Greetings from Keri Gelenian
Head of Schools / RA Principal

When students support the welfare of others, every member of the school community ultimately benefits. Over the past several months there have been a number of students who have stepped up to help others. We would like to acknowledge some of these students:

- Keisha Garrow, Alex Rand, Andrew Schwarz, Ashley Schwarz, Dylan Hurd, Lindsey Hurd, Candie Thresher, Jessie DeFlorio, Nikkita Roberts, Brooke Goodrich, and Rachel Fauci collected food to support local families through Barbara’s Red Stocking.

- With very little notice, Christian Knowlton enlisted the help of George Dyke, David Gritsavage, and Dylan Pelletier to drive their trucks down to Dartmouth to pick up donated greenhouse supplies from Dartmouth.

- Autumn Brooks, Amber Brooks, and Jessica Ward gave comfort and support to a friend in need.

- Cody Day hauled Mr. Newsted’s 7-foot trebuchet to school.

- Mr. Reichert’s Survey of Classic Literature class raised money for a donation to the Haven and is planning a volunteer activity.

- Cody Day, Nicholas Marsh, Sherri Austin, Cole Stever, and Nicole Bates went public with their art in Ms. Silverstein’s class, producing four pieces of public art in the school.

- Hope Amanatidis stood up for a friend.

- Felipe Kill helped inventory chemicals in the science lab.

- Responding immediately to unexpected information, Sherri Austin purchased and delivered a dozen roses to someone special.

- Student government served scores of hunters at this year’s Hunters’ Breakfast.

- Ten ninth grade students have volunteered to meet approximately every six or seven days to develop ideas to support the success of the ninth grade class.

- Richard Otis, Josh Marshall, Brandon Gardner, Nathaniel Eastman, Scott Calhoun, and Andrea Haehnel are investigating the possibility of writing a proposal to acquire solar panels for the school.

- Ms. Alden and the chorus sang for patients and staff at Dartmouth Hitchcock.

- Lindsey and Dylan Hurd, Ashley and Andrew Schwarz, Alexis Landgraf, Jessie DeFlorio, and Brooke Goodrich went to Glencliff Home to wrap presents and provide other services.

- Despite cold and rain, Andrew Paton never fails to hold the door for all students as they enter the West Wing.

- Kaileigh White consistently helps Mr. St. James put up chairs after class and still manages to get to her fifth block class on time.

- Will Gardner, with help from Aquene Sausville, raised $80.00 that was matched by a donation by the Women’s Trust for microloans to women in African countries.

- Wiatt Suich consistently helps with lunch clean up.

- Cameron Day has been done a great job reading the daily announcements.

- Abby Hinsley and Shania Garrow helped deliver notes and assignments to absent classmates.

Have a great Holiday—
CAN YOU HELP?

We have several Academy athletes going to the Winter Special Olympics this year. Some of the students are in need of a sponsorship to help fund their equipment and their training at the Skiway. We are looking for people who are willing to donate to this cause.

We also have one snowboarder at the Academy who is in need of a snowboard and boots. He is 5'6" and wears size 11 boots. He is looking to rent or borrow equipment (for the duration of the Thursday Ski Program) because buying new (even used stuff) is costly.

If you can help, please contact Brynne MacMurtry at 603-353-4321 or bmacmurtry@rivendellschool.org. Thank you for your generosity.

What’s New in the Health Office?

There have been no trends of illness or disease, although we have had a few stomach bugs and a few cases of Strep throat in the past few weeks. Please DO let the school office know of any reason for absence due to health: head cold, stomach bug, either or both of those accompanied by aches and pains; sore throats, headaches, etc., or any information that might alert us to a trend for contagious illness. And please, DO give me a call or send an e-mail about any illness or injury that your students may have so that we can provide the best environment possible at school while they mend.

A reminder that handwashing (20 seconds of good, sudsy handwashing followed by a thorough rinse; and coughing and/or sneezing into one’s own inner elbow) is the best protection against catching or spreading illnesses.

