



## Teaching kindness at Wapping



Allen McLeod and Elise Suffish - grade 2, Suzanne Robinson's class at Wapping.

Wapping Elementary began the year with a school-wide social goal of kindness. Each month, students work on learning about and developing a different new life skill. This initiative supports Wapping's long-standing focus on the four Tribes agreements: mutual respect, right to pass, attentive listening and appreciations. Students from Mrs. Suzanne Robinson's second-grade class demonstrated kindness and caring by reading stories to each other.

## Cross-country takes top honors



The SWHS girls' cross-country team with coach Clint Bowman.

The SWHS girls' cross-country team, coached by Clint Bowman, won the Harry Geraghty Cross Country Invitational on Saturday, Sept 27. The meet, held at Rockville High School, was open to Connecticut athletes who compete with their high school team. On the heels of this honor, the Hartford Marathon Foundation selected Kaitlin Bakas, a SWHS junior, to receive an award as one of the top high school runners in Connecticut. She was presented with a \$500 college scholarship in a ceremony at the governor's residence in Hartford on Oct. 2.

## Pumpkin harvest at Orchard Hill



Pumpkin harvest at Orchard Hill.

Orchard Hill kindergarten students had a wonderful field trip to Foster Farm. Students enjoyed a hay ride and used teamwork to get through the mini maze. Students saw

farm animals and ate lunch in the cornfield. They were read a story about the life cycle of a pumpkin and each student was given a pumpkin to bring home. It was a fun learning experience for our students.

## Celebrating International Dot Day at Pleasant Valley



(L-R) Grace Smith (Mrs. Hammer's class), Kayla Cyr (Mr. Nowakowski's class), Sam Czaja (Mrs. Hammer's class) and Evan Czaja (Mrs. Carpenter's class).

Monday, Sept. 15, was a special day for students and staff at Pleasant Valley. International Dot Day is inspired by the book "The Dot," by Peter Reynolds. It is a global celebration of creativity, courage and collaboration, and encourages children to explore their individual talents and gifts. After reading and

discussing the story, the third-grade students at Pleasant Valley worked collaboratively in groups of four to design their own "dot." These beautiful and unique pieces of artwork are displayed in the third-grade hallway, and exemplify what Dot Day is all about.

## Partnering for permanent bike education



Elementary physical education teachers Anne Albert, Lauren Beeler, Jon Giordano, Jen Bolduc and Sue Fox.

The Sept./Oct edition of the "League of American Bicyclists" magazine recently spotlighted the town of South Windsor, the Walk & Wheel Ways organization, and elementary physical education teachers for their efforts to integrate bike safety instruction into the curriculum of South Windsor schools. The curriculum was designed to include both classroom learning and road experience. PE teachers and five other town volunteers were certified as League Cycling Instructors, and fourth-grade students are now instructed in bike safety and riding technique. The League recognized South Windsor as a Bronze level "Bicycle Friendly Community."

## TEMS students grow garden

Timothy Edwards Middle School has teamed up once again with the South Windsor Food Alliance to grow vegetables. Members of the SW Food Alliance worked with TE staff to plant radishes, beets, spinach, onions and turnips. These vegetables will be part of salad choices and will be enjoyed by students in the cafeteria. Students in the Transition Academy and the Leo Club will care for the garden.

Submitted by Sara Chamberlain