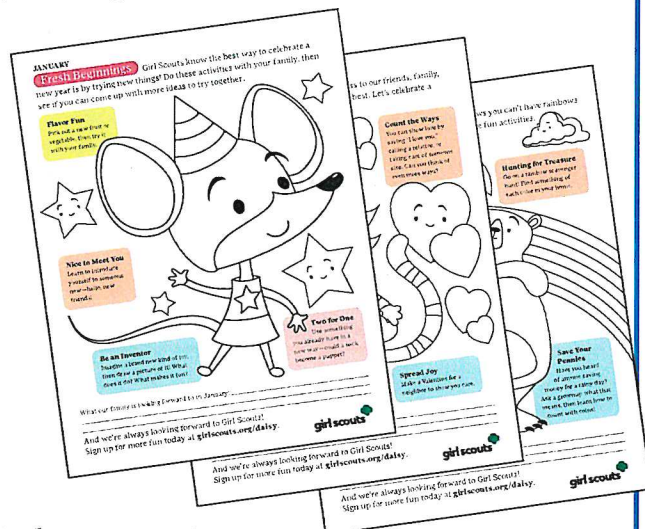


Being a Girl Scout will bring your girl joy—in kindergarten and beyond. We make it easy for your girl to connect with new friends, try new things, and go on new adventures—whether virtually or in person.



*Scan this QR code to get your FREE printable calendar full of Girl Scout Daisy activities just right for you and your kindergarten girl.*

**girl scouts** 



Ready to bring the fun home? Text DAISY to 59618 to learn more!





## What Do Daisy Girl Scouts Do?

Your girl's dreams are our dreams, and we have fun making them come true together—whether she's into climbing a tree, painting a mural, or making a robot. When she's a Girl Scout, doing her best is always good enough and there are no wrong answers or ideas. Let's get started!

### **Daisy Girl Scouts:**

- Grow social skills through virtual or in-personal meetings with other girls their age
- Find new ways to practice kindness, bravery, and generosity
- Earn special badges and pins to wear as a reminder of the new skills they're learning
- Gain confidence and pride in their abilities
- Learn how to run their own businesses
- Explore the outdoors and spend time in nature
- Try out tech and learn cyber basics that help keep them safe online
- Discover how to help their community and make the world a better place
- Join a circle of friendship and fun like no other

**If your girl is going into kindergarten or first grade, Daisies is for her!**  
**Sign up today at [girlscoutsgwm.org/join](https://girlscoutsgwm.org/join).**