Molar Express, and the FLU CLINICS were very successful, and are now completed. You can still get vaccinated at most health clinics in VT and NH – PLEASE call me if you would like more info.

Immunizations for students entering 7th grade were to be completed by December 2, 2011. Letters will be sent to parents or guardians of any student who has not yet been immunized.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy break until after the New Year.

Please contact the health office anytime with questions at cmoffatt@rivendellschool.org or 603-353-4321 X 7 if you have any questions or concerns.

Rivendell Academy Chorus, led by Ms. Anna Alden, getting ready to perform for patients, visitors, and staff in the DHMC Rotunda, on Tuesday, December 20th. It’s become an annual tradition that both DHMC and Rivendell look forward to!

Students in Jen Silverstein's Ceramics Art Class
Spread a little holiday cheer!
The World Language Department participated in Hanover High School's annual poetry competition on Tuesday, December 6th. Students recited two poems, one that was required and one that they chose themselves. Rivendell Academy came away with 4 awards. The following students all received first place awards: Molly Pierson in the Spanish advanced level, Alex Rand in the Spanish intermediate level and Alexis Landgraf in the French beginner level. In addition, Christina Moreland placed 3rd in the French advanced level.

All of the students did very well and we would like to congratulate them on their effort and performance. ¡Bien hecho, chicos! Très bien! The following students participated in the event (left to right): Alex Rand, Alexis Landgraf, Jake Welch, Timmy Stimson, Molly Pierson, and Christina Moreland.
Before we actually transitioned to the cold winter weather, seventh & eighth grade students participated in field trips to do “stream study work” as part of their math & science classes with Mr. White & Mr. Steckler.

News from Celise Johnson, Food Service Director

January 2012 Lunch

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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>NO SCHOOL HAPPY HOLIDAYS</td>
<td>3 Cheeseburger French Fries Grapes Milk</td>
<td>4 Grilled Cheese Homemade Vegetable Soup Orange Wedges Milk</td>
<td>5 Meatloaf Meatloaf French Fried Bread Sticks Sliced Peaches Milk</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Homemade Chicken and Biscuit Sliced Carrots Apple Sauce Milk</td>
<td>10 Hot Dog French Fries Grapes Milk</td>
<td>11 Homemde Macaroni and Cheese Green Beans Orange Wedges Milk</td>
<td>12 Chicken Fajitas Rice Lettuce and Tomato Sliced Peaches Milk</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>NO SCHOOL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY</td>
<td>17 NO SCHOOL TEACHER INSERVICE</td>
<td>18 Beef Stew Biscuit Orange Wedges Milk</td>
<td>19 Chicken Caesar Salad Bread Sticks Sliced Peaches Milk</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Chicken Nuggets Broccoli, Cheese and Rice Bake Apple Sauce Milk</td>
<td>24 Cheeseburger French Fries Grapes Milk</td>
<td>25 Grilled Cheese Homemade Vegetable Soup Orange Wedges Milk</td>
<td>26 Meatloaf Meatloaf French Fried Bread Sticks Sliced Peaches Milk</td>
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<td>31 Hot Dog French Fries Grapes Milk</td>
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Give yourself a raise with the Vermont Earned Income Tax Credit and 3SquaresVT

If your household income is under $50,000, you may be able to get up to $5,800 as a credit or refund on your taxes. It’s called EITC.

EITC income guidelines are based on tax filing status (married or single) and number of dependent children in the household.

- Find out if you qualify for EITC: contact the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 or www.irs.gov. Or
- Dial 2-1-1, free from anywhere in Vermont, for information about free tax help services. You can make an appointment and a certified tax preparer will help you claim EITC if you qualify.
- If you qualify you may also be able to get 3SquaresVT to help pay for food.
- Call 1-800-479-6151 or visit vermontfoodhelp.com for more information and an application.

