



The beautiful Farm Barn at Shelburne Farms, main campus and home of The Renaissance School.

We have enjoyed a beautiful fall season on the farm at The Renaissance School. The children are moving forward in their studies and enjoying the company of one another at school. We have seen many new friendships this year and old friendships re-kindled. The children are gaining new educational experiences in the

classroom and outside on the farm. As we enter the winter season we will carry the memories of the sunny days we spent in the fields, the forest and the farmyard this fall. We know the children are looking forward to snowy days, sledding, ice skating, building snow forts and enjoying hot cocoa with their friends. It is a pleasure being together with the children each day learning and growing together. We wish everyone a very healthy, happy and safe holiday season.

~ Leah

Fire Safety

The children in Danielle, Nicole, Jocelyn, and Kristy's classes participated in fire safety presentations with the Shelburne Town Fire Department this November. The children had the opportunity to learn about fire safety at home and school, and to tour a fire truck. The fire department would like the oldest class to participate next year with a new fire safety curriculum they are using. We will talk about fire safety with them as a class on our own this year. The Fire Safety Presentation for Kristy's Class was on Nov. 10th, and the Fire Safety Presentation for the K, 1st and 1st/2nd grade Classes was Wednesday, Nov. 16th 9:00 at the Commons.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Directors Note</i>	1
<i>Fire Safety</i>	1
<i>Thanksgiving</i>	1
<i>Renaissance Re-Enrollment</i>	2
<i>Kindergarten Open House</i>	2
<i>String Ensemble</i>	2
<i>Living Arts</i>	2
<i>Field Trips</i>	2
<i>Basketball Club</i>	3
<i>Winter Holidays and</i>	
<i>Holiday Performance News</i>	3
<i>P.E. Program</i>	3
<i>Extra Clothes & Water</i>	3
<i>School Food Policy</i>	4
<i>Student Narratives</i>	4
<i>November Assembly</i>	4
<i>School Closures/Delays</i>	4

Thanksgiving Holiday

We will have a **half day** of school on Wednesday, November 23rd closing at 12:00 noon. We will also be closed Thursday, November 24th and Friday, Nov. 25th.

We will have an all school assembly on Monday, November 21st to hear the story of Thanksgiving.

Renaissance Re-Enrollment Forms

Re-enrollment forms were due on November 15th. If you have not handed yours in yet, please drop them off at the Main Office with Kelly Libby or place them in Leah's mailbox at the farm.

Any questions about tuition, class placement, or re-enrollment should go to Kelly Libby at 985-2153.

Renaissance Kindergarten Open House

There will be an informational meeting about the kindergarten program at The Renaissance School on Wednesday, November 30th from 10:00-11:30.

Diane Rooney will discuss the kindergarten curriculum and rhythm of the day. Parents will also have the opportunity to see the classroom and to meet Danielle Harris, the Kindergarten teacher.

If you are interested in attending this meeting please call Kelly Libby at 985-2153.

String Ensemble

The Renaissance string ensemble practices every Thursday, 3:30-4:30 at Heartworks Shelburne. Rapheal Groten teaches the group and he is happy to work with all ages. The cost is \$25.00 per session. If you are interested please see Leah.



Field Trips



The children in Danielle, Nicole, Jocelyn and Kristy's classes will go to the Flynn Theater on Thursday, December 1st to see the Vermont Symphony Orchestra's performance of "Carnival of the Animals". This will be an exciting trip for the children filled with music and beautiful images.

The children in Kristy's class will take a field trip to the Fleming Museum on November 29th. They will be looking at an exhibit on Native American artifacts and doing an educational workshop with the Museum staff. This will enhance their social studies theme, and it will be an exciting day for everyone.



Living Arts

Our Living Arts session for this semester will end on Friday November 18th. We will start another session in January. Living Arts is a program intended to nourish the children's interests and gifts. For the next session, we will ask each child to list their three favorite interests and we will then pick classes to offer based on the strongest areas of interest.

