

The Rhythm of Hearthstone

Fall 2015 Newsletter

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www.hearthstoneschool.org
Nursery/Kindergarten
through 12th Grade

Hearthstone Announces Its New Income-Based Tuition Program

In a bold move to make tuition more affordable, Hearthstone School has switched to an income-based tuition program. While Hearthstone has previously made available financial aid, the new system offers a broader approach that should enable more parents to enroll their children.

Director Jane Mullan explained, "If you really believe in your heart that this school would be good for your child, we want to make that happen. We don't want to turn families down because of their income."

Three tuition ranges will be offered. If a family can't afford to pay full tuition, they submit an application, along with proof of income, and their tuition range will be determined. Qualifying families could pay as little as 1/3 of the full tuition cost. Discounts for families having two or three children attending may also apply.

In addition, some families may be eligible for a work trade option. Parents would pay reduced tuition in exchange for providing services that the school would normally pay for, such as cleaning, groundskeeping, building maintenance and other jobs.

Experiential Learning

Smith Island

In September, junior and senior high school students from Hearthstone, Madison County, and Culpeper County schools participated in a Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) residential education program. CBF is a private, non-profit conservation organization striving to "Save the Bay," with watershed-wide programs in environmental education and resource protection.



Ken Cranston

CBF's environmental education program introduces participants to the wonders of the watershed, and works to heighten sensitivity, increase knowledge, and empower citizens to take positive action toward the Bay's restoration (CBF, 2015).



The students, accompanied by their teacher Torry Keane, visited the town of Tylerton on Smith Island, Maryland, and spent three days and two nights at the CBF learning center. They participated in a variety of activities, such as pulling trawl nets, crabbing, marsh



mucking, and water testing. The majority of each day was spent on the bay. When not aboard ship, students learned about the bay's tributaries, and life

on the island. The people of Tylerton, like many fishing communities, depend on healthy waters for their livelihood, primarily crabbing.

Now back at school, students are creating books constructed in typical main lesson book style with hand drawings and writings that cover fifteen topics stemming from their educational adventure. Out of the classroom, students are testing the waters of the Thornton River and journaling their findings. The collected data will be shared with local environmental agencies, such as the Virginia Department of Forestry.

Cornucopia Farm

Students from Hearthstone School have adopted a raised garden plot at Cornucopia Volunteer Farm in Culpeper. Students prepped the farm's new "pizza wheel" garden beds, re-strung their 3' garden beds and started working the bed under their teepee. They ate lunch in the farm's Forest Garden area.

Cornucopia is a non-profit committed to providing wholesome, sustainable produce to food banks, soup

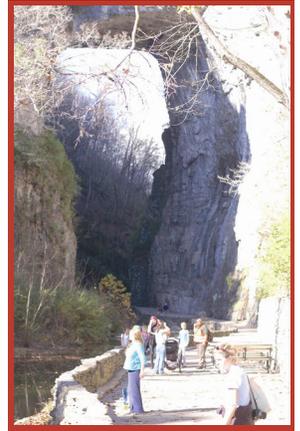


kitchens, and senior centers in Culpeper, Fauquier, Rappahannock, Madison,

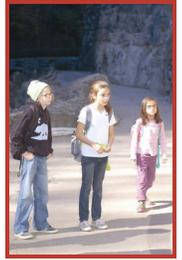
and Orange counties.



Natural Bridge and Monacan Indian Living History Exhibit



Our field trip to the Natural Bridge Park and Monacan Indian Living History Exhibit tied into the 3rd and 4th Grade studies of local Native American culture. The children saw an actual longhouse and wigwam (similar to the



one that they created at Hearthstone). Included on this field trip was a visit to the Virginia Safari Park and Zoo. On our guided wagon

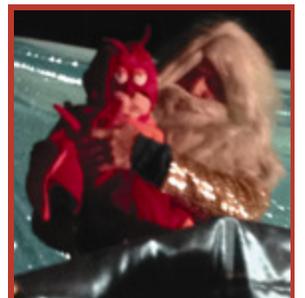


tour, we saw over 1,000 animals. The children enjoyed petting and feeding them up close and face to face.