3SquaresVT is an federal nutrition program that helps Vermonters buy more food to grow, learn, work, and thrive.

Households that get benefits can also get free school meals for their children.

1 in 6 Vermonters participate! Why not apply?

Non-Discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. “In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

Tax Season Around the Corner – Promote VT EITC’s Link to 3SquaresVT and School Meals

As we head toward tax season again, remember to spread the word about the important link between the Vermont Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), 3SquaresVT and free school meals. If households earned $50,000 or less in 2011 and have dependent children, they may be eligible for the tax credit, worth up to $5,800, designed to boost the incomes of working families. Eligibility and credit amount is based on tax filing status,
income and number of dependent children. Receiving the Vermont Earned Income Tax Credit makes households income eligible for 3SquaresVT, and once approved, then connects them to free school meals, saving them even more money. Many families in Vermont don’t know about the Earned Income Tax Credit or its link to 3Squares and school meals, so please spread the word. Starting in January, families can call 2-1-1 to find free tax assistance in the community and help applying for 3SquaresVT. Or go to www.vermontfoodhelp.com for more information.

**Student News & Events**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**Outstanding Student of the Quarter at HACTC**

**Tanner Hibbard - Industrial Mechanics & Welding**

We are wrapping up Session 2 of VISIONS. Students have been working on many community service projects, including, collecting dry cereal for Barbara’s Red Stocking (please see below). Flyers for Session 3 have gone out. We are excited to have Dartmouth students joining us in Session 3 on Wednesdays for a mentoring program. This will be the only workshop offered on Wednesdays because we think it’s important for all VISIONS students to participate in this workshop. We can’t wait to see familiar faces and would love to see new ones in 2012! — Laura Wheeler

It’s been a tradition for the students in the Visions Afterschool Program to give back. This year the students at Samuel Morey and Rivendell Academy placed plastic bags on more than seventy-five homes and returned the next week to collect them. In all, our students gathered more than 200 boxes of cereal and oatmeal to support local families through Barbara’s Red Stocking.

Academy students involved:

Keisha Garrow  Alex Rand  Andrew Schwarz  Ashley Schwarz
Dylan Hurd  Lindsey Hurd  Candy Thresher  Jessie DeFlorio
Nikkita Roberts  Brooke Goodrich  Rachel Fauci

Thank you to all of the community members who made donations to the program. — Tammy MacQueen

**Ski Thursdays – No Winter Program at Academy**

- Thursdays from January 5th - February 16th (February 16 is a make-up day) are designated for the Ski Thursday/Winter Program. Students are released at 12:30 p.m. instead of the usual 1:45 p.m. Thursday release.

- **New this year:** there is no Winter Program offered at the Academy, so all students must go home at 12:30 p.m. Two Express Busses will depart at that time – one will travel east on Route 25A and one will travel west on Routes 5, 244 & 113.

Thank you to those students who have signed up to assist with the programs for the elementary school students – community service hours will be awarded. The Express Bus traveling west will drop you off at either Samuel Morey or Westshire.

**December Ski/Snowboard Camp at Whaleback**

Whaleback’s mission is to provide a safe fun learning experience. Our December Vacation Camp is designed for kids 5 and up and has Full Day and Half Day options for 3 or 5 days, December 26 – 30, 2011. It is not too late to sign up! Call for more information 603-448-1489 or sign up online at www.whaleback.com.

Attention skiers & snowboarders: $99 season passes are available at whaleback.com for High School Honor/Achievement students! To qualify you must be able to present your report card or letter from the school stating that you are on the honor roll. Start preparing for winter with your Honor/Achievement Pass!
We have several Academy athletes going to the Winter Special Olympics this year. Some of the students are in need of a sponsorship to help fund their equipment and their training at the Skiway. We are looking for people who are willing to donate to this cause.

We have one snowboarder at the Academy who is in need of a snowboard and boots. He is 5’6” and wears size 11 boots. He is looking to rent or borrow equipment because buying new (even used stuff) is costly.

