

# Vernon Elementary

## Budget Information Meeting

January 25th

6:30 p.m.

Vernon School  
Cafetorium

and

February 8th

6:30 p.m.

Sixth Grade  
BAMS Informa-  
tion Night  
Tuesday,  
February 9th  
6:30 p.m.

### News from 3M

What do buoyancy, pumice, crater, viscosity, density, obtuse, acute, area, perimeter, and congruent have in common? A third grader will tell you that all of these terms are used on a daily basis in the classroom.

We are in the beginnings of our popular disaster unit. This is a wonderfully exciting unit for the children as we learn about the Titanic, famous volcanic eruptions, and even a molasses flood. We will be learning all about factors that effect buoyancy as well as design our own boats for optimum floatability! If you listen carefully in about 3 weeks you may be able to hear our self created volcanoes exploding. Certainly, the tragic disaster in Haiti will be incorporated in our discussions on volcanoes/earthquakes. This certainly makes this unit real for the students.

In math we are in the midst of learning about 2D and 3D geometry. We have been measuring just about everything we can find in order to determine perimeter and area. The children have been working with shapes called tetrominoes in order to make shapes that have a given area. The children love this hands on kind of math.

In literacy we have been working with nonfiction reading and writing. The children are reading about disasters around the world. They are also learning to write organized and focused reports. These units, along with cursive, Second Step, Scholastic News, and 4 Winds keep us very busy every day.

### Who are the Gifted?

According to the Vermont Legislature, "gifted and talented children" refers to children who, when compared to others of their age, experience or environment, exhibit capability of high performance in intellectual, creative or artistic areas, possess an unusual capacity for leadership or excel in specific academic fields.

At Vernon School, children are usually recommended for enrichment work in a specific academic area by classroom teachers. The enrichment program varies from year to year, depending on the needs of the student population. All activities are designed to expose students to skills and concepts not covered in the standard curriculum, develop critical and creative thinking skills, and/or provide students with an opportunity to pursue a topic of interest. During the course of the school year, I usually work with students at all grade levels. In addition, I coordinate the scheduling of Chinese language instruction for the school. If you have any questions about the enrichment program, please feel free to give me a call or stop by my room.

--Ms. Herbst

**ALL SCHOOL  
PERFORMANCE  
TONIGHT!!!  
JANUARY 22ND  
6:30-7:30 P.M.**

**featuring  
“African Rhythms and World Music”**

**(Students should wear BRIGHT colors and report to  
their classrooms at 6:15 p.m.)**

**Earth Rhythm - Kindergarten  
Jole - Sierra Leone - First Grade  
Highlife-West Africa - Sixth Grade  
JuJuU-West Africa - Second Grade  
Samba-Brazil - Fourth Grade  
Naibingi-Jamaica - Third Grade  
Steve-O's Cookin' Rhythm-Steve Leicach - Fifth Grade**

