Instruction

Our teachers have been working diligently to provide our students with a variety of learning experiences. In our lower elementary classroom, students have been spending time working on social skills and early math and literacy concepts. Our intermediate grade classrooms are focusing on fractions, multiplicative reasoning, the continents and Vermont counties. Our fifth and sixth grade students have made their first trip up to our new outdoor classroom space after finishing up their fall Ag School unit. Throughout our building we are working to build strong relationships so that all students have a trusted adult, they can go to here at school. When we return to school after the winter break teachers will begin assessing student progress during the winter testing window for STAR 360.
Student Activities
Nurse Jessi Bellois and 5/6 teacher Lottie Page have started meeting with our new student council members. After the first meeting it’s very clear that our students are very service oriented. For the upcoming holiday season they have started a holiday food drive, a hat and a hat, mitten and scarf drive. In addition, they wanted to start wearing pink on Fridays to show support for those fighting breast cancer in our community. It’s very exciting to see all the enthusiasm these students have for their school and community.

We were very excited to participate in the name a snowplow competition sponsored by VTrans. Our Plow was a combination of a suggestion from the second grade and the fifth grade. Snowflake: The Knight Plow can be seen plowing Route 5 between Bradford and East Ryegate. It will be piloted by Andy out of the Bradford Depot. We look forward to seeing it go by our school on snowy days!

Facilities
We recently held a meeting with a consultant EEI and representatives from the central office. During this meeting with EEI, we discussed an efficiency audit that had been done of the Newbury Elementary School building over the summer. We were made aware that a number of our mechanical systems have reached their life expectancy of thirty years. This includes the boiler and ventilation systems. We will be working with EEI to create a plan for replacement of these systems,
prioritizing the mechanical systems that will have the greatest impact on daily operations. Due to the replacement cost of these systems they will have to phase be in over several years.

Professional Development
Members of our staff continue to work with All Learners Network on math and have the opportunity to consult with Fran Huntoon. Math interventionist Lynnette Knapp has completed training in PNOA and ENOA assessments. Reading interventionist Alysia Vance spent an afternoon observing implementation of F&P guided reading programs at Bradford Elementary. PE teacher Cameron Prest spent two days at the NHAPHRD conference learning more about the latest trends in Physical and Health Education. Laurie Williams just completed a collaboration with the Tenney Memorial Librarian and attended Vermont Fest Tech Conference at Killington, sponsored by VITA-Learn. Nurse Jessi Bellois is pursuing courses to gain her endorsement in health education, which will allow her to take on additional teaching responsibilities. A number of Newbury staff members are participating in the Conscious Discipline course facilitated by Cate Beaton. This group meets once monthly to discuss the social emotional program developed by Dr. Bailey Bailey. We are utilizing many components of this program in our classrooms, to help students identify and manage their emotions.

Upcoming Events
Week of December 6th video of our holiday musical performances
Every Friday in December Wear Pink to support breast cancer awareness.
Winter Break December 18-January 3rd
Monday January 17th Inservice Day
Monday January 24th Winter Program Begins