

Python Post

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<http://cvs.ncsuvt.org>

The monthly newsletter of the **Coventry Village School**
348 Route 5, Coventry, Vermont 05825 (802) 754-6464

April Calendar

March 29: BINGO! Doors open at 11 a.m., game starts at noon. Benefits the CVS 8th Grade Class Trip to Washington, D.C. Refreshments and prizes.

April 3: CVS Parents' Club Meeting, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in CVS Library

April 12: MORE BINGO! (7th Annual Relay for Life Bingo) Doors open at 9 a.m., game starts at 10 a.m.. Benefits the American Cancer Society and local families. Refreshments and prizes.

April 16: School Board Meeting, 6 p.m. in CVS Library

April 17: Parent Conferences, 3-7 p.m.

April 18: NO SCHOOL. Parent Conferences, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

April 19-27: NO SCHOOL. Spring Break!

Parent Conferences

A week before conferences, a School Reach message will direct parents to a link where they can sign up.

YES! Theater delights students

The YES! Theater duo, Brent and Maya McCoy of Greensboro Bend, engaged CVS students with interactive drama exercises and staged a great performance at the end of their week at the school. *Photos by Michelle Warman.*



Python Post Subscriptions

CVS Parents/Guardians automatically receive a newsletter each month.

Community members may request a free subscription.

Newsletters are available in print or by e-mail: cvsnewsletter@gmail.com.

RESPECTFUL. RESPONSIBLE. READY TO LEARN.

Tips from the Tooth Tutor



- When you eat or drink anything besides water, the acid attack on your teeth lasts for 20 minutes.
- Baby teeth (also known as Primary teeth) are very important; they hold the space for the erupting permanent teeth.
- The acid attack from sour candy is much worse than the acid attack from other candy, so eating sour candy is much worse for your teeth.
- If you can't brush, rinsing with water will help to lessen the acid attack.
- Your teeth will last forever if you take care of them and stay healthy.

HAPPY NATIONAL DENTAL HYGIENE MONTH !!

Sincerely,
Your tooth tutor,
Elaine Gallup, RDH

TWO BINGOS!!

March 29th: Doors open at 11 a.m., game starts at noon. Benefits the CVS 8th Grade Class Trip to Washington, D.C.

April 12th: Doors open at 9 a.m., game starts at 10 a.m. Benefits the American Cancer Society and local families.

Both Bingos feature refreshments and great prizes! See you there!

Meet the Student

Sierra
Grade 2



Favorite animal: Birds. "They're the only animal that has feathers, and they're so mysterious."

What she wants to be when she grows up: A zoologist/teacher. "I've known since I was seven. I want to be a zoologist because I love animals, and a teacher because I'll get cupcakes every time someone has a birthday."

Burning questions: Anything to do with animals. "I always say I want to learn every fact about every animal."

What makes animals so interesting: "Some of them are nice, some of them are mean, and I want to know *why*. I want to know what they're thinking."

Favorite subject in school: Science.

Currently studying: Bears. "Every year we study a different animal. Last year it was owls, and the year before that it was frogs."

Fun frog fact: If they're living in dirty water, they'll grow an extra leg, eye, or tail. "They breathe through their skin, so their skin gives off a reaction. If you breathed dirty air, you'd give off a reaction too. It just wouldn't be the same one."

Found outside school: A baby mole
Loves: Nature. "I want to go snowshoeing or walking in the woods and just stop and listen."

Avoids: Her dog's wagging tail. "It really hurts. Do not stand by it!"

Meet the Staff

Linda Filipp
Reading Recovery



Home state: Michigan

How she ended up in Vermont: She wanted to be closer to her daughter, who lives in Boston; she visits there at least once a month.

While in Boston: She gets her hair and nails done and shops with her daughter. "We love to do all those girly things."

Favorite stores: Boutiques. "I like small boutiques that have unusual clothing, anything contemporary and hip."

What she appreciates about CVS: "Everybody's working together. In all my years of teaching, I've never been in a building like this, that has such a sense of love. It's what makes this school successful."

Teaching goal: Help each child find success and self-confidence.

When the snow melts: "I love the summers in Vermont and I'm anxious to get my flowers going. I live on the lake, so that's a blessing. I can sit and have a cup of coffee and just look out on the lake."

Her housemates: Two Shih Tzus, Gucci (14 yrs.) and Gaby (6 mos.). Gaby visited CVS recently and fit right in: "The kids were just passing her around. Every day I've been hearing: 'When are you going to bring Gaby back?'"

So, when's she bringing Gaby back? "When it gets warm and we can go play and read outside."

News from the Library



Students in grades K-4 began exploring this year's Red Clover nominees in January when it was cold and snowy. Fast forward to the end of March and we have finished reading and discussing all 10 nominees (and it's still cold and snowy!). After a brief review of each book, students will vote for their favorite book. Our votes will be sent on to be included in the state tally. The state winner should be announced in mid-April.

The older students have been discussing the components of amazing book reviews. We've talked about what to include when writing a review and about the importance of not giving away the whole storyline. Character development and ending your review with a hook have also been discussed. We've read professional book reviews and compared them with reviews written by non-professionals. Students have checked out books that they will be reading and then writing reviews about. Their reviews will be on the school library catalog. You can find the link to the catalog on the library website: www.coventryvillageschoollibrary.weebly.com.

The DCF book club continues to meet weekly during the upper grades' lunch time. Voting for the DCF book of the year will be happening the first week of April. Students in grades 5-8 need to have read at least 5 of the 30 nominees in order to vote. The state winner will be announced by the end of April. I know I have a favorite, so I can't wait to hear who the winner is!

Keep reading!

Contributed by Carol Rowell, Librarian

Is spanking the right discipline choice?



