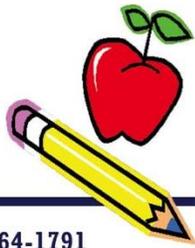




EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FRIDAY



FLASH

299 Main St, Burlington, VT 05401 • 864-1791

Date and Volume Number

From the Principal's Desk

I admit it. I watch TV. I like The Big Bang Theory, Madam Secretary, and my guilty pleasure is home renovations shows on HGTV. Another favorite is Deadliest Catch, a show that follows several fishing boats fishing off of the Aleutian Islands in Alaska, from Dutch Harbor. I've been to Dutch Harbor, held King Crabs and stood next to the huge crab pots, and grew up sailing on the ocean, so I find that show particularly interesting. I'm also a Trekie - have been since the first Star Trek came out.

I was thinking about how watching television impacted what I do. Television is a very passive activity. It requires no real thought or energy. Now don't get me wrong, I think all of us deserve a little down time. Sometimes I need to take a break. But we also need to recognize when watching someone else live their lives, whether fictional or real, we are doing less with our own lives, our own brains and bodies. Believe it or not, reading burns more calories than watching tv, because we are actually engaging our brains more.

I've had a lot of nostalgic conversations with adults, reminiscing about the activities we did as kids - playing in the woods, building forts and tree houses, playing games with neighborhood kids like kick the can, or capture the flag and so many other things. Houses were constructed from broken branches, with piles of leaves representing beds, and stones representing the kitchen. A ball of twine could result in furniture made from sticks lashed together. The thing was, these activities entertained us for hours and even days. Back when I was a child, we had only the three major networks and public television, and most shows were for adults. Whether indoors or out, the preferred activity was play. We were enriched because rather than passively watching other people live their lives, whether pretend or real, we were living our own lives, creating and doing.

The thing that we need to be conscious of is balancing the passive activity of watching others live their lives, with time for our kids to live their own, doing and creating their own visions. Children will take the easy route. They will plunk themselves down with the remote. We have to be the ones who protect the time

April 1, 2016

Up Coming Events:

April 7 - Fine Arts Night Grades 3, 4 & 5 - 5:45

April 8 - Skate Night - Leddy Park - 6 - 8 pm

Apr. 18-22 - Spring Break - No School

May 13 - Mayfair Carnival

May 30th (Memorial Day) - No School

Whole School Assembly
April 6, 2016
Red Clover School Winner Announcement

(CONTINUED)

for them to develop their creative ability and turn off the TV and the video games and tell them to go play - outside or in. And when they say, "we're bored", which they will, just as we did, we need to just shrug our shoulders and tell them to figure it out. And if figuring it out involves couch pillows and blankets and the construction of a fort, smile. It is far better that they invent their own stories and act them out, than they sit passively. And they will, just as we did.

FINE ARTS NIGHT- THURSDAY, APRIL 7TH

Our 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students will be sharing their hard work in music and art with an art show and music performance next Thursday, April 7th. The art show will be on the first floor of EES and will begin at 5:45. The music portion of this event will take place in the middle school gymnasium at 6:30. The show will include all 3-5 students and will be about 40 minutes long. Families who are unable to attend the evening performance are invited to our "dress rehearsal" at 1:00 on April 7th. We look forward to seeing you there! ** I am looking for a few parent volunteers to help with the sound board at the performance. No experience required. Email me at enolan@bsdvt.org if you can help. Thanks! Betsy Nolan, EES Music Teacher

BURLINGTON KIDS- 2016/2017 REGISTRATION OPEN!

We are now accepting registration packets for next school year for rising 1st through 5th graders! Reserve your child's spot at Burlington Kids for the 2016/2017 school year by completing and returning the YELLOW 2016-2017 Registration Packet (can be found in the information rack near the main EES office).

