

May 12, 2010

## FROM THE DIRECTOR:

### Testing Matters

End-of-Grade testing has begun so here are a few reminders:

- Morning snacks will conclude by 8:40 in order for testing to begin as scheduled
- Please ensure that your child(ren) are in school for the start of day at 8:30.
- Students arriving after testing has begun will not be allowed in class and must take a make-up test
- Any student scoring a "2" on a test must, by state directive, be retested

Our teachers have done an excellent job preparing students to take the End-of-Grade tests. Our students are approaching this testing season with confidence.

### Coffee Talk

We met on Tuesday for another Coffee Talk. We had a nice group that represented kindergarten through middle school. We had a lively discussion. One discussion point had to do with traffic flow at arrival and dismissal. One main concern was the request that all those driving be considerate of others in terms of drop off, holding up traffic, cutting into traffic and driving slowly.

The discussion moved on to our relationship Earth Fare. There was discussion about promoting the business versus a partnership and the distinction between providing health lunch options and in-class instruction. The result was the decision to share concerns with the Board at its next meeting and perhaps for the PTO to take a broader survey of parental interest.

A discussion about fundraising and about holding a large annual event to benefit the school directly was lively.

Finally, there was a discussion about getting the Board meeting minutes on the website.

## FEEDBACK FOR DIRECTOR

To gather community feedback on the performance of the TRCS Director, staff and families are encouraged to complete a brief online survey form. The survey can be found at:

FAMILIES: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FT5RLZZ>

STAFF: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/H37DPQL>

Please fill out the survey by Monday, May 17. All responses will be anonymous. Feedback will be compiled and used by the Executive Committee of the Board as key input into the Director's performance review.

*Thank you for sharing your thoughts!*

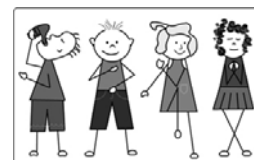
## PROCTORING FOR EOGs

EGO Testing can only happen because our AWESOME parents volunteer to Proctor during testing! THANKS PROCTORS! This is a great way to take care of Volunteer Hours for your fantastic school...and VERY easy!! If you are interested, and have a morning between May 17th through June 2nd, please contact Serene @ 265-0888 or happydae@bellsouth.net to sign up...Happy Testing!

## BRAIN GYM AND TESTING

End of grade testing is an opportunity for students to express what they know and have learned in a calm and confident manner. The 3rd- 8th graders are reviewing Brain Gym activities that assist them in being calm, clear thinkers during testing. Support your child during testing by suggesting they use their favorite Brain Gym moves at night to get a good night's sleep or on the way to school on test days. Include healthy meals, good rest, and positive attitude for prepared and productive students!

*~ Ms. Cyndi*



## ART NEWS

### Art Show at Earthfare

Don't forget to check out our student art in the cafe at Earthfare. An artist reception will be held on Saturday May 22 at 6pm. Refreshments will be provided by Earthfare. We hope to see you there. I've already heard lots of positive feedback from the community on this show.



**Orisirisi African Folklore Artist Residency May 24-27**

TRCS is excited about the upcoming artist residency brought to you by AURA (Artists United Reaching out for Academics), our Spring performing arts fundraiser.

Families will be invited to attend a final performance of the residency on May 27, time TBA. You can find out more about Orisirisi African Folklore by visiting their excellent web site : <http://www.orisirisi.com/>

~ Ms. Kelly

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## 5TH GRADE NEWS

The 5th grade just returned from an exciting and fun-filled adventure to Buffalo Cove. The nature, cool activities, amazing food and friendship left us happier, healthier and wiser. Our themes for the experience were Landforms and Ecosystems. Mountain building and erosion simulation was one of the favorite activities with the class. We also enjoyed a healthy game of predator versus prey as we learned about how communities interact within ecosystems. Finally, we ended this time of science exploration with a review of decomposers, producers and consumers. Little sleep and lots of laughter brought us back to TRCS filled with enthusiasm for the end of year.

In other news, many of our classmates are gearing up to participate in the Battle of the Books competition on May 19th at 3:30PM at the Watauga County Library. These students have read many books and practiced their knowledge of these books with hard work and dedication over the past four months. We wish them luck in the competition against Mountain Pathways and a local Home School team. May the best readers win! Actually, all readers win. Yeah!

Through their participation in the Reading Patch Club, many of our classmates are also gearing up for an exciting trip to Old Salem to do some learning and sharing. Congratulations to those students who worked hard and earned their many patches. Keep up the great reading!

In academic news, the 5th grade is finishing up our last units of the year. In Social Studies and Reading, we have been extensively studying World War II. We have approached some tough topics like Pearl Harbor, the Atom Bombs, and the Holocaust. The class has learned a lot and dealt with challenging content with grace and maturity. Our class currently is exploring ways we can share what we have learned with the community. In Science, we are gearing up for our last unit of the year – Weather. We look forward to another great unit. In writing, we just finished up the last of our fabulous how-to presentations and we are finishing up our poetry books, looking forward to sharing them with our families at the end of the year.

As a final reminder, EOG testing is Tuesday, May 18 – Thursday, May 20 and the Science test in Wednesday, June 2. Please make sure to attend these days. A good breakfast; a great night of sleep; and a calm, positive attitude will go a long way to help students do their best. Thanks for your support at home. Happy Spring!

~ Ms. Jessica

## UPCOMING PTO EVENTS

### TODAY May 12 1:45

Lunch Box Make Over Workshop

Margie Mansure will host a discussion on healthy lunches in the Earth Fare Cafe.

Learn quick and easy recipes for nutritious lunches even picky eaters will like. Registered dietitian and mom Margie Mansure, will share tips for reducing waste and getting kids involved in cooking. There will be lots of free samples, plus recipes and coupons to take home and a drawing. Presented by Two Rivers Community School in cooperation with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service and sponsored by Earth Fare.

### May 18 Tuesday

#### Wrap Day

Order forms are in today's folder. If you would like to place a lunch order, please make sure your form and \$3.25 are returned to school no later than Friday. Our options have changed, please take a look at the menu and let us know what you think.

### May 22

#### Artist Reception

TRCS has been chosen as Earth Fare's "Artist of the Month". Please join us in the Earth Fare cafe for an artist's reception.

Time: to be determined.

If you cannot make it to the reception, please stop by and take a look. The art will hang until the end of May.

### May 13

Don't forget spirit night at Chik-fil-A. Make sure to let the cashier know that you there to support TRCS.

~ Jennefer Spell

TRCS PTO

"Building Community"

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## COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

### Moving Sale

Books (including homeschooling materials), furniture, clothes, massage table and anything and everything else. Linda Hilyard 964-8184. Sat 8-6 and Sun 8-3. 269 Joe Shoemaker Rd. Vilas.