

# ***Mrs. Benjamin's News***

October 8, 2010

Happy Columbus Day!

**We finished up our unit on Early America** today. The field trip to Shelburne Museum was wonderful in spite of the rain. The children really enjoyed visiting the large variety of buildings. I would like to thank the seven chaperones that joined us. I hope you enjoyed the day as well. Your support is really appreciated.

On Wednesday, we had a **tasting party** with the other three second grades. Each class made two things that we shared. Our class made crust less pumpkin pie and fresh apple sauce. We also made butter by shaking heavy cream. I hope your child shared their thoughts on the goodies.

For a finale to the unit, we had an Early American **game day** on the playground this morning. Students played with hoops and sticks, jump ropes, sack races, etc. You may want to ask your child about the activities they enjoyed. Consistent with our focus for the unit, some things change over time, yet some remain the same.

**Our next science unit is "balance and motion".** This is a very hands-on unit that students always enjoy. Hopefully they will share some of the ideas with you.

**I have attached the cover sheet to your child's first unit math test.** "M" stands for meets. "WT" stands for working towards. Our expectation is that everyone meets the goals that are in white. The highlighted objectives have just been introduced and may need more time.

It looks like most people are catching on to homelinks. They go home as a unit packet with just one page being done on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. It is expected that second graders do about 20 minutes of homework each night. Don't forget to have your child read nightly.

Our staff has approved a **new mission statement** for Porters Point School. I have attached a copy for your information.

On a bit of a discouraging note, I am asking parents to talk their boys about urine on our bathroom seat. Not a day has gone by that the janitor or I have to clean up after misses. It is a health issue as well as an etiquette issue. I would appreciate your help in breaking this pattern.

**I am looking for a room parent** to make calls for party supplies and conference reminders. Mrs. Lopes is also looking for someone to help with our Four Winds program. Let me know if you are interested.

Enjoy the weekend!