Compassionate Ridgefield Weaves in RPS
*Schools Embrace Townwide Kindness Initiative*

Last Sunday, Compassionate Ridgefield held its public launch at Scotts Ridge Middle School with community leaders gathering to discuss how we can foster and maintain a culture of compassionate success in our town. SRMS principal Tim Salem addressed the group and many RPS principals, parents, and staff attended, including Branchville principal Keith Margolis and BES PTA representatives.

RPS programs connected to the tenets of Compassionate Ridgefield have been ongoing all year. The photo top right shows Avery R. working on Scotland’s kindness quilt. Barlow Mountain also completed a wonderful Collaborative Weaving project, by BMES Art Teacher Alana Devito, shown in the engaging slideshow linked on page 2.

Farmingville recently visited the Prospector Theater to learn more about disabilities and compassion as seen in the photo to the right; [read more about their visit](#). Veterans Park worked with the owners of the Art Spot to create an all-school kindness mosaic (shown above right) that encourages everyone walking into VP to “Work Hard and Be Kind.”

ERMS Principal Patricia Ranieri reports that among the many kindness programs, ERMS Friends Club invites students to play games with students with disabilities after school. ERMS Spanish Teacher Lourdes Eckstein writes about a special project with an orphanage in Columbia in [this report](#).

See more RPS Compassionate Ridgefield Stories below. [View Compassionate Ridgefield’s FaceBook page](#).
SRMS Thinks Globally; Acts Locally
Scotts Ridge sixth-graders raised over $2200 for anti-poverty initiatives including Save the Children, Thorntree, and UNICEF at a recent sale of their handmade crafts at a Cultural Marketplace (photo on right). The Cultural Marketplace was the culmination of an interdisciplinary collaboration between Social Studies, World Language, and Library staff. The event involved student exploration of the ways in which cultural and environmental characteristics vary among regions of the world.

RHS Day of Kindness
The Ridgefield High School Unity Club organized the first annual Day of Kindness. Students and staff spent time together during lunch playing games, writing notes of kindness and encouragement, and making new friends! Student Government gave Kindness Keys to students when they did something kind with the instruction to pass the keys forward when they witnessed similar acts of kindness. No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

Build Math Skills with Summer Fun
RPS is happy to offer summer math activity calendars for students entering grades 1 through 5 in the fall. The calendars provide a variety of fun and engaging math choices for students, including using DreamBox, to keep math skills sharp while on summer vacation. View summer math fun or check your child’s school website.

ART GALLERY
Barlow Mountain Collaborative Weaving.

CONGRATULATIONS
Emma L, New England 300m Hurdles Champion □ ERMS and SRMS Wind Ensembles, SRMS Chamber Singers, and RPS Middle School Symphonic Orchestra Earn Platinum at Fantastic Festival □ Griffin S., 14th in National Geography Olympiad □ RHS Interns of the Week, Taylor B. and Sierra R.

Read This Summer!
To encourage academic growth over the summer vacation, RPS teamed up with the Ridgefield Public Library to promote summer reading. View the Reading Recommendations for Middle Schoolers. Bring your student to the Ridgefield Library to participate in RPL summer reading.