

SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2016

TURTLE TRACKS

A WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER FOR THE VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

September 14th
Parents' Night

September 19th-23rd
Fall Encounter Week

September 30th
Grandparents' Day &
Progress Reports sent home

October 1st
SATs

Girls Volleyball Season Openers

by Peter Goff; photos courtesy of Ark Lemal

With a minor electrical fire at the EDGE putting our boys' season off for a few more days, last week was all about the Girls Volleyball team openers.

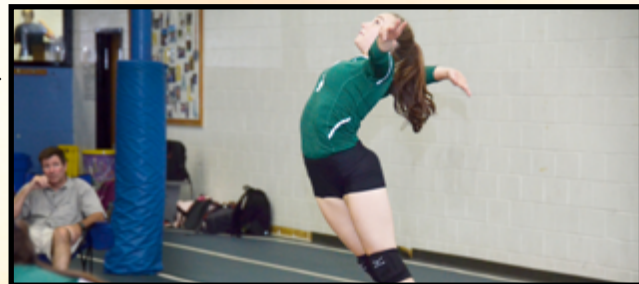
Tues 6Sep @ St. Johnsbury

After a quick week of practice, the girls team set off for a match against the Hilltoppers. After a loooong service run by their veteran, we lost the first set. However, behind co-captains Anna Hulse and Amira Silverman, we won two of the next three sets to force a deciding fifth set. In volleyball, a match is won by taking three of five sets. The first four sets are won with 25 points. If a fifth set is needed, it only goes to 15 points. With your Turtles down 11-14, and facing three match points, Nimaya Lemal stepped to the line... A brief interlude to set the scene; in 2007, VCS Hall of Famer Emily Unger set the still-standing all-time team record with 33 serves in one match. Nimaya ended this match with 31 serves in! The final score was 19-21, with a narrow hard-fought loss for your Turtles. After the varsity match, some of our new JV players got on the floor for their Flying Turtle debuts; Cece Hinds, Jill Lamberson, Helena Raddock, and Catherine Krahl. New Varsity middle-blocker Tess Ruddy earned the Game Ball for her playing the best match of her life.



Fri 9Sep vs. Harwood

Your Turtles faced a very inexperienced Highlander team, and did so with a fantastic display of sportsmanship and respect. Special thanks to all of the boys team that showed up to support the girls, and to all of our parent volunteers who made the match possible (Leah Mital, Jen Oldham, Carol Blattspieler, and boys Coach Chuck Hulse). We were able to roll JV players (including first-timer Sama Mahdi) into the match throughout the first two sets. I was especially proud of our Seniors; Jill for having the guts to try a new sport, Nimaya for graciously ceding some court time to younger players, and our Co-captains for setting a consistent model of sportsmanship. At one point, Amira was blocked by a Hilltopper and her first move was across the net to congratulate her opponent. Anna was rotated out on the last few points of the match, with a smile for her JV replacement. Couldn't be prouder of them all. Gameball goes to Co-Captain Amira Silverman for challenging herself (jump-serving and setting, of all things!!)



Next **home** match: Friday Girls host MMU (4:30 at the EDGE)

Kids' Night Out to Benefit Emily Lyman Foundation
by Rachel Bergstein, VCS '21

Regal Gymnastics in Essex, Vermont is hosting a Kids Night Out on September 17th from 6-9pm. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Emily Lyman Foundation, helping families across Vermont dealing with pediatric cancer. Anyone who donates \$20 or over will get a free kids night out ticket.

Please [click here](#) for more information.

Parents' Night this Wednesday, September 14th
by Dexter Mahaffey

A quick reminder to all parents - this Wednesday is Parents' Night! We look forward to seeing you here at the school for a fun evening!

Where: VCS - Event begins in the Commons Room

When: Wednesday, 6pm - 8:10pm

Who: VCS Faculty & Parents

6th Grade Visits Burlington City Arts

by Jory Hearst

The 6th graders visited the BCA (Burlington City Arts) on Church Street last Thursday, viewing the hanging work of Vietnamese artist Thu Kim Vu. They learned how to make her hanging sculptures and are each creating their own, a hanging piece that go on to tell the story of their own name. Stay tuned for ethereal hanging works in the 6th grade hallway!



Environmental Journalism R&S Visits Seven Days

by Christie Beveridge

Last week, our Environmental Journalism students visited the offices of Seven Days, where Ken Picard spoke to us about life as a journalist, and editor Cathy Resmer spoke about the evolution of the paper. Many thanks to them for hosting us!



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