Halloween at Hearthstone



Above, preparing pumpkins for our annual Fairy Tale Walk. Right, Kevin and Vexil Weisgerber starring in "The Little Mermaid".

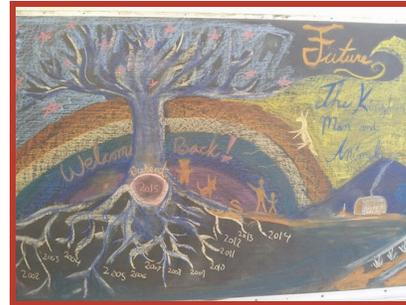
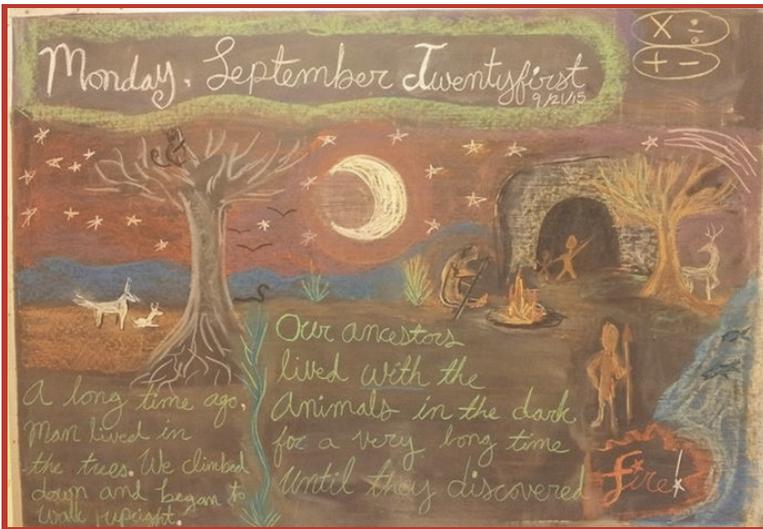


Ms. Kiaya's Chalkboards



“Material should not be defined in concepts but portrayed in vivid descriptions.”

Rawson and Masters (2000, pg. 12)



Making a Wigwam

In October, our 3rd and 4th Graders built a wigwam on our playground. After reading about wigwams, they picked their location on the school campus, then, incorporating their math studies of fractions, circumference and radius, designed the wigwam. The class hiked and collected birch saplings, trimmed them and



cut them to length. The saplings were soaked in the school's stream to make them pliable. The wigwam was then assembled. The 3rd/4th grade curriculum includes the study of shelter and house building, to teach the contrast between our homes now and those of other places and times. 1st Grade students carved “talking sticks” for future wigwam gatherings.

