



Westford School News

April 1, 2011

Principal's Corner

Student Led Conferences

Have you ever been confused by a grade you have received? "Why did I get a high grade when I receive a low grade last time?" The grade might have been accurate but you might have had little understanding of how much your own learning had grown.

Fortunately, our students have a very good understanding of how much growth they have made over the school year. Our students will be sharing this good news with their parents during student led conferences over the next two weeks. Student led conferences put the student in the "driver's seat" as they choose artifacts and work samples that they are proud to share. Student led conferences will be held after school and into the early evening on April 7th and April 13th. Parents can schedule a time for a student led conference by visiting our school web site.

Sincerely,

Share your thoughts about student led conferences by clicking the "Principal's Blog" link on our school web page

Students at Westford School Invest in Reading!



At the beginning of this school year students were introduced to the State of Vermont's Office of the Treasurer's program on financial literacy. They were invited to participate by completing individual reading logs that included "money" books. Four students at the Westford School have completed this mission and are now eligible for a drawing of one of ten \$250 college savings scholarship accounts that will be awarded in April. These students are Darielle Bunney, Atticus Phinney-Anderson, Celia Andrews, and Shayla Winer. Congratulations!

Congratulations to the 7th & 8th Grade Drama Club for a job well done on "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"



(photos by Jenny Hughes)



We wish to thank Mr. Goss and Ms. Martin for all of their hard work on this production. Thanks also go out to the many parents and staff members who lent a hand in putting this production together

We Invite You to Explore World Book Web!



The Westford School Library web page includes *databases and reference resources*. Clicking on this link in the left sidebar will bring you to our subscription databases. You are invited to access these resources at home for student help or personal research. One of the databases we would like to introduce you to is *World Book Online*. Here you can find not only information similar to that found in the encyclopedia, but also featured videos, today's news headlines, a biography center, quizzes and (continued on next page)



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Music News



March was a very busy month for student musicians at Westford School! Band and Chorus students hosted a "Music Fun Night" on March 11th that featured musical video games, a short dance and a performance by the local band "The New 802". Everyone had a great time and we raised \$214.00 towards our trip in May.

The following week a group of percussionists from Jeh Kulu came to work with grades 5-8 through drumming workshops. Students in those grades have been studying music and dance from the African country of Guinea, and it was a great opportunity for Westford students to learn directly from musicians from that country. Jeh Kulu will return to Westford in June to do a dance workshop. This mini-residency was made possible in part by a grant from the VT Arts Council, the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington and the Westford PTO.

On May 18th, students in grades 3-8 participated in Fine Arts Night, CCSU's fine arts showcase held at Essex High School.

Students sang in a combined chorus and a woodwind ensemble consisting of eight students performed the first movement of *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*.

Finally, students in grades Pre-K-6 were treated to a special performance by VSO's Fiddlesticks. This string trio captivated Westford students with an engaging and educational

experience. That performance was made possible by support from People's United Bank.



The Westford Band and Chorus has released an mp3 single of *Sakura!* *Sakura* is a traditional Japanese song about Cherry Blossoms. In addition to featuring a combined performance of the band and chorus, this performance features the following soloists: Rebecca Barwin, Bassoon, Audrey Dawson, Bass Clarinet, and Rebekah Ficek, Snare Drum.

To purchase a download, visit

<http://cddbaby.com/cd/westfordschoolbandandcho>

or to purchase in iTunes, visit

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/artist/westford-school-band-chorus/id425791594>

Money earned from this sale will go towards the Band and Chorus fundraising efforts.

Dates to Remember

- April 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Social Studies students present Emerging Nations Fair, 1:10-2:20 PM
- April 7th & 13th, Student Led Conferences – sign up on the school web site
- April 8th, Italian Dinner and Raffle, 6:00-8:00 PM
- April 12th, Science Fair & Kiwi Night, 6:30-8:00 PM
- April 12th, Joint Mtg. of Westford School & Select Boards
- April 15th, Kindergarten Registration forms due, copies can be found on the school web site.
- April 15th, Westford School Board Mtg. at Essex High School, 6:30 PM
- April 18th-22nd Spring Break