Unfortunately, parenting doesn't come with a training manual. We raise our children by instinct and from example and hope for the best.

Spanking has become one of the most controversial aspects of disciplining children, and with good reason.

For instance, research shows that children who are spanked are much more likely to think that hitting is a valid form of conflict resolution and may behave more aggressively towards others.

It's our choice as parents to decide how to discipline our children, but **it is important to understand that spanking can become an outlet for adult anger and frustration by hurting someone else.**

Perhaps we should ask ourselves, "Why, at this moment, do I choose to strike my child?" If the answer is that we're mad or frustrated, then is it truly discipline, or is it just a way for us to take out our feelings by hurting someone else?

Contributed by Phillis Mosher, Guidance Counselor

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month!

30 DAYS OF NURTURING CHILDREN'S SPIRITS
Provided by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont & Vermont Department for Children & Families

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Hug and tell your children "I love you" and that you are proud of them every day!	2 Make a chart of your children's chores and put a star by every task completed.	3 Bake cookies together and bring them to a local homeless shelter.	4 Plan and decorate your children's rooms together.	5 Visit a farm to see maple sugaring.
6 Clean out closets and give unwanted items to charity.	7 Go the library and help your children to get a card and check out a book.	8 Start a collection with your child, such as stamps or rocks.	9 Teach your child a new song or just make one up.	10 Decide together on a movie to watch and share a bowl of popcorn.	11 Invite another family over for a potluck dinner and games.	12 Take a bike ride or go sledding and make snow angels.
13 Let your children plan a Sunday meal and help them to prepare it.	14 Make a growth chart so you can measure your child's height.	15 Talk about all kinds of weather: "April showers bring May flowers..."	16 Spend time with a friend or neighbor just talking and visiting with them.	17 Make stir-fry and learn how to use chop sticks.	18 Write to a family member or a friend or someone who is alone.	19 Visit nursing home residents with your child.
20 Fly kites or make a picnic (even in the snow).	21 Praise your children for being kind to another person or an animal.	22 Draw all of your family; make a family album; talk about your family's history.	23 Draw pictures of your children's favorite animals.	24 Read to your children, or have them read to you.	25 Show interest in your children by playing a favorite game together.	26 Take a walk or a nature hike.
27 Make puppets, from old socks or paper bags.	28 Talk to your children about what to do in an emergency.	29 Have fun finger painting or making play dough; enjoy it together..	30 Spend quiet time with each child, listening to stories and sharing dreams.			
<p>1-800-CHILDREN (1-800-244-5373)</p>						

**Coming next month:
Alternatives to spanking**

School Board Notes: *Budget and new member*

Town Meeting Day has come and gone and we are pleased that our budget passed. The tally was 93-36. We are able to fund our school for another year, despite challenging financial times for many.

There are rumblings that the State may only bump the Base Ed tax rate 4 cents as opposed to 7 cents that all boards accounted for. This will help minimize property tax increases across the state.

For those that supported or opposed the budget, know that we are always open to your insights. Budget Yays or Nays affect its

passage, but unfortunately give us little insight as to what you support or disapprove of. We set some time at the front end of each meeting to hear from Citizens, Parents, Students and Staff. Please share your thoughts at 6 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month, or contact Principal Baughman anytime!

We're also pleased to announce that we have a new school board member. **Rosalie Bowen** has joined our team. She's a former resident and board member of Charleston.

She currently has a child at NCUHS as well as one here at

Coventry Village School. Her public service includes membership in the Newport Rotary Club and the Newport Elks Club. She's served as an officer and auditor for the Elks and is their current Treasurer. Her professional work is that of Partner at Gene Besaw & Associates, P.C. in Newport. She has even audited our books in the past.

She will serve on our Finance Committee and has agreed to take minutes, which she has experience doing too. We're glad to have her and look forward to her contributions!

Contributed by Frank Carbonneau

Tarpul Building in Grade 4

The fourth grade has been working with Mrs. Dagesse during their science time, experimenting with soil and trying to figure out what type of soil would work best to hold a tarpul. Students have been using a map to help them make decision on where this tarpul should be built. Factors the students had to consider when choosing a site were: the riverbed erosion, the type of soil, how far from the village and clinic sites were, and compaction.

One of our fourth grade geotechnical engineers, Averi Morse, wrote the following report on our tarpul building experience. Thanks, Averi!

The problem was the villagers needed a Tarpul to get across the river, but it was flooding season. So the villagers decided to make a tarpul. Our solution was, we decided to build a tarpul on site E because it was the best site there.

We chose this solution because there was no erosion because it was on a straight part of the river. The soil was not good until we compacted it. IT was good because it was organic soil. It wasn't very far from the village and the clinic because it was one site away from site D, the villagers first site. I compacted it to the least I could because I didn't want to spend too much obey, but it still held more than 10 weights. We knew it was successful because it held more than 10 weights. So I knew it would work.

I don't think I can improve it because I improved it already by compacting it less. I still got over 10 weights and it was less expensive. To get this solution we figured out how to improved our score so we compacted it less and found a better solution..

***Contributed by Jaime Comtois, Grade 4 Teacher;
report by Averi Morse, Grade 4 Student***

Movie Night a Success



Student Council and CVS staff sponsored this event, held on March 21st, for Mrs. Bapp, who was recently diagnosed with colon cancer.

Special thanks go to:

- The McCormick family, The Bras-seur Family, Hannah Bapp, and Sheldon Hurd for donating food for this event.
- Ray's Market for donating water and condiments.
- Ms. Spates, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Mosher, and Mrs. Comtois for all of their hard work.

We raised \$961 to help Mrs. Bapp and her family! We live in a wonderfully generous community. Thank you for your support!