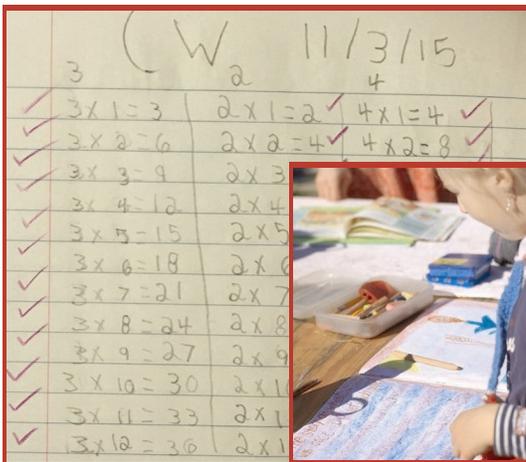


Reading to the Dogs

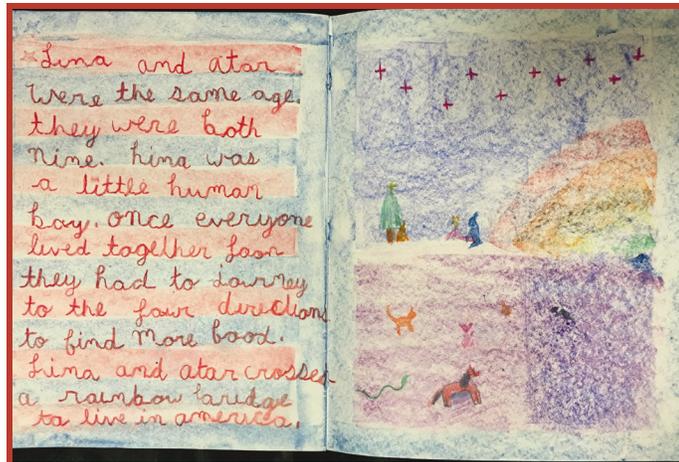


Reading to the dogs (every 3rd Monday of the month)

Main Lesson Books



Examples of students' main lesson books



Right—The pre-1st/1st Grade started their journey through the alphabet!

“a big ballooning, billowing, bouncing B!”

The Wise Enchanter



Outside in any weather

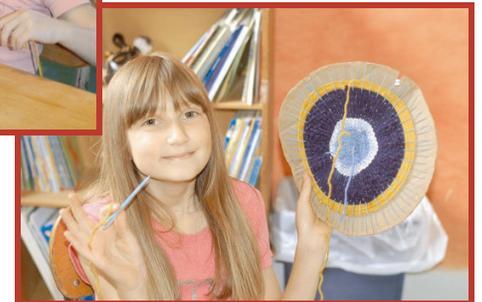
Class outside on a warm day.



“Es gibt kein schlechtes Wetter, nur falsche Kleidung.”
 “There is no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothes.”



Weaving for all ages!



Swim lessons at Powell Wellness Center

Students participated in a six-week swim program at the Powell Wellness Center in Culpeper, VA. Lessons were for all grades and swim levels.



Lions Club



Every fall the Rappahannock Lions Club conducts free vision and hearing tests for our students and teachers. Their recommendations have helped alert parents to potential problems. Thank you to the volunteers for their ongoing service to Hearthstone.



Sperryville Fire Dept.

A special thank you to firemen Cody Dodson and Richie Burke from the Sperryville Volunteer Fire Department, for giving a demonstration to our students. While they were here, they helped us repair our flagpole.



Yoga

Ms. Kiaya's class starts their mornings with a yoga warm-up and meditation. Ms. Kiaya does this to help the children become centered. The morning warm-up provides students



with a sense of physical balance and mental harmony. This prepares the children to be more present, both mentally and physically, for the school day.



Visit to Senator Tim Kaine's Office

Hearthstone's high school students have been very busy this year. As part of a lesson on the legitimacy and potential power of petitions, students, accompanied by their instructor Torry Keane, attended a private meeting with Gwen Mason (left), Regional Director for U.S. Senator Tim Kaine in Roanoke, Virginia. The meeting provided the opportunity to discuss each student's issue of concern, and to deliver students' letters on those subjects to the senator. Senator Kaine personally replied to each student.



Mindrolling Lotus Garden, Buddhist Temple, Stanley, VA

As a part of cultural studies, Hearthstone's high school students investigated how culture creates and transforms individual experiences, everyday life, and social relations. Throughout the year, students explored world cultures by connecting written, visual, and their own journalistic accounts of heroic figures. Students were introduced to religious studies (Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, Christianity) to help develop their understanding of the processes through which societies come to terms with history, community life, and the challenges of the future.



Michaelmas

Michaelmas is celebrated in Waldorf schools as the "festival of strong will". Lessons of inner strength and courage are emphasized in this festival. For our celebration, 1st Graders baked Dragon Bread. Students recited verses, played the flute and took part in our play, "Shepherd Girl and Shepherd Boy".

