



# Mettawee Messenger

May 4, 2023 Principal: Brooke DeBonis 645-9009

## Principal's Corner:

### Teacher & Staff Appreciation

National Teacher Appreciation Week (May 8-12) has been an annual event in Vermont since 1964. Our teachers and staff members are passionate, innovative, kind, generous, honest, inspirational, creative, effective, fair, and so much more! Teacher Appreciation Week is a good time to let them know how important their work is to our children, our families and our future. I would like to encourage you, as well as your child, to take a moment to thank a teacher, para, kitchen staff, custodian, bus driver or staff member for supporting our students. A simple card, e-mail, or kind message would be a great idea. Teachers and staff members provide so much to our students - inspiration, motivation, and ultimately, their futures. We are so fortunate to have such amazing people working in our school.



### Student Behavior Concerns

We are noticing an increase in student behaviors the last few weeks. We are working hard to have conversations with our students about our expectations, discussing what they are struggling with, and talk about a plan moving forward to avoid making the same mistakes again. Staff members are filling out a behavior form if there are issues that need to be addressed. Families will be notified if your child did something that would be considered a major (bullying, fighting/physical aggression, harassment, threatening behaviors, unsafe behaviors, disruption of learning environment, dishonesty, defiance, or leaving without permission) behavior concern. If the behavior is minor (disrespectful, disruptive, inappropriate gesture or language, non-compliance, physical contact, property misuse, teasing, or use of unauthorized electronic devices) you may not be informed if it is the first time your child has done something inappropriate. If we are seeing your child struggling with being respectful or following the school expectations they may not be invited to participate in field trips or other school activities. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.



### LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The Agency of Education approved our snow day waiver so we have confirmation that our last day of school will be Friday,

June 16th. We will dismiss at 12:30.

**LAST DAY**  
of **SCHOOL**





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Dear Farming Community,



The sixth grade class is wondering if we could have one of our local farmers come and rototill our garden at the Mettawee Community School. We would like to plant before the end of May and we are hoping to have it tilled twice. Ideally we

would have it rototilled once to kill the weeds and again later to mix the compost. If you can help, please reach out to Heather McGann at [hmcgann@brsu.org](mailto:hmcgann@brsu.org).

Thank you for your time,  
The Mettawee 6th grade class

## Spaghetti Dinner

The Girls on the Run and Heart and Sole teams are holding a spaghetti dinner on Friday, May 12th at the Rupert Fire House from

5:00 pm till 7:00 pm.

Dinner will include toss salad, spaghetti, sauce, meatballs, bread, beverage & dessert. There will also be a gluten free spaghetti option.



Proceeds will benefit the Pawlet Food Pantry, Rupert Food Pantry, Little Food Pantry and Mettawee Girls on the Run. Tickets can be bought from any Girl on the Run or at the door.

\$10 per person - \$5 for children 12 and under.

## Kindergarten



**NO KINDERGARTEN CLASSES on Friday, May 5th due to Kindergarten Registration.**

## Memorial Day

Mettawee will be honoring those who sacrificed their lives for our freedoms on Thursday, May 25th at 8:30. There will be no school on Monday, May 29th.



## Spring Concert

Mettawee students in K-6 will be performing a Spring Concert for the community on May 25th at 6:00. Please note the time has changed from 6:30 TO 6:00. More information will be coming home in the coming weeks.



## Summer Camp Flier Season!

There will be a separate email following your Big Blue Messenger email on Thursdays that is specifically for Summer Camps that happen in our general area. Each week the latest fliers for summer camps and activities will be added to the front of the pile.

Be aware, these are only the fliers that organizations send to us. There are likely many more opportunities out there if you look around.







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May 5th - Kindergarten Registration

May 5th - NO Kindergarten Classes

May 25th - Memorial Day Ceremony

May 25th - Spring Concert 6:00

May 29th - Memorial Day - No School

June 9th - Last day of After School Program

June 13th - Books & Beyond Ceremony 1:00

June 14th - Field Day 12:00

June 14th - Last day of Preschool

June 15th - End of Year BBQ 11:30

June 15th - 6th Grade Graduation 6:30

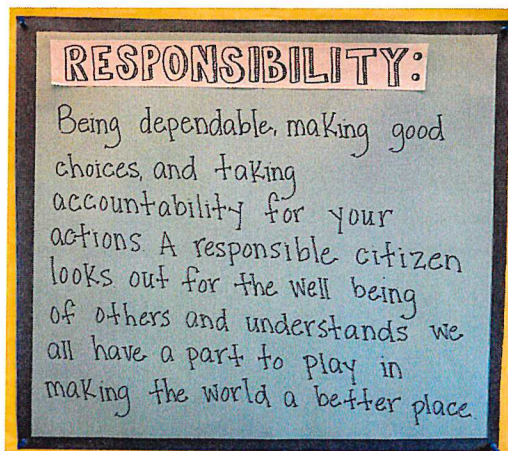
June 16th - Last day of school (hopefully)

June 16th - 12:30 Dismissal

June 16th - GOTR / Heart and Sole Ceremony 6:00

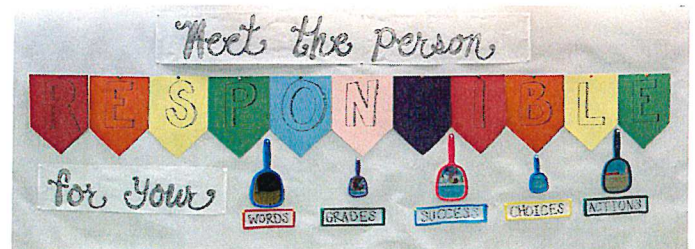
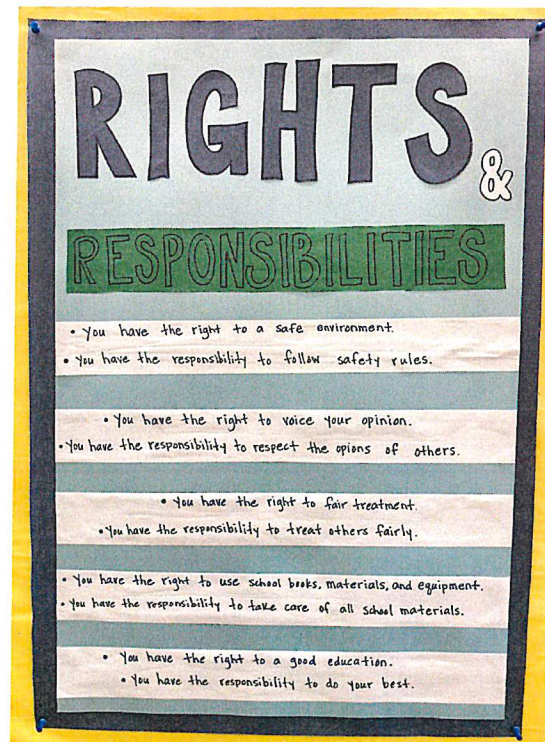
## RESPONSIBILITY

May theme of the month



## Rights vs. Responsibilities

Rights are freedoms we have that are protected by our laws, while responsibilities are duties or things that we should do. In order to be good citizens, or members of a community, we must understand our rights and responsibilities. This is how rights and responsibilities pertain to being a good school citizen.



Look in the mirror and see who is responsible for your words, your grades, your success, your choices, and your actions.



METTAWEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

# Staff Appreciation WEEK

**MAY 08 - 12**

• *Monday*

**Make a staff member smile**

Share that you appreciate your teacher or a staff member or tell them a joke.

• *Tuesday*

**Share a kind gesture**

Hold the door, run an errand, show your teacher you care.

• *Thursday*

**Put it on paper**

Draw a picture, write a letter, or make a card and share it with your teacher or a staff member.

• *Wednesday*

**Flower Day**

Get creative! Draw a flower, bring a flower, buy a flower for your teacher or a staff member

• *Friday*

**Staff member or teacher sidekick**

Wear clothing or accessories in your teacher or staff member's favorite color

The ideas above are all OPTIONAL suggestions to participate in the daily themes/activities. If you have other ideas about how to share your appreciation for a teacher, staff member, or bus driver please feel free!

For more information **802.645.9009**





Dear Band Families,

As noted in the weekly Mettawee Messenger and End of Year Dates, the Mettawee Spring Concert will take place on Thursday, May 25, starting at 6:00. All band students in grades 4, 5, and 6 will perform.

I've noticed that in recent weeks, with testing, summer weather and the busy days of afterschool sports and activities, many students have been leaving their instrument at school. It is very important for your band student to take their instrument home after their lesson and practice 2-3 times each week. Just like a runner needs to train for a race, musicians must play at home to prepare for a performance. This builds mental strength and stamina while reinforcing note reading skills and muscle memory.

My hope is that all of our band students will feel confident and proud of their growth as musicians this year. ***How can you help? Encourage your child to play for you at home over the next two weeks to ensure they are ready for the concert.***

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Lisa Hoyt  
lhoyt@brsu.org



## Health Notice for Families

5/3/2023

Dear Mettawee Families,

We have recently had cases of positive strep throat in a few of our classes. Please be aware of the below symptoms and keep your child home if they appear ill. It is important to note that symptoms can vary and a mild sore throat along with nausea and vomiting could indicate strep.

Strep throat and scarlet fever (strep throat with a rash) are caused by streptococcus bacteria.

### **What are the symptoms of strep throat and scarlet fever?**

Symptoms may include sore throat, fever, headache, stomachache, swollen lymph nodes in neck and decreased appetite. Scarlet fever is a sandpaper-like rash that sometimes occurs in people that have strep throat. The rash is usually more prominent in the armpits and groin area. Children younger than three years with strep throat rarely have a sore throat. Most commonly, these children have a persistent nasal discharge, fever, irritability, and loss of appetite.

### **How is strep throat and scarlet fever spread?**

Streptococcus bacteria are spread through direct contact with respiratory secretions from the nose or throat of persons who are infected. This could be person-to-person through coughing or sneezing or by sharing drinking glasses or eating utensils with someone who is infected.

### **How is strep throat and scarlet fever diagnosed and treated?**

A health care provider makes a diagnosis of strep throat with a throat swab and test. Both illnesses are treated with antibiotics.

### **How do you control the spread?**

Washing hands frequently and thoroughly, especially after touching nose or throat secretions. Avoid sharing personal items that may be contaminated with saliva, such as drinking cups and eating utensils. Use a sanitizing solution on shared toys and other potentially contaminated items. Cover mouth with tissue or arm when coughing or sneezing. Properly dispose of tissues containing nose and throat secretions. Children with strep throat or scarlet fever should not return to school until at least 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment and the fever is gone.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at school.

Sincerely,

Mandy Mayer, RN, BSN

School Nurse

[mmayer@brsu.org](mailto:mmayer@brsu.org)

(802) 645-9009 ext. 3214



R.K. KITTAY LIBRARY



# SPRING PLANT SALE

Saturday May 20th

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

The R.K. Kittay Library

2827 VT-153, Rupert, Vermont



\* Hanging Baskets \*  
\* Vegetables \* Herbs \*  
\* Annuals \* Perennials \*



\* Gardeners Auction \* Door Prize \*

\* Pre-orders available \*

For more info: [rupertkittaylibrary.org/events-programs](http://rupertkittaylibrary.org/events-programs)



MAY THE  
FOURTH  
BE WITH YOU

Jedis have a deep connection to nature. In celebration  
of all things Star Wars, we invite you to come

**BECOME A TRAIL JEDI  
BY HELPING US  
FIND 1,000  
LOST GROGUS  
(BABY YODAS)**

on two trails  
in Rutland County.

**FREE**  
& open to  
fans of all  
ages

**SATURDAY,  
MAY 6 • 11-1**

D&H Rail Trail (Poultney)

**SUNDAY,  
MAY 7 • 11-1**

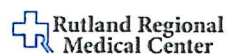
Pine Hill Park (Rutland)

- ◆ If you find a Grogus, you may **KEEP HIM!**
- ◆ If the force is strong with you, you may even get  
to meet a few of your **FAVORITE STAR WARS  
CHARACTERS** on your mission!
- ◆ With special guests The Mint, NewStory  
and Bayada
- ◆ Wheel of Fandom with awesome **PRIZES**

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

**[www.comealiveoutside.com](http://www.comealiveoutside.com)**

Questions? Contact Arwen Turner at [Arwen@comealiveoutside.com](mailto:Arwen@comealiveoutside.com)







# Trees - Morphology Wonderland

Wednesday, May 10th 1:00pm

THE  
MANCHESTER COMMUNITY  
LIBRARY

The Garden Club of Manchester



# Furbearers of Vermont

Monday, May 8th  
10:00 - 11:00 am

THE  
MANCHESTER COMMUNITY  
LIBRARY

