



Back (l-r): Seth Newton, Jeff Bates, Sam Bentley, Kyle Smart, Tucker Peters, Robert Smith. Front: Austin Marceau, Nicholas Keniston, Todd Wilcox, Austin Hawks, Nicholas Terwilliger, Dustin Holmburg, Christopher Frenette.

Photo: Leighton Terwilliger

Cub Scouts Pack 489

By Heidi Terwilliger
Cub Scouts Pack 489

The Cub Scouts from Pack 489 have been keeping busy. They finished their popcorn sales and deliveries and will receive their prizes for sales at their January pack meeting.

They also participated in Scouting for Food during the month of November, and in December they will be spending an evening caroling at Woodcrest Village in New London. They also received their Pinewood Derby kits to prepare for their Pinewood Derby that will take place in January.

Jeff Bates, Sam Bentley, Seth Newton, Tucker Peters, Robert Smith, and Kyle Smart of Den 2 all earned their Webelos Badge, Readyman Pin, and Family Member Pin.

Nicholas Terwilliger, Nicholas Keniston, Chris Frenette, Todd Wilcox, Dustin Holmburg, Austin Hawks, and Austin Marceau of Den 5 all earned their Webelos Fitness Activities Badge and Physical Fitness Pin. Chris Frenette, Todd Wilcox, Dustin Holmburg, Austin Hawks, and Austin Marceau earned their Physical Fitness Belt Loops. Nicholas Terwilliger, Nicholas Keniston, and Austin Marceau earned their Chess Belt Loops, and Dustin Holmburg, Austin Hawks, and Austin Marceau earned their Bobcat Badge.

Tiger Den 3 made boomerangs. The boys experimented with different weights of paper and cardboard, as well as different designs. They demonstrated their final designs at the pack meeting. It was fun to watch them flying through the air.

Oxbow 4-H Club

By Heidi St. Jacques
Ox-Bow 4-H Club

We held our annual achievement night on Saturday, November 4 at the Webster Town Hall. New officers appointed in a candlelight ceremony were:

President, Charlie St. Jacques
Vice President, Kellie St. Jacques
Secretary, Sophie Courser
Treasurer, Matt Shottes
Photographer, Rhett Courser
A special award was given to Chris-

topher Belanger for most improved. The club members presented a thank-you gift certificate to Blue Seals to the club leader, Bob Pearson.

Our December meeting will be Saturday, December 10 at noon in New Boston at the Shottes home. For the meeting we are collecting non-perishable food items for a food basket to be donated to an area town's food kitchen. If you are interested in donating any food items, please contact Heidi St. Jacques at 735 5851.

East Andover Village Preschool

By Doreen Perreault
East Andover Village Preschool

It's 8:30 AM. The sun is shining. Signs of rain from the night before dampen the steps. The bells on the school doorknob ring and the start of a new preschool morning is here.

Garrett arrives first. He greets us with a laugh and his cheerful smile before heading toward the block area.

The others are not far behind. One by one, they enter the preschool with warm smiles and eager eyes.

Iain uses a blue marker to "sign in." He grins with pride at his accomplishment before saying good bye to his mom.

We spend some time playing in the sand table, building in the block area, and setting the kitchen table. The scent of dry erase markers fills the classroom as we begin to prepare for our Morning Meeting.

We all race to find our favorite Magic Mat. Chase is quick to find his favorite color, blue. We "criss cross applesauce" and begin with our Good Morning Song. It's clear we have several talented singers among our four-year-olds. This morning, it's Brianna we can clearly hear sharing her love for music. What a wonderful way to start our morning.

We talk about the weather, the rain from the night before, and the hope that the sun will shine for outdoor time today. Victoria is crowned our Weather Wizard. She wears the Wizard hat and cape with great confidence. A quick look out the window confirms what we all were thinking. It's wet out and the sky is grey. We can see the sun trying hard to peak around the clouds.

Today Ms. Carmen is talking about the letter E. It's hard to find words that begin with E. After a bit of discussion, we all agree that our new friend Ethan's name begins with E. Together we look for things around our classroom that begin with an E. We are grateful not to find an Elephant or an Eel.

We use our palm tree to hang Five Little Monkeys. The laughter as each monkey gets chased by the Alligator is, without a doubt, a sound you can never get tired of hearing. Our Alligator noise

gets louder with each monkey, until the end when there are *no more monkeys swinging from the tree.*

Ms. Becky helps us wash our hands and we gather together to enjoy snack time. Colby opens his Thomas the Train lunch box and with little hesitation opens his straw and pushes it into the hole in his juice box. I remember helping him with that very task not long ago.

It's time for one of Ms. Doreen's favorite parts of the morning – storytime! We gather a few of our favorite puppets together and decide to "be" the Three Billy Goats Gruff.

Braydon makes a very convincing Troll. His deep voice and angry "Who's that tripping over my bridge" are, without a doubt, signs that we have a budding actor among us. Our Three Billy Goats Gruff are very hesitant to cross the bridge. But in the end, as you know, the Three Billy Goats successfully reach their journey to a greener pasture.

We are making Squirrel puppets today. With a steady hand Shaelyn colors hers a dark brown. She is very careful to color the entire Squirrel. Her puppet comes out beautifully.

Victoria is busy creating a cereal necklace. It's amazing how many Fruit Loops it takes. With a nibble here and there, the necklace is finally completed. She is happy to wear her latest fashion statement for the remainder of the morning.

The grocery area is quite busy this morning. Spencer is ringing on the cash register and filling the shopping cart with milk and cookies.

Our clean-up song begins, and we all work together to clean up the classroom. The blocks return to their container; the change is back in the cash register. The books find their spot on the shelf, and the puppets rest in their bucket. The train track is broken down, and the Lego blocks return to their home.

It's time to get silly. It's time to shake our bodies. It's time to play some *music!*

With a hop, hop, hop, and a jiggy bop, we become bunnies. We wiggle our noses, pump our feet, and flop our ears. We rumble boogie, we sing about Sammy, and we toss some bean bags.

We are excited to see the sun has worked its magic, and we're off to explore the playground.

As the morning ends and parents and grandparents come to pick up their children, we wonder what tomorrow will bring. What we do know is that tomorrow will bring more songs, more smiles, and more laughter. We know that tomorrow will be another great day, another great moment, another great memory.

Ms. Carmen, Ms. Becky, and I wish all our EAVP families and friends the very best this holiday season. We are thankful for all you do to make our days brighter. Your kind words, generosity, and thoughtfulness are appreciated more than you know. Merry Christmas to you all, and Happy New Year.

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Fundraising Coordinator Wanted

The Beacon needs someone to help manage its fundraising activities. The biggest push is during January and February, when we ask all our members to renew. Can you help make it happen?

For more info, call Charlie at 735-6099.

East Andover Village Preschool

DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND we are accepting registrations for the 2007/2008 school year for both Preschool I (Tue/Thurs) for 3-year-olds and Preschool II (Mon/Wed/Fri) for pre-kindergarten.

Call 735-5105 or e-mail eavp.doreen@yahoo.com for more information.