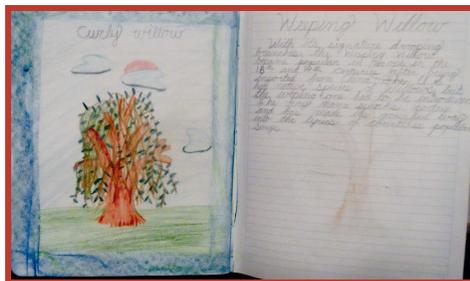
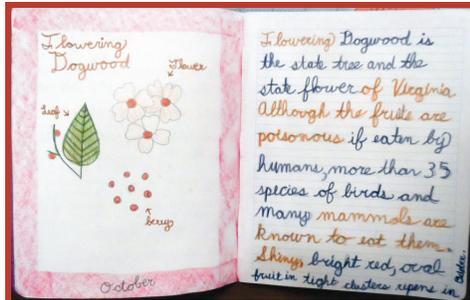
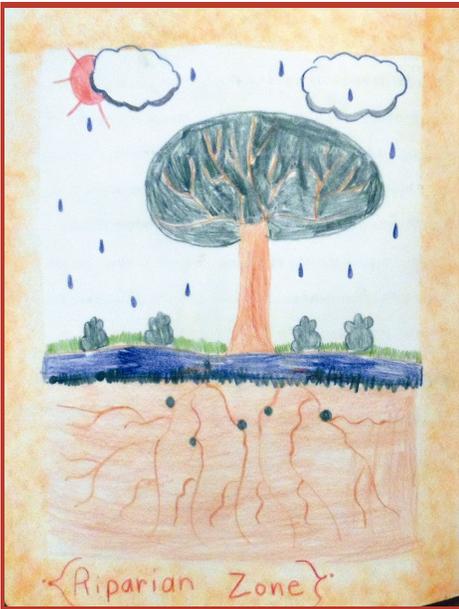


Mountains to the Bay

This program is sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Torry Keane, junior high teacher, and Justine Rosenbaum, 5th grade teacher, are participating in the professional development program, “Mountains to the Bay, Rappahannock/York Watershed Academy.” This 12-day program includes workshops at Graves Mountain Lodge and on the Rappahannock River in Fredericksburg. An interdisciplinary curriculum was provided free to the school. As part of this program, each teacher is designing a service-based initiative for their community.



These classes are designed to help teachers teach students about the environment—mainly soil and water. The classes cover tree identification and the importance of trees and bushes to filter out pollution and reduce runoff from farmer’s fields into the rivers by the utilization of riparian buffer zones.



Ms. Keane’s and Ms. Rosenbaum’s students are now testing soils and waters in our area as well as at Cornucopia Farm in Culpeper. They wrote plays designed to educate younger children about pollution and environmental degradation, which they performed in our annual Fairy Tale Walk.

New Playground Equipment Dedication



September also saw the ribbon-cutting ceremony for our new playground equipment. These new additions were made possible by a \$2,500 grant received from The Gordon Thornhill Excellence in Youth Foundation, and included a double see-saw, a rainbow climber, a balance beam and jungle gym. Our students also contributed \$320 from the sale of their own handmade items sold at the Rappahannock County 4th of July Celebration.





Bland Music Contest

Two students from Hearthstone School participated in the Bland Contest on February 8, 2015. Scott Scoville, on violin, accompanied by music teacher Manabu Nagase, played

Pachelbel's Canon and won third place in the instrumental category. Clover Weisgerber in vocals, sang *The Star-Spangled Banner*, and received an honorable mention.

Kas Project (Knit a Square)

Hearthstone students were busy knitting 8"x8" squares to donate to The KAS Project. Many thousands of knitted squares donated by people from around the world are joined together to make blankets, which are then given to vulnerable orphaned children and AIDS babies in South Africa. These blankets provide more than warmth. As the founder of the KAS Project states, "They are a currency we use to tell the children exactly how beloved they are. We tell them they are the future, unique and special." Generous friends and family members of Hearthstone School also contributed squares.



Fundraisers

Auction

Bess Lucking was the happy winner of our 2015 Auction's "mystery item" — a horseshoe planter.



Oktoberfest 2015!



A great time was had by all at our 3rd annual Oktoberfest.

