

Valle Crucis School News

The February meeting of the Valle Crucis PTA will be held on Monday night, February 25, at 7:30 o'clock. The theme for the meeting is "Founders Day."

Mrs. Sarah Horton will present a brief history of the PTA as an organization. A play will be presented entitled "Mr. Facts." We hope you will attend.

Mrs. Blingham's First and Second Grades

We have completed a unit on circus animals. In our study we learned many things about these animals. We enlarged many of them until they looked almost real.

In the first grade we have a reading contest going on. A tree with numbers on it represents the ladder. As the children finish a book his name is moved up one number. All are hoping to reach the top before school is out.

We still have three children who have perfect attendance so far this year. They are Garry Fox, Eva Shores, and Virginia Smith.

Several of the children brought refreshments and helped with the serving at our Valentine party. We are glad Dannie Johnson is back in school. He has missed several days lately.

Mrs. Horton's Third Grade

We have been studying the history of the Cherokee Indians. We have found out that they lived in the mountains of North Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia, South Car-

olina, Alabama, and Georgia. They were civilized and peace-loving people. Many of them lived in Watauga and near-by counties. They cleared land and planted crops. They built log and pole houses. These houses were covered with mats made of splits plastered with clay. Like other tribes, they made everything they used. They fished and hunted for food, and gathered nuts, fruits, and berries to dry for winter. At first they made clothes from deerskin. Many feathers were used in their dress.

It was interesting to find out that the blankets worn by the chief were often made of feathers. His headdress was very colorful, but unlike those of the western Indians. Later they learned to weave cloth. Basket-making, pottery, and shell and bone beads were crafts of the early Cherokee tribes.

We found that each Cherokee tribe was divided into seven clans, the chief was head of the tribe, and there was a leader for each clan. Each clan had a reserved section in the Council House which was well built. It had seven sides with seven seating sections. It was used for council meetings, weddings, and worship services. It was a bad omen to let the fire in the council house go out.

Writers tell us that as early as 1640, Cherokee Indians were great athletes. Every village had a game house. Ball games, jumping, running, and dancing were their chief recreation.

Sequoyah invented the Cherokee alphabet 250 years ago. We have learned many things from these Indians. Many places in the mountains have Indian names. "Watauga," meaning "beautiful waters," "Yonahlossee" meaning the "trail of the bear."

We learned that 17,000 Chero-

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News Of Appalachian Elementary School

The students in Mrs. Broome's third grade presented "A February Play" for the primary grades' assembly Thursday morning in which every student participated. The parts and the students playing them are as follows: Devotional, Joyce Payne; February, Diane Hagaman; Father Time, Steve Hampton; Child, Betty Hayes; Snowman, Mary Norris; Ground Hog, Richard Bolling; Lincoln's Day Parade, Michael Wilson, Emma K. Ward, Diane Miller, Carolyn Presnell, Terry Gragg; Valentines, Linda Dotson, Janice Ayers, Teddy Brown, Rebecca Wright; Washington's Day Parade, Hal Anderson, Barbara Eirod, David Payne, Tommy Pease, Gale Trivette, Pat Miller; Birds, Hilda Stokes, Carolyn Mode, Sara Lou Hagaman, Lois Phillips. The program closed with three February songs and a choral reading, "A Story in the Snow."

Valentine Parties

Valentine parties were the order of the day on Thursday in our school. Many of the parents and school patrons were gracious enough to provide the party materials for the classrooms. All the teachers and students wish to thank them.

Musical Variety Show

On Friday morning, the students in Mrs. Howell's fifth grade presented a musical variety show for the grammar grades' assembly. All the students participated in the program. Announcer was David Lewis, who introduced the following numbers: Girl's Chorus Line, which included Toi Cooke, Jane Buckland, Marietta Greer, Sandra Greer, Pam Hamby, Barbara Mast, Linda McCaraher, Martha Moretz, Janie Price, Rebecca Russell, Norma Sherrill, Linda Vines, Patsy Watson, Gail Wilson; Soloist, Wayne Clawson; Boys' Chorus members, who sang to Jane Buckland, were Wayne Clawson, Tommy Edmisten, Graydon Eggers, Jr., Gray Hagaman, Mack Hampton, David Henderson, Bobby Hodges, J. E. Joines, Jr., Larry Keese, David Lewis, Johnny Parker, Donald Payne, Johnny Stacy, Lee Thiel, Randy Greene, Clifford Coffey, Freddie Nifong, Joey Danner, Bill Council; The Jazz Band, with Barbara Mast and Marietta Greer as dancers, were Graydon Eggers, Jr., Bill Council, J. E. Joines, Jr., Joey Danner, Johnny Stacy, Johnny Parker. Loretta Gragg participated in the group songs. Student pianists were Janie Price and Pam Hamby.

Cherokee Indians served in the last two world wars. A few of them are going to college. Some are teachers and trained nurses. Some of the leading parts in the drama "Unto These Hills," are played by these Indians.

The Oconoluftee Indian village at Cherokee is a true reproduction of an early Cherokee Indian village.

Since learning all these things, we have made Indian designs for rugs and blankets, using the Indian symbols. We used these symbols for our pottery also. We made Indian bowls and painted designs on them.

Linda Gay Fox brought a Cherokee Indian doll for our exhibit. In our exhibit we have a basket, a bow and arrow, and pottery pitcher made by the Cherokee Indians. The boys brought some arrow heads that were found in the plowfields near their homes. We have enjoyed our study of the Indians.

Mrs. Campbell's Fourth Grade

We have just ended our unit on conservation. Mr. Thomas Greene came and talked to us about conservation. We studied about America before the white men came, the first settlers, moving westward, products from trees, parts of a tree, eroded land, strip farming, irrigation dams, steps in planting trees, and uses of the forests. We learned that conservation is saving natural resources. Some of these are soil, animals, plants, minerals, and water. Floods wash our topsoil away; winds blow it away; the roots of the trees hold the soil so that it cannot easily get away. We learned that we should practice conservation.

The U. S. plans to let Poland buy farm surplus products.

Mr. Scott's Sixth Grade

Students in Mr. Seth W. Scott's

sixth grade have been engaging in two interesting units in recent weeks. These units have been taught and supervised by Mr. William Honeycutt, student teacher in the classroom.

In "New Ways of Living" the students have studied the Middle Ages and its contributions to history. Activities have included special reports, filmstrips, arts and crafts, bulletin boards, and parallel reading.

A unit on safety has included becoming safety-conscious at school, on the playground and streets, and at home. Cartoons illustrating safety rules and hazards have been drawn by the students. The class plans to present a play, "Prescription for Safety." This play tells of boys and girls who become injured because they do not follow correct safety habits. The doctor prescribes a good safety rule for each patient. This play will be presented for all sixth grade students of the school.

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equipment. The eight rotary, sheet-fed presses will utilize dry paper instead of the customary wet paper and will print thirty-two bills instead of the usual eighteen bills on a sheet. It will also do this two and a half times faster than the old process.

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