

The Falcon News



Auger's Accounts:

Curiosity, community, and discovery in K/1

Our apple investigation has continued to grow from the children's own questions. At Tellman Hill Farm, the children explored the orchard, tasted several varieties grown there, saw how cider is made, and each came prepared with a question as part of our BOOK • LOOK • ASK work—learning that answers can come from books, careful observation, and knowledgeable people.

Last week, we processed what we had seen, heard, tasted, and learned, revisited our Wonder Wall, and identified both answered and unanswered questions. The children were especially interested in how apples can taste different and what happens when they are made into different foods, which helped shape this week's investigation.

We continued with an apple taste test, comparing apples through our senses while also practicing respectful communication. We learned the difference between an observation and a preference: an apple may be crisp, juicy, sweet, tart, soft, or firm, while whether we *like* it is personal. Children practiced sharing their own preferences while respecting that someone else may feel differently.

Then came our Apple Kitchen Lab! We made applesauce, followed recipes, measured ingredients, and observed how apples changed as they cooked. Thursday brought apple pie, and today we are making an egg-free apple cake, using some of Wednesday's homemade applesauce as the egg substitute—one apple transformation becoming an ingredient in another! Along the way, children have practiced reading procedural texts, measuring, counting, predicting, sequencing, observing, using precise vocabulary, and cooperating.

Cooking has also created authentic opportunities to practice our School Family skills. We are learning that four cooks cannot pour at once, and that waiting is still participating—watching, listening, helping, and staying engaged while someone else takes a turn. Our apple investigation is not finished yet. Next, we will compare fresh apples, applesauce, pie, and cake, think about what changed and what stayed the same, and use our observations and learning in our writing.

In Foundations, Kindergarten continues strengthening letter-keyword-sound connections, lowercase formation, and phonemic awareness. First Grade is learning that a digraph is two consonant letters that come together to make one sound, working with sh, ch, wh, th—both voiced and unvoiced—and ck. They are also learning that when the /k/ sound follows a short vowel at the end of a word, we use ck, as in *back*, *neck*, and *stick*, and are applying these patterns as they tap, blend, read, spell, and write.

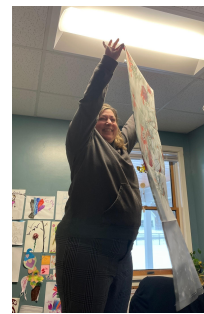
In math, Kindergarten is working with joining stories within 5, numeral recognition and writing, and one-to-one counting. First Grade is exploring doubles and near doubles within 10, using known facts to solve new ones. October Number Corner continues building number sense through combinations of 10, number stories, equations, counting, patterns, and mathematical reasoning.

This week also brought Fire Prevention Day. We prepared with literary and nonfiction fire-safety texts, discussed what we already knew, developed questions, and then had the chance to learn directly from the firefighters themselves.

These past two weeks have been wonderfully full of asking questions, testing ideas, making things, solving problems, and learning from one another. I love seeing the children discover that their own questions can shape what we study—and that learning can happen in so many different ways.

October 16, 2026

SVS Spotlight



In the SVS Dictionary next to Mrs. Wentworth we found the following definitions:

Mrs. Wentworth /mɪs.ɪz wɛnt.wɜːθ/
noun

1. A school superhero who can fix a schedule, score points in basketball, take awesome photos, and fix up scraped knees all before lunch.
 2. A super helper who switches between para, substitute, lunch server and math genius without breaking a sweat.
 3. A true friend and all-around legend who steps in to save the day whenever the school needs her.
- **Synonyms:** champion, problem-solver, mathematician, helper-to-all, legend.
 - **Usage:** "Need help with math, a quick snack, or a cheer-up high five? Go find Mrs. Wentworth!"

While you are sadly leaving us to work at a hospital, we will all miss you very much. You will always be part of our SVS family and the doors will always be open for you, we'll just have to open them this time.

-Your Starkies

The Jewell Journal: News from $\frac{2}{3}$

Students were thrilled to learn that the new baby Holstein calf we adopted this year is named Penny! Born on August 31st at the Kayhart Brothers Dairy Farm in Addison, Vermont, Penny weighed 82 pounds at birth and measured 30 inches tall. We are excited to follow Penny's growth and learn all about dairy farming and caring for cows. We kicked off our unit by exploring different cow breeds and comparing their growth rates. From there, students learned about the daily ways farmers care for their herds, as well as the important role veterinarians play in keeping farm animals healthy. We finished up this week learning about the education and key responsibilities required for a career in veterinary medicine.

Our Growth Mindset focus this week was Perseverance; the trait that gives us the courage to keep trying and *not give up*, even when a challenge feels impossible. Students learned about real-life examples of perseverance, such as J.K. Rowling, and discussed how these individuals overcame major obstacles. They then reflected on inspiring people in their own lives who show this same determination. We wrapped up the week discussing a thought-provoking quote by Newt Gingrich: *"Perseverance is the hard work you do after you get tired of doing the hard work you already did."* The students brought such inspiring stories and insights to our conversation!

