

Want to see more? Follow us
on Facebook & Instagram!



OCTOBER 11TH, 2016

TURTLE TRACKS

A WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER FOR THE VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 10th - 14th
Spirit Week

October 13th
Parent Hike

October 14th
Common Text Day
& Community Bonfire

October 15th
Homecoming
Volleyball Match

Colegio Santa Ana Arrives at VCS

by *Adriana Comtois*

Our friends from the Colegio Santa Ana in Peru have made it to the States! Below are pictures of them at the Atlanta Airport. This crew of 17 students and 2 teachers will be joining us for classes for the next 8 days. They will also conduct a performance of traditional dances from different Peruvian regions. The show will happen during Common Hour (9:45 a.m.) on October 12th. Stop by to meet them and watch the riveting dances.



Common Text Day, Community Bonfire, and Homecoming Match

by *Christie Beveridge, Jennifer Cohen, Jory Hearst, Chance Cardamone-Knewstubb, and Peter Goff*

Common Text Day is this Friday, when we'll be discussing our Common Texts on race in America. We'll be starting with our usual communal potluck lunch. We invite you to share a dish that is connected to your cultural heritage. Please do not include any nuts, and label any dishes/utensils you drop off. There will be someone in the kitchen on the morning of 10/14 to receive food. Thank you so much for helping us start our Common Text Day in a nurturing way!

Also, this weekend is Homecoming! Our annual Community Bonfire will take place this Friday, from 6:30pm - 8pm at 158 Charles Rd in Williston. On Saturday, Boys & Girls Volleyball will play their homecoming matches at the EDGE from 10:30am - 1pm. Senior Day student & family recognitions will take place immediately preceding the game.

Looking Ahead

- **Parent Hike** - Thursday, October 13th, 9am-2pm
- **Open House** - Sunday, October 23rd, 1-3pm
- **Sibling Day** - Tuesday, December 6th

Eighth Grade Families

Please save the date, **November 16th, from 5:30-6:30pm** for an introduction to Vermont Commons high school experience. Consider this an opportunity to learn more about what makes Vermont Commons unique for those crucial high school years. We'll spend an informative hour together with Dexter, Ari, and a handful of high school faculty. Questions welcome!

Environmental Journalism Visits NPR

by Caleb Morehouse '19

On Friday, September 30th, the students of Christie's Environmental Journalism R&S class took a trip to the headquarters of VPR; they toured the building and learned about what makes radio journalism special.

The students first walked around the building while Kathleen Masterson (a VPR reporter) talked to them about how a radio focused news station keeps the cogs churning. She spoke about how at any moment a story can come in and the entire writing team has to switch over to the new story. The writing team must get the story on the air within hours of when they received it.

Kathleen later led the students to a spacious room where a large projector screen hung center stage in front of the circle of chairs. After that the students took their seats and had a discussion with Kathleen Masterson, John Dillon, and Taylor Dobbs (all experienced reporters) on how to write a

story for radio; the reporters informed them on how writing a radio story is all about having something unique to say and then saying it in a way that all types of listeners can digest. VPR makes their news easier to digest by adding background sound that they collect when recording interviews.

The reporters used one of their stories as an example. The story was about how properties around the lake are losing their value because of the high level of phosphorous in the lake water. In this story you could hear pots and pans clang as the interview is carried out. They encouraged the students to find stories they are passionate about and use that passion to maximize the amount of work they put in. After an engaging and thoughtful discussion the students left in the VCS bus to return to school. If you are curious about the world of reporting I highly encourage you to direct any of your questions towards the Environmental Journalism R&S.

Volleyball vs. Enosburg Falls

photos by Amira Silverman '17



Background Photo by Graham Byers '18

VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL - 75 GREEN MOUNTAIN DRIVE, SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT 05403

P: 802-865-8084 F: 802-865-2429 EMAIL: INFO@VERMONTCOMMONS.ORG

WWW.VERMONTCOMMONS.ORG

ENGAGING STUDENTS WITH THE WORLD