● We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Crystal Champagne to our staff. Mrs. Champagne is replacing Mr. Dylan Pelletier who served last year as a classroom paraeducator. Crystal will be spending much of her time in the fourth grade, our largest class, but will serve in other classes as well, and help us with our lunch time supervision. She has expressed an interest in completing her education degree and becoming a certified elementary teacher.

● Under Mr. Christie-Maple’s guidance, our Student Council organized a fund raising drive to help those students whose homes and schools have been damaged or lost due to recent violent hurricanes and fires. In three weeks the students received donations in the amount of $480.15. We cut a check and sent it to The American Red Cross Relief Fund. Kudos to our kiddos!

● We recently met with our superintendent and a parent volunteer who is helping to set up the ski program. Mr. Knowles from the Hulbert Center also joined us and proposed a corresponding program. This year, we are going to limit choices for the winter program. That said, we will put the skating rink back onto the playground and introduce skating into the PE program, pending appropriate skating equipment, and frigid cold temperatures.

● On Oct. 13, under the guidance of Chief Larson, the Fairlee Fire Dept. visited us bringing two of the engines used in response to emergency calls. Immediately following our fire drill, students in grades k – 3 listened to the volunteers talk about fire safety. They also got a special tour of the engines and were treated to the sound of the sirens. We appreciate very much the time and expertise shared by our Fairlee Fire Dept. during Fire Prevention week.

● Thanks to the generosity of our food service, and the state of VT for turkeys, we are hosting another intergenerational Harvest Luncheon. We have over ninety of the students’ grandparents signed up to join us on Thursday, Nov. 2.

● Our first round of Student/Parent/Teacher conferences is being held on Friday, November 3.

● Mark Nielson, a member of a local watercolor society, made the first of two visits, on Tuesday, Oct. 31, and, with Ms. Bando, introduced the art of watercoloring to our third graders. On behalf of the VT Watercolor Society, he will donate a beautiful watercolor set to each student which we will use for a school watercolor project. The art kits will reside in our third grade until the end of the year at which time the students may take them home. Mark will make one more visit. Catherine Tudish also came with Mr. Nielson. She will write a short article about the program for "Kids Vermont".