If 17 people gave $10 he could rent equipment for the season! OR if you have a snowboard and boots that you would be willing to let him borrow (or better, would like to donate) we would GREATLY appreciate it. Please contact Brynne MacMurtry at bmacmurty@rivendellschool.org or 603-353-4321 x151 for more information. Checks can be made out to Special Olympics and can be sent to Rivendell Academy 2972 Route 25A; Orford, NH 03777 (write in the memo: Sponsor a student). Thank you for your consideration!

In partnership with UVBEP (Upper Valley Business and Education Partnership), our TIPS Career Internship students took part in a field trip to tour three Upper Valley businesses on Friday, December 9, 2011. The purpose of this field trip was to help students identify business methods, work skills needed for certain jobs, business terminology and workplace expectations, as well as expose students to organizations they may not be familiar with. While participating in tours, students observed and thought about work environment, space, dress code and culture, different jobs and skills represented within the organization, communications within the business (among co-workers, employer/employee relations). The businesses visited were:

- **Hypertherm** designs and manufactures the world’s most advanced plasma cutting systems for use in a variety of industries such as shipbuilding, manufacturing, and automotive repair. Its product line includes handheld and mechanized plasma systems and consumables, as well as CNC motion and height controls. Students received an introduction to the company, toured the manufacturing facility and talked about the variety of careers available at Hypertherm. [www.hypertherm.com](http://www.hypertherm.com)

- **Mascoma Corporation** is a renewable fuels company that has developed innovative technology for the low cost conversion of renewable fuels and chemicals. Students talked with lab employees about ethanol and how they make it at Mascoma Corporation, toured the lab, learned what employees do and job skills they need, and how the lab equipment works. [www.mascoma.com](http://www.mascoma.com)

- **Fujifilm Dimatix** is the world’s premier provider of piezoelectric inkjet printheads. Students toured the production/testing floor, and observed the company’s "clean rooms", the different components that go into their products, and a variety of customer applications. [www.dimatix.com](http://www.dimatix.com)

For their Genocide and History final exam, juniors and seniors in Kirsten Surprenant’s course created Monuments to Injustice. Students had to create a 3D object that commemorated or memorialized an injustice of their choice. Questions that students had to consider were: How do you encourage viewers to stare into the ugly face of hate and prejudice? Can you show the dark side of history in a way that neither sugarcoats it nor makes people turn away unmoved and unengaged? Is it possible to make people think about the unthinkable?

Lacey Stever and Addie Lyndes both used the symbolism of trees to illustrate the separation of families and the tragedy of gang violence. Christiana Moreland recreated a toy box filled with the loss of childhood innocence during the Holocaust. Ian Brown displayed a model to illustrate the bystander effect. Using the power of eyeglasses, Molly Pierson captured the perspective of the Jewish experience during the Nazi period. Ian Marshall captured the euphemisms of the Holocaust and Rwandan Genocide in a Dictionary of Injustice. After witnessing an act of injustice in Kentucky, Mariah Gray built her monument to reflect on that experience. Coty Day integrated this project with his art class to design and paint a mural on the upstairs lockers in the East Wing. Juan Hernandez continued his concern about bullying by reflecting the tragic suicides resulting from bullying and harassment. To reflect the intentional separation of families during the Holocaust, Casey Goodrich built a model of separated families. Emily Spaulding constructed a dollhouse that showed a “perfect” house on one side and opened into a home filled with abuse and neglect. Using dolls, Stefanie DeSimone contrasted the experience of two children during the Holocaust. Meg McCormack, inspired by the train station scene from *Schindler’s List*, recreated a
suitcase filled with symbols of a Jewish person’s life. Marie Sobeck built a model of a concentration camp to show the horrifying conditions victims had to experience. Stacie Wright duct-taped herself to create a life sized model of a person. This model represents the children who are subjected to begging on the streets in India. Morgan Movelle created an abstract piece titled, “Thy Eyes, Thy Heart, Thy Holocaust” to represent the strength of the human heart and the capabilities of the human mind.