Bake Sale

At our fall bake sale, Hearthstone students made \$137 selling delicious, home-made goodies in front of the school.



Our **Shop with Scrip** fundraiser is in full swing through November 30th! We are selling gift cards from over 700 retailers, and Hearthstone earns a small percentage for each card sold. Grocery stores, department stores, gas stations, restaurants—practically any major retailer or chain is on the list. Go to our website at www.hearthstoneschool.org/fundraisers.htm for full details to participate.

Ongoing Fundraisers

Amazon.com You can support Hearthstone automatically every time you shop, at no cost to you, through the AmazonSmile program. To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to www.smile.amazon.com.

Boxtops for Education Please bring your Boxtops for Education in to the school office. We collect them all year long and submit them twice yearly, in February and October.

Cartridges for Kids Please bring your old cell phones, iPods, ink jet and laser cartridges, DVDs, laptops, video games and consoles, and digital cameras to the school office. The items will be recycled and we get cash!

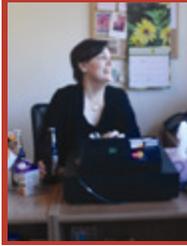
Harris Teeter Your purchases can earn cash for Hearthstone. The next time you shop, give the cashier our code, 7367, and your card will be linked for the entire school year. Or bring your VIC card # to the school office and we will link it for you.

Martin's or Giant Please fill out a form in the school office to enroll in the Martin's A+ School Rewards Program, or enroll online at <http://martinsfoods.com/savings-and-rewards/rewards-program/aplus/> or <https://giantfood.com/savings-and-rewards/rewards-program/aplus/> and go to Designate Your School.

Thank-Yous



Fence built by Joe Keyser



It takes a community to keep Hearthstone running, and we would like to thank our parents, community volunteers, staff and their families, donors, local business and all those who make our school possible.

Alumni News

Ms. Kiaya

Hearthstone Alumna, Rappahannock County native, singer/ songwriter and UVA graduate. Kiaya Abernathy, is in her second year teaching in our Lower School. Kiaya has a BA in Anthropology and Linguistics and, through teaching, wants to use her “love of music and language to assure the children that the song they have to sing is both unique and a gift to the world.”



“The Jacksons”

Hearthstone alumni, and good friends since kindergarten, Jackson Strickler and Jackson Heverly celebrated their senior night, as football and band members, together at RCHS on Nov. 6, 2015.



Upcoming Events

- ◆ 4-H workshops — Hearthstone is continuing to host 4-H workshops this year with a Knitting Club offered once a month.
- ◆ Summer Day Camps — July 25-29 & August 1-5, 2016
- ◆ Auction — April 16, 2016
- ◆ Open House — April 23, 2016

In Memoriam

Jill Fetterman

There are those who walk among us with such a gentle disposition that they always leave you with a quiet inside smile. Jill Fetterman was such a person. The Hearthstone School family remembers Jill —mother, clay teacher, volunteer, artist, musician and Core Council member— with love and appreciation for all that she gave us. Jill lost her hard-fought battle against cancer in August. She is sorely missed by us all. There is an empty seat at our table now.

Jill Ann Fetterman, 59, of Sperryville passed away peacefully at her residence on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 after a long illness.

She was born March 18, 1956 in Philadelphia, PA to Roy Fetterman of Ft. Washington, PA and the late Jane Sykes Fetterman.

Jill approached life in an artistic way and with integrity. She was a mother, listener, giver, friend, artist, nature lover, baker, musician, and gardener, among so many other attributes.

In addition to her father, she is survived by her son, Noah Robin Waller, who now resides with his father; and one brother, Jack Fetterman of NY.

She was preceded in death by her mother and one sister, Jane Fetterman.



“I’m cool with what- ever happens. And if

I’m not, I vow to do my best to be



cool with it!” — Jill Fetterman

We Love You, Jill

Rainbow Market
a non profit store —
benefitting *Hearthstone School Programs*

ORGANIC

Mon. - Sun. 10-4
11576 Lee Hwy., Sperryville, VA
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