



### **Northwest Safety Patrols Report for Duty**

Second grade safety patrols greet children upon arrival to NW School and help ensure safe passage on our sidewalk in front of the school. Safety patrols are students who demonstrate leadership skills, an awareness for safety, and an interest, availability, and willingness to participate in this important community service activity. Thank you to our school counselor, Saaz Baweja, for leading this program, and second grade teacher, Nicholle Nelson, for finding safety vests to fit our young patrols!

### **Taking Care of Our Soldiers**



Thanks to the generosity of Northwest School children and staff, a couple of our soldiers will know that we love and care about them and appreciate their military service. Northwest alumni, Wes Henderson and Brittany Hoffman Quick are both currently deployed to Syria and Afghanistan, respectively. Care packages filled with beautiful cards from our students, candy, beef jerky and more are enroute right now. Thank you to Donna Caggige for organizing the care packages.

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## Meet New RMH Clinician at Northwest

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Meet Laura Lyle, NW's new Rutland Mental Health Clinician: My name is Laura Lyle, and I am originally from Vermont! I grew up in the small town of Poultney where most of my family resides. I attended both Saint Michaels College and Castleton University to earn a bachelor's degree in mathematics. Upon graduation, I began my teaching career at Miller's Run. During that time, I realized that I wanted to support students in a different manner, thus I pursued a graduate program in counseling at Goddard College. I am delighted to have landed at Northwest and love working with your children!

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## A Canine Addition to the Counseling Department

Have you heard the news? NW now has a therapy dog joining our counseling team! Meet Scout, a handsome and lovable therapy dog owned by our school counselor, Megean Martin. Scout recently passed his therapy dog test and will now be at NW School two days per week, joining our counseling team. Congrats to Mrs. Martin, Scout, and all of us at NW who will enjoy Scout's services, especially our children! We don't know who loves Scout more... the children or Mrs. Pepe!





## Pico/Killington Indoor Ski & Snowboard Training

Our first and second graders enjoyed a glimpse of skiing and snowboarding when the Killington/Pico Riglet Program came to NW School for a day! This program, designed to provide our young students with a safe and fun indoor introduction to skiing and snowboarding, encourages children to be active during the winter months today and in their future. The program uses specialized equipment and trained instructors to focus upon balance, body movement, flexibility, and core strength. Most of all, our students enjoyed every minute of this training, and many walked away with an eagerness to give skiing and/or snowboarding a try one day! Half price one day skiing and snowboarding vouchers were sent home with all first and second graders shortly after this event. We thank Killington/Pico Resort for bringing this program to us at no cost to the school district!



**100th Day Celebration @ Northwest -- February 7th!!!**

(If we have a snow day between now and then, the date will be moved up.)

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## Forest Fridays

Enjoy the persuasive writing samples below, and see if our students convince you about the great benefits of Forest Friday!

*I think kids should have Forest Friday. I like to build forts. You can build forts, too. You can breathe good air and get to have fun. You can exercise by picking up heavy sticks and rocks. I made a fort. It was a two story home out of rocks and sticks. Forest Friday is fun. (submitted by Liam, Ms. Forman's Grade 2)*

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*I think all kids should have Forest Friday. It is fun and you can do cool stuff. Work is boring, (but with Forest Friday), you can exercise. It is healthy for your body. You can build stuff and you can play games, like campfire. I think Forest Friday is really fun! (submitted by Landen, Ms. Forman's Grade 2)*



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## Come Join the Parent Teacher Collaborative!

Our Parent/Teacher Collaborative (PTC) holds its next meeting on Wednesday, February 13th, from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm in the NW art and music room. Please join us! When parents and educators work together, our children benefit. All are welcome, and snacks will be available!

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## **Dates to Remember:**

February 4th  
First Grade Concert @ 6:30 pm

February 5th  
Kindergarten Concert @ 6:30 pm

February 6th  
Skating & Other Fun

February 7th  
100th Day Celebration!

February 12th  
Winter Carnival for All  
@ Giorgetti

February 13th  
Skating & Other Fun  
PTC 6:30 - 7:30 pm

February 14th  
Reading to Visiting Therapy Dogs

February 18 - 22nd  
February Vacation Week

February 26th  
Bowling Star Student Trip

February 27th  
Skating and Other Fun

February 28th  
Grocery Bingo Night

March 1st  
Hero Assembly @ 10:30 am

## **Heroes Honored at Northwest School**

During the month of January, children at Northwest School learned about character traits in regard to assertiveness, "chill," and "reach for the stars." In culmination of this work, all NW students participated in a "Hero Assembly" to recognize students who displayed these character traits recently and to meet our "Hero" for the month: Miss Vermont, Bethany Garrow. Miss Garrow talked to children about her personal experiences in school -- both her challenges and her successes and how these relate to "chill" and "assertiveness."

What can you do to support your children in developing traits for assertiveness and "chill?" Teach your child to speak up for himself in a respectful and polite manner. Teach your child to take a deep breath, step away if needed, and plan to tell the teacher what she needs. When you use these skills yourself, tell your child how you were feeling and your response. We teach our children so much by the example we set.



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**Every Student, Every Day!**