In Number Corner this month, students are focusing on patterns, spatial orientation, leaf types, and identifying even and odd numbers. They also continue to strengthen their recall and understanding of number pairs to 10, 20, and 100. It is wonderful to see their math confidence and foundational skills grow each day!



Martin's Media Wave: Updates from 4/5/6

Last edition we shared with you that we had finished our first survival book, *Hatchet*. Students are now in the editing process of their own survival story drafts! The ultimate goal for their short story has been to show their main character change over time because of the events experienced in their challenge to survive. I am incredibly impressed by the survival narratives produced by our class, which clearly indicate their mastery of essential plot structures and conflict types. Students have shown an amazing amount of enthusiasm throughout our survivor study. We are now completing our final titles in this module, *Brian's Winter*, our present read-aloud, and *Alabama Moon*, a present reading-group selection.

Across our upper elementary grades, 4th, 5th, and 6th, math effort is equally high. Our fourth graders are locked in on solidifying their multiplication roots, while fifth and sixth graders are simultaneously leveling up their skills with exponents and place value.

It's a joy to watch these young minds grow and collaborate every day. I am incredibly proud of the hard work they show every day!



Riddle Me This!

What can you hold in your left hand but not in your right?

Answer in next issue!

Answer from last issue: Sixty

Brady's Eye on the Sky: Weather Report

*7 day forecast from Weather Underground

Sat 10/17	Sun 10/18	Mon 10/19	Tues 10/20	Wed 10/21	Thurs 10/22	Fri 10/23
Hi: 41° Low: 23°	Hi: 53° Low: 27°	Hi: 64° Low: 30°	Hi: 66° Low: 30°	Hi: 60° Low: 26°	Hi: 58° Low: 33	Hi: 58° Low: 31°
Chances of AM light snow	Partly Cloudy	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	sunny	sunny	Mostly sunny



A huge thank you to Mr. Colin, Mr. Jim, Mr. Trevor, Mr. Brandon, and Ms. Kylee for teaching the Starkies about the role of firefighters and EMS in emergencies! They answered everyone's questions and taught the school all about fire safety and what's inside an ambulance. Thankfully they were on hand when Mrs. Wentworth attempted a cartwheel that ended tragically! Don't worry Mrs. Wentworth made a full recovery!!



Monday Guidance	Tuesday Art	Wednesday Library Media	Thursday Wellness	Friday Music
19	20	21	22	23 Band AMC
26	27	28	29	30 Costume Parade @1:45 Band
2	3	4	5	6 Band AMC

The Good Deeds Docket

- Matthew asked Ms. Rachel to make Ms. Landry a fresh pot of coffee just because he thought she needed it.... She did :)
- Orrin and Kinsley helped hold up the big book in library for storytime.
- Amelie and Lily B have been teaching their peers gymnastics!
- Izzy got Nat a new water bottle after accidentally knocking it off a table and denting it.
- Adam has been very helpful to Orrin. (Orrin wanted everyone to know)
- K/1 helped Mrs. Auger clean up from their Apple project
- Orrin gives hugs when friends need them. -Adam
- Ella and Izzy give good pushes on the swings. -Kinsley
- Thank you Mrs. Wentworth for volunteering to be a “80” year old first time cartwheel enthusiast who needed to be taken to the “hospital”
- A little late but, thank you Ms. Rachel for making cookies to celebrate our 40,000th water bottle saved from the landfill by using reusable water bottles and our water bottle station.
- Thank you K/1 for making and sharing apple sauce and apple pie for the school to taste and share.



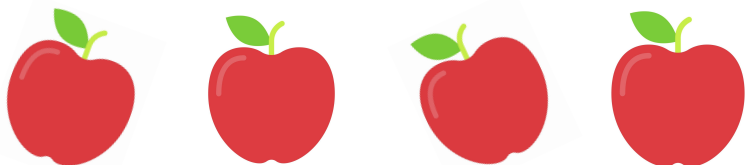
The Principal's Post:

Keeping you current with SVS news

What a whirlwind of a couple weeks! Between a breezy picture day, a busy WMSI day, the long weekend, fire prevention with Stark Volunteer Fire Dept. and Groveton Ambulance Services, and dodging the raindrops we've been movin' and groovin' over here at SVS!

Dismissal Update: Thank you to all our families for embracing the change to end-of-day dismissal—we are pleased with how smoothly it's going! As a reminder, we will continue dismissing students once staff members have made eye contact and received a wave from parents or guardians.

We also want to clear up a quick detail about school lunches. Under SAU policy, students can charge full meals to their account, but milk-only purchases require a positive account balance. Most importantly: **no student will ever go without a meal.** We also have free spare milks stocked in our little fridge (donated by others who receive one with their lunch but prefer not to drink it), which are free for anyone to grab!



STARKIES



Adalie learned how to knit and made her own blanket!

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM