

# Alton Elementary and Viola Rand Schools

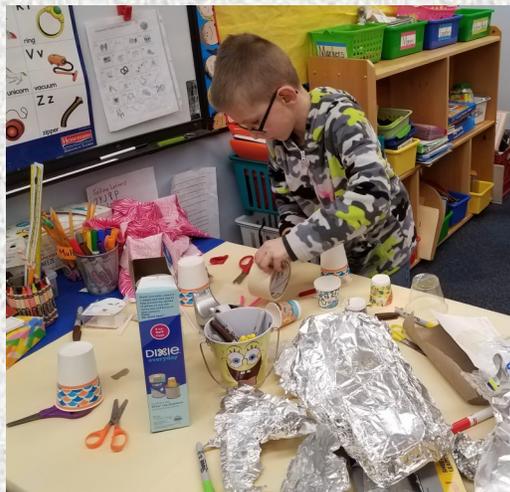
December 10, 2017 Report for the RSU34 School Board

## Non Fiction Day

On Thursday, December 7, all Viola Rand School students, pre-k included, travelled to the Alton Elementary School for a day of science and literacy. Chewonky came and did excellent presentations for each grade level on animal adaptations. Students always love to see the live animals they bring. The presenter was obviously experienced in handling a crowd of children and had them fully engaged in his lesson. They enjoyed donning a costume that showed the adaptation of a particular animal. His explanation of the difference between cold and warm blooded animals was the most clear that I ever remember hearing!

Our other presenter was from Lincoln. He has written a number of magnificent non-fiction children's books. He uses photographs he takes of animals and adds text that create captivating books. Topics include loons, moose, foxes, bears and barnyard babies. The students were excited to learn more about writing non-fiction as he motivated them through his experiences.

Students travelled in grade level groups and enjoyed other experiences throughout the day. They each made a bird feeder to take home and hang outside. They made a creature with an adaptation in the maker space from recycled items and art supplies. In the room with K'Nex and legos, they created a habitat for their



## Events

### **December 4**

AES Winter Concert 6:00

### **December 5**

VRS Winter Concert 6:00

### **December 7**

Non-fiction Day 9-2 @AES  
for both schools

VRS Gingerbread House  
night 6:00

### **December 8**

First Trimester report  
cards went out

### **December 13**

AES Movie Day

### **December 14**

VRS Movie Day

### **December 18**

Cookie frosting and card  
making @ AES after  
school

### **December 20**

AES to Orono Commons  
10:00

### **December 21**

Penobscot Theater -  
"Beauty and the Beast"  
for both schools



## Ginger Bread Houses

On the evening of December 7th, families came to the Viola Rand School to decorate gingerbread houses. The day before, Heidi Gifford, Jenn Goodwin, Bryn Oliver and Christy Perkins spent a couple of hours putting together over 60 graham cracker houses to be ready for the event. Families sat at tables and used provided candy and snack items to make their houses special. There were cocoa and ginger cookies available for a snack as people finished the decorating. Two wreaths, created and donated by Christy Perkins, were given away as door prizes. Julia Spencer and Brantley Greenleaf were the lucky winners! It was a fun, relaxing night for the sixty some people who attended.



## Winter Concerts

On December 4th and 5th respectively, Alton Elementary and Viola Rand School held their winter concerts. This was Erin Murphy's first year teaching music in these schools and the first concert of the year. Alton's fourth grade band students are learning fast and played a couple of tunes for the audience. All of the classes from pre-k up did nice performances of holiday music to help kick off the season!



## Thanks for our Heroes

After the crazy week without power, the Alton Elementary Heroes reception was pushed back a week, so we talked about being thankful for those who work hard to keep our community and world more safe. School Resource Officer King and Hazel and Owen's dad, David Rodriguez, spoke with the students about the roles they play as a police officer and an army serviceman. Their messages were ones that were powerful for students to hear. We thank both men for their time and service!

## Penobscot Theater and Movie Days

In the morning on December 21st, students and staff from both schools will be attending the Penobscot Theater production of "Beauty and the Beast". Prior to going, each school will offer an after school time to watch the movie so that the story line in the play will be easier for students to follow.