



August 18, 2011

The Cub

The “electronic” voice of The Mountain School at Winhall

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Mark Your Calendars for Our 14th Annual First Day Picnic!

Mark your calendars for our *First Day Cookout on September 6* here at the school. Pre-K/K families will meet at 10:00 a.m. in their classroom, while all other students and families will meet at 10:30 a.m. in the MPR. Please bring a sharing dish, place settings for all family members, and lots of smiles to start our year off right!

Welcome New Families!

MSW continues to welcome more new families to our school. Please be sure to reach out and greet our new families as you meet them on the first day.

Soccer Sign-Ups

Please be sure to sign up for the 2011-12 soccer season. The Wildcats are looking forward to another great year. Forms were sent home on August 4. Please see the website (look under “News & Announcements”) or contact the office if you need another form.

First-of-Year Forms

While students have homework during the school year, PARENTS have a lot of homework to do before the year even begins! Please complete all required first-of-year forms by 9/7. Contact Carol if you have any questions. Thank you!

Catamount and Cub

What exactly are these creatures? *The Catamount* is MSW’s monthly print newsletter, usually sent home the first Thursday of each month.

The Cub is a smaller electronic version usually sent home via email the third Thursday of each month. Both contain important information for Mountain School families. In addition to the sent copies, parents can find newsletter copies online at www.themountainschool.org. Click on the newsletter link to find recent issues.

Special note: September’s Catamount will be sent home Thursday 9/8 instead of Thursday 9/1. Thank you.

First Day Special Guests

MSW will have two special guests joining us for our first day festivities to share in our recent accomplishment of starting an international program and being approved by the Department of Homeland Security to award student visas to international students.

Our guests will be Mr. Armando Viaseca, Vermont Education Commissioner, and Ms. Maggie Gendron, Field Representative for Senator Patrick Leahy. Both guests are strong supporters and proponents of International Student Education and Exchanges in the State of Vermont. We look forward to having them join us on September 6!

Supply Lists

Not sure what to pick up for the fall? Check out the following list to see what might be needed to start the year.

Pre-K/K:

- Backpack (with name or initials written on it)
- Lunchbag (with name written on it)
- Waterbottle (with name written on it)
- Change of clothes in a labeled Ziploc bag
- Large crib sheet in a labeled Ziploc bag for quiet time
- 1 box of pencils
- Blunt-tip scissors
- 6 glue sticks
- 2 boxes of crayons (24 pack preferred)
- 2 boxes of Crayola 8 pack washable markers
- 2 green folders
- 1 package of glitter glue (any color)
- 2 small ream/packages of multicolored construction paper
- 1 pack of Play-Doh brand play dough (any color)
- 2 drawing pads (with name on it)
- 1 old paint shirt for messy art activities

Grades 1/2:

Please contact Mrs. Thompson at mthompson@themountainschool.org.

Grades 3/4:

- 2 1" 3-Ring Binders (No zippers please, we store them on a shelf)
- 2 composition notebooks

- 3 pocketed folders with prongs
- 2 packages wide-ruled notebook paper
- 2 dozen #2 pencils
- 2 glue sticks
- 1 box of crayons
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 box colored pencils
- 1 box colored markers (not permanent)
- 1 pack dry erase markers
- 1 pack fine tip markers
- 1 package of multicolored construction paper
- It would also be nice if students could bring in a plant for the classroom. Our windows face west, and we have indirect sunlight.

Grades 5/6:

- 2 1-1/2" binders
- 3-hole loose leaf paper
- 1 subject spiral notebook (2)
- 3-hole pocket folders
- 3-hole tab dividers
- 1 package multi-colored construction paper
- Index cards
- Index cards holder
- Markers (washable, permanent and white board)
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Ball point pens (blue, black, red)
- White Out
- Highlighters
- Liquid glue
- Glue sticks
- Hand sanitizer
- Calculator
- Thumb drive
- Students are also asked to bring in one complete place setting to cut down on waste. Please send

your child with a cup/mug, plate, bowl, fork and spoon to be used in the classroom this year.