Dear Senior Families:

We are getting ready to send our first yearbook pages into Jostens’s, the company that will be printing the yearbook. We have asked students several times to get things to us. Unfortunately, a number of seniors have not provided us with the things that we need. The following is a list of what we need:

- Senior Portrait (If one is not provided we will be using the one taken by the school this year)
- Baby picture
- Writing/comments to go beside senior portrait (this can be quotes/comments or a list of activities that the student has been involved with during their academy years)
- Senior ½ page pictures and information (about 8 or 9 pictures with writing – more pictures, less writing)

The deadline for this information is January 4th.

Since we have to submit these pages to the company, any student who misses the deadline will not have their ½ page in the yearbook. As indicated above, if we do not receive a senior portrait we will use the school picture that was taken this fall. If there is no baby picture we will just use the portrait and try to at least get the student to add a quote, comment or a list of activities.

Students can send pictures and comments via email to: sobetz@peoplepc.com or tag their photos to any of the following students: Morgan Movelle, Tori Hebb, Katie Ruff, and Kelsi Nantovich.

If a student has photos that are not digital, they will need to bring them in to the school and we will scan them and return them.

Remember, students only have until January 4th to get this done. If they need to, they can send things electronically as indicated above during the holiday break. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above email address.

I hope you have a wonderful holiday season!

Carol Sobetzer
Yearbook Advisor

ORDER YOUR 2012 TALON YEARBOOK
Pick up your order form during lunch at the school store. The base price of the yearbook is $45.00. You can turn your orders in to the front office of order online at www.jostensyearbook.com.
Dear library patrons and friends,

We may not have a white Christmas on Sunday, but I do wish you all warm and safe holidays with your families and loved ones. Things are cozy and snug here at the library. Come in and read the paper by our decorated tree (graciously donated by the Hodges, by the way)!

Here's the scoop on what's happening. I know everyone is very busy this time of year, so I'll just hit the highlights. Feel free to email me if you'd like more information on anything.

HOLIDAY HOURS: We will be closed on Saturday, December 24th. All other hours through New Year's will be normal.

FPL’S WISH LIST: As we do each year, we have made a wish list of new materials available at the circulation desk. We appreciate your thinking of us and helping us grow the collection as we close out the year. New this time around: You can access the wish list on Amazon and order from the comfort of your home, fuzzy slippers and all. Just click here: FPL’s 2011 Wish List. Thank you very much! (The Wish List will remain available through mid-January.)

WELCOME A NEW TRUSTEE: Shirley Doyle Godfrey has joined the library trustees as our new treasurer. She replaces Deborah Chambers, who moved with her husband John to Grantham, New Hampshire, this fall. We wish Deborah and John all the best and thank Deborah for her years of contributions both as treasurer and all-around faithful volunteer (and John for his support, too). Welcome, Shirley, to the wonderful world of library trusteeship!

BEGINNING WITH MOTHER GOOSE EARLY LITERACY CLASSES: Beginning in January, I will be hosting four Thursday evenings for parents and full-time caregivers of infants and toddlers 24 months, with their wee ones. Each session will focus on one or two of the six early literacy skills with music, stories, flannel-board activities, and information to parents. Families will receive picture books and a manual at the end of each session. This program is co-sponsored by the Department of Libraries and the Vermont Center for the Book, with funding from the Winnie Belle Learned Fund of the Vermont Public Library Foundation and the Henderson Foundation. Save these dates: January 12, 19, 26, and February 2. There will be further information later this week, but if you have questions feel free to contact me.