Third & Fourth Grade Basketball Club

Starting Thursday, November 17th from 3:15-4:15 there will be a Girls Basketball Club at the Commons gymnasium. The club will be taught by Jeff Crowe, Jasmine and Camilla Crowe's grandfather, and Sarah Kruk, Kelcie Kruk's mother. The girls will learn basic basketball skills and the rules of the game. This club is free and sure to be a good time! If your child is interested please sign up on the bulletin board at the bottom of the stairs.

Renaissance Physical Education Program

The wellness walks have been a very important piece of our physical education program at school. They provide a time each day to move our bodies and get fresh air before the academic time in the day starts. This November as the weather gets colder our wellness walks will come to an end until the spring. The physical education curriculum at The Renaissance School focuses on life long sports. This fall the children learned the rules and techniques used in playing soccer. As we enter November and December the children will do floor hockey and calisthenics in the gymnasium. In January, once the ice skating rink is frozen, the children in all of the classes will ice skate each week at the Commons, and we will begin cross country skiing at the Farm once we have some good snow.



Winter Holidays & Performance

We want to honor every family's culture, traditions and beliefs at The Renaissance School.

As we enter the winter season, we will discuss the many different holidays that take place such as Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Saint Lucia Day. We will have an all school assembly to learn about these holidays together. Parents are encouraged to share their family's special traditions or beliefs with the class. If you would like to share a story, or do a special art or cooking project during the holiday season please see your child's teacher to arrange a date to visit the class.



Children in every class participate in the Holiday Performance. It is a time for parents to see the wonderful work the children are doing during music and drama class. The children have been practicing and they are excited to showcase what they have learned at the Holiday Performance. The date for the Holiday Performance has been changed from Wednesday, December 14th to Friday, December 16th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Shelburne Town Gym. There will be more detailed information about the rehearsal and the program available soon. Here are some areas where help is needed for the performance:

- We are looking for one large, possibly more, artificial trees to dress our set
- If you are interested in helping with costumes, please contact Kelly Becker
- Please watch for notices regarding costumes needed from home.



Extra Clothes & Water Bottles

The weather is getting colder and as we enter the winter season the children will continue to go outside each day for recess. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the colder weather with a thick jacket, a hat and mittens. As the temperatures drop and the snow arrives they will also need a pair of snow pants at school each day. Please also switch their extra clothing supply in their cubbies to season appropriate clothes.



Renaissance School Food Policy

We encourage families to pack healthy snacks and lunches for your children. We do not dictate the order or how much a child eats during these meal times. If a child decides to eat a cookie before a sandwich this is their decision. We feel the parent decides what type of food is okay for their child to eat, and it is up to the child to decide when to eat it. Please make sure your child has enough food for both lunch and snack. The children are very active during the day and they are often quite hungry. If your child eats all of their food from their lunch box, and they have nothing left at snack or lunch time, we will provide some healthy food for them and notify the parent to pack a little extra food for the next day. Thank you for your help with this.



Student Narratives

Written narratives about student progress in each academic and social area are handed out twice a year. We will pass out the first student narrative in January and again in June.



November Assembly

This month during our all school assembly we discussed healthy habits and hand washing. This is an annual assembly held each fall as we enter the cold season. This year Kelly Mazza, Ethan Mazza's mother, was a guest speaker, and she shared her knowledge about proper hand washing, and read a helpful story to the children. The older children also performed impromptu skits about covering coughs and sneezes.

Deena Jacunski and Taegen Yardley spoke during assembly about the great postcard project the third grade class is working on for their social studies theme. They shared several facts about different states with the children. Please be sure to visit the postcard project just outside of Kristy Stone's room.

School Closures and Delays

In the event of snow or another form of inclement weather, The Renaissance School may close for the day, delay opening until later in the day, or need to close early. Please listen and watch for school closure and delay information on any of the following radio and television stations: WEZF (92.9), WOKO (98.9FM, 105.1FM, 1230AM), WPTZ (TV Channel 5), WVMT (620AM), and WCAX (TV Channel 3). You may also check their websites, and the Renaissancevt.org website.