Grades 7/8:

- Two 3-inch three ring binders
- Subject Dividers
- Lined paper
- One spiral notebook of graph paper
- Pens/pencils
- Colored pencils
- Calculator (scientific for 8th grade)
- Glue stick
- 4 pocket folders
- 1 ruler
- Pencil sharpener

Spanish:

- 3-subject notebook
- Index cards

PE:

- Athletic footwear; no Crocs, sandals, or boots
- Clothes appropriate for outside activity

Pottery and Pasta-Palooza

After the close of Frog Hollow Craft School in May of 2008, former pottery instructors Teri and Derek Andersen founded Turning Wheel Studio. Teri, who is our art instructor, and Derek, a past employee at MSW, created a mission at Turning Wheel that valued the educational experience as well as sharing a passion for clay. Turning Wheel's studio provided students a unique experience of learning and

practicing the art of ceramics. Students of any age could experience creating ceramic ware using the potter's wheel or by hand. Private lessons and workshops were offered from basic throwing classes to wild edible hikes.

Most recently they lost the entire studio due to a fire. Not only was the studio considered a loss, but also all of their ceramic ware, workshop and instructional materials were destroyed. In helping them reclaim their loss, The Mountain School and the Parent Advisory Board have joined forces to put on a Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner on Sunday, September 11 at 3:00 p.m. on the MSW campus. A \$7 per person (or \$25 for a family of four or more) donation is suggested. It is requested that you R.S.V.P. your intent to attend this event by calling Mr. Miller, Advancement Director, no later than 9:00 a.m. September 9.

Remember...Reduce Waste by Bringing Place Settings!

We often forget the first word in the famous three-word slogan...REDUCE! MSW tries to reduce waste as much as possible on a daily basis. To assist us, please remember to bring place settings for your family for all meal gatherings to save on paper and plastic. Also send your child to school with reusable forks, spoons, and plates each day for lunch. Thank you!

SPECIAL SECTION: Middle School News

Middle School (Grades 5-8) Families are asked to please carefully read the following information for the 2011-12 school year!

Annual Fall Team-Building Trip

This fall's trip will take place at the Hulbert Center on Lake Morey in Fairleigh, VT. An informational flier is attached for families to the email. The cost of this year's trip is \$250 per child. More details and payment information will be provided at the start of school.

Urgent: Girl's Soccer Coach Needed!

We are in need of a middle school girl's soccer coach. Please contact the office if you are interested in helping our girls have a team for 2011!

Laptop Program

In our efforts to teach our students the proper and effective use of technology for school, home, and beyond, we partner with families to provide a laptop for every middle school students at MSW. This creative partnership has allowed students to have access to technology that they may never have had access to before. All computers are Dell's or Mac's.

Families are provided three main options. 1) To fulfill our mission of equity, we will provide a laptop free of charge to any child

that does not have their own computer. This laptop is the student's to use for the entire school year, and s/he is able to take the computer home at night and on weekends. 2) Families can lease or purchase a new Dell laptop through the school. The lease (three-year term) is a low, manageable price for families (usually around \$35/month). 3) Families may purchase a new MacBook computer through the school. MacBooks can be purchased on a 3-payment plan over the school year.

Families interested in the lease or purchase of a new computer should please contact the office before the start of school. Thank you.

2012 China Trip

With the recent partnership and success of the summer program with the Honghua Foreign Language School in Guanghan, China, MSW will be making a trip to visit our new sister school in April of 2012. Approximately 8-10 students (parents are welcome to join us!) will be traveling to Guanghan and Beijing. Students will stay with teachers, visit the school, and see local museums and attractions in Guanghan before visiting Beijing, China's capital. While the exact dates have not yet been set, the trip is tentatively taking place April 12-April 21, which is MSW's Spring Break. If you and/or your child are interested in attending, please let Mr. Houck know. More information to follow.