

November

Volume 8, Issue 2

# Boxberry School Routes

academics  
foreign  
language  
art  
music  
drama  
environmental  
studies  
outdoor  
education  
creative  
movement  
cultural  
studies

## LEX: WATER

### FRESH-WATER EXPERIMENTS

Green room students constructed a waterfall out of a board, clay, real rocks, and a water pump. Periwinklers helped out with the experiment. We all tried to make currents and rapids like in a river, moving some rocks around and adjusting the flow of the pump.



Whyse and Simon partner up to fill out their scientific observation form for the freezing salt-water experiment. Our buddy system has helped many students to forge new friendships and recognize how we all work together as a community to learn cool new things.

### SALT-WATER EXPERIMENTS

Recently on Monday afternoons we have begun to implement whole school science activities. Our buddies have teamed up to perform various experiments involving water. We have learned about brackish water, where the rivers meet the oceans and how salt affects the freezing of water. Students have illustrated the scientific process & observations.

# DECA CRAFT FAIR



Just a few of the wonderful crafts made by students and parents at Boxberry. There are some left; please ask Barb if you are interested in making a purchase of a handmade xmas present!



James works on felting a bar of soap for the DECA Craft Fair. Nice Work!!!



## Crafty Fundraising Fun

Back in September, Kiki Gosnell and Barbra Barrett started an optional afternoon art program that concluded for the year at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual DECA art fair. Boxberry had a booth that featured student created and inspired crafts that were sold as a fundraiser for the school.

Over the course of the after school program, students learned how to make a variety of crafts, from bath bombs and batiks to felted snowmen and gnomes. Boxberry was one of 157 different crafters represented at DECA, where shoppers lined up outside to be the first shoppers through the doors. Several shoppers commented on the quality and creativity of Boxberry's crafts and the delightful booth that contained potted tree branches adorned with felted acorns.

In all, DECA was a big success for Boxberry. Sales from crafts sold at the fair, and from the tabletop Christmas tree raffle, that included gift certificates and hand made ornaments, topped out at around \$1,000. To accompany the monetary gain, many new people heard about Boxberry for the first time and left with a great first impression.

Thank you to all of the parents who were an essential part in making DECA a success. The after school art program is set to resume after the holiday break.

**Check out our Facebook page!!!**

**[www.facebook.com/BoxberrySchool](http://www.facebook.com/BoxberrySchool)**

Become our friend to view current pictures and learn about our events!



L to R: Sophie, Simon, Eliza, and Mae discuss "Island of the Blue Dolphins" in Lit Circle.

**Boxberry School** stands out for its excellence in education because of our small class size. A prime example of this exceptional opportunity is presented during our Literature Circles. Lit groups have intimate, in-depth, quality discussions about a book students read and answer questions about independently for homework.




Oliver dances during Dawson's music class. Boxberry students have been working hard to learn different kinds of notes, bass clefs, & octaves in music. They have been playing a variety of games involving music concepts and also have practiced writing and performing their own songs (Periwinklers) and preparing for the upcoming potluck by singing Christmas carols.



Oliver uses play money to buy a pet from the Spanish Pet Shop class back at the end of October. Sophie uses Spanish to help him.

CHRISTMAS  
PARTY  
@ SCHOOL  
Wednesday  
December 22nd  
Bring a new  
Or used  
BOOK  
For the  
Xmas swap!



Boxberry  
School:  
where children  
become  
enthusiastic,  
confident  
learners!

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.boxberry  
school.org](http://www.boxberry<br/>school.org)

## OUR MISSION:

The mission of the  
Boxberry School is to  
identify and nurture  
academic and creative  
potential in an  
environment that  
embraces each child's  
natural enthusiasm for  
discovery.



## About Our Organization...

The Boxberry School was  
founded in 2003 by a group of  
parents, grandparents and other  
caregivers committed to creating  
an environment of educational  
excellence, responsive to  
individual strengths and  
interests while nurturing the  
creative spirit of each child.  
We rely on an active parent  
base and community support to  
help keep this vision alive.

As the only school of its kind  
in the area, the Boxberry  
School is an exceptional choice  
for families interested in  
affordable alternatives for K-6  
education in the Oxford Hills  
area. Please contact the school  
regarding tuition and financial  
aid, as well as part-time  
options.

# PHILOSOPHY

- Our supportive culture fosters effective communication skills, creative problem-solving techniques, critical thinking, self-confidence and respect for others.
- The academic curriculum is enhanced by foreign language, art, music, drama, environmental studies, outdoor education, creative movement and cultural studies.
- Our small class sizes allow for interactive learning and individualized attention.
- Our multi-age classrooms create positive learning opportunities:
  - Older students mentor younger classmates and develop a sense of responsibility.
  - Younger students are consistently introduced to higher-level concepts at an earlier age.
- An active parent base stays engaged in all aspects of their children's education and helps to keep Boxberry an affordable option for education in the area.
- Field trips, guest speakers and community service projects emphasize the importance of volunteerism and involve students in the greater Oxford Hills community.
- Our teachers use the **Maine Learning Results** as the backbone to their curriculum. Methods of the **Responsive Classroom** encourage teamwork, character-growth, active involvement and academic engagement. **Expeditionary Learning** units are challenging projects developed to enhance teaching across the subject areas of math, literacy, science and social studies.