PTO LEADERS: Marni Slavik, Hollie Foley & Clare Wool

PTO CONTACT: pto@eespto.org

LOOKING FOR A NEW VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR FOR SKATE NIGHT ON FRIDAY APRIL 8 FROM 6-8PM

Skate night is a really fun night at Leddy ice arena with free skate rentals, pizza, and ice skating for all! Looking for a new volunteer coordinator to help manage food and drinks for this event. This is an easy job that has all the notes laid out, and will only require your help for one night! Please contact Marni at pto@eespto.org if you can help.

SIGN YOUR CHILD UP FOR MINI MILERS ! (FORMERLY READY SET RUN)

It's back... previously Ready, Set, Run is returning, with a new name! Welcome Mini Milers!!

Your child will learn about and practice fitness, the value of proper nutrition, citizenship, and goal setting all while having fun and being safe. Groups meet weekly for an hour. In addition to mileage incentives (including a medal), a t-shirt and finisher's certificate, participants receive monthly e-newsletters filled with activity ideas, citizenship challenges and tasty recipes. Participants are encouraged to participate in other up-coming Run Vermont events. The program will be led from **April 6th to June 1st** on Wednesdays, from 1:50pm-3:00pm, with a final event in June. If your child currently attends the Burlington Kids After School Program, we will filter them back to their leaders at the end of the program. There is a \$35 fee for participation; however, if your child receives free or reduced lunches, the fee is waived. In addition, if the fee is a hardship, please connect with us as we want your child to participate and will seek accommodations. Flyers will be going home with your children soon. Please email Brandi at Brandi.littlefield7@gmail.com with any questions. Feel free to also check in with Kirsten McNeil, Leigh Fisher or Marni Slavik.

For further information, you can also go to RunVermont's website: <https://www.runvermont.org/youth/ready-set-run/> (registration is already available online).

FRIDAY APRIL 8 FROM 6-8PM: SKATE NIGHT AT LEDDY ICE ARENA

Save the date! Free ice skating, skate rentals, and pizza for all EES families.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED FOR MAYFAIR

On May 13th, Edmunds Elementary will again hold our Mayfair Carnival. For parents unfamiliar with Mayfair, it's a long-standing tradition at EES with a BBQ, games, bouncy castle, cake walk and more. The carnival also has a silent auction. All funds raised in the auction goes directly to the kids. It helps pay for special initiatives such as bringing local artists, speakers and performers to our school. It also funds scholarships for low-income students, field trips and educational materials and helps pay for much needed classroom supplies. If you own or work for a company or restaurant that would make a donation, or have any ideas for donations, please contact Stephanie Mueller at smueller@vnrc.org or Stacey Kelleher at staceyhk1568@yahoo.com. In the past, Edmunds parents have been creative and come up with donations ranging from knitted hats to bike tune-ups to bike blended smoothies. All ideas are welcome to help make this fundraiser a success!

GAMES! FUN! MAYFAIR! (Friday, May 13th)

We need two volunteers to help make our annual Mayfair event a success. We are searching for two capable people to lead the most exciting part of Mayfair - the games!! We have tried and true games already prepared, but would love to have you put your personal stamp on this amazing EES event. Limited commitment, but amazing reward for you and the kids! This event is a great way to get involved in our school and really make a difference!! Think you are the person for the job? Recruit a friend along with you and share the fun! Please contact Leigh Fisher at leigh.r.fisher@gmail.com with questions.

TO FOLLOW THE BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Go to:

<http://district.bsd.schoolfusion.us/modules/cms/pages.phtml?pageid=330226>

From the Community

HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS COMING TO VERMONT!

The world famous Harlem Globetrotters will be playing in Burlington, VT at the Patrick Gymnasium at UVM on Thursday, April 7, 2016 @ 7pm. Employees, students, and everyone with Burlington School District (family/friends) can take advantage of an exclusive discount and save up to \$6.50 off each ticket! To take advantage of this discount or for any questions, please contact Derek Gensburg at [602-707-7037](tel:602-707-7037) or Gensburg@harlemglobetrotters.com. An order form will be available in your school office. Tickets are limited based on availability, so please order early while tickets are available."