HEALTHY PEOPLE, HEALTHY PLANET DISCUSSION SERIES: Your library and Catamount Earth Institute invite you to join friends and neighbors for a discussion group about the connections between human health and environmental health. This six-session program will be on Wednesdays from February 29th to April 11th from 7:00-8:30 p.m. (We’ll skip Wednesday, March 21st.) A World of Health anthologies/discussion guides are available at the library. Fairlee Public Library is one of nearly 20 venues for these discussion groups. To register or for more information, contact the library or visit www.catamountearthinstitute.org.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS: On January 18th, we’ll discuss Tracy Chevalier’s Falling Angels and on February 15th, it’s Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen. Book discussions are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Join us!

ANNOUNCING UNIVERSAL CLASS: The Vermont Department of Libraries (DOL) has launched Universal Class, a collection of over 500 online classes available free to all Vermonters via their library card. DOL has a two-year contract with Recorded Books for this product and we want learners of all kinds to discover the wide variety of classes. Funding for this program comes from federal Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Learners are able to enroll for up to five classes at a time and have six months to complete each class. Class offerings cover a wide range of subjects: standard curricula (math, science, etc.), crafts and hobbies, computers and software applications, job training, etc. Find a complete list of classes when you register online. All you need is your barcode number from the back of your library card. Call the library if you need assistance, but by all means, try this out!

LEARNING YOUR WAY AROUND THE NEW SYSTEMS: Join me on two Saturdays, January 14th and 21st, at 10:00 a.m. for a tour through our new resources. In the first session, we’ll wander around the new website, our Facebook and Twitter pages, and the Koha online catalog where you can access your account. In the second session, we’ll branch out and talk about downloading audios and e-books, exploring online databases and Universal Class, and more if time permits. Bring your laptops, personal devices, smart phones, or even good old pen and paper. No need to pre-register, but if you have specific questions you’d like me to address, please email the library ahead of time. Maybe we’ll even play a round of Stump the Chump!

As always, remember to click on the link at the bottom of this email to see our latest acquisitions. Who will grab the new Scarpetta first?!

See you at the library,

Judy

Click here to see our newest books and audios! (Updated 12/21/11)
## UPCOMING EVENTS
*(Dates and times are tentative and subject to change.)*

### January 2012

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No School – New Year’s Holiday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Yearbook Pages Due</td>
<td>12:30 Dismissal for RA Students</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10 Public Budget Forum @ RA 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>11 Public Budget Forum @ WES 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>12 12:30 Dismissal for RA Students</td>
<td>13 Mid-Trimester</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>16 No School – Martin Luther King Holiday</td>
<td>17 No School – Teacher Inservice</td>
<td>18 FAFSA Workshop @ RA 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>19 12:30 Dismissal for RA Students</td>
<td>20 Mid-term Grades Mailed Home</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>25 Balfour Rep @ RA (Caps, Gowns, Class Rings)</td>
<td>26 12:30 Dismissal for RA Students</td>
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### February 2012

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<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7 School Board @ WES 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>9 12:30 Dismissal for RA Students</td>
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<td>15 Family Meeting @ SME 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>16 12:30 Dismissal for RA Students</td>
<td>17 Winter Carnival</td>
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<th>3 Ice Jamz</th>
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<td>6 No School – Teacher Inservice School Board @ RA 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>7 Final Exams</td>
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<td>11 Tri #3 Begins</td>
<td>13 Family Meeting @ WES 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>18 No School - Conferences</td>
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<td>29 Art Field Trip to NYC</td>
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<td>31 Art Field Trip to NYC</td>
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**April 2012**

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<td>G8 Job Shadow Day School Board @ WES 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Senior Trip (Tentative Date &amp; Pending Board Approval)</td>
<td>Senior Trip (Tentative Date &amp; Pending Board Approval)</td>
<td>Spain Trip (Pending Board Approval)</td>
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<td>Spain Trip (Pending Board Approval)</td>
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<td>Spain Trip (Pending Board Approval)</td>
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**May 2012**

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<tr>
<td>Family Meeting @ WES 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Spring Theatre Performance @ RA 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Spring Theatre Performance @ RA 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>No School – Memorial Day</td>
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**June 2012**

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<td>Last Student Day</td>
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