

FRIDAY



FLASH



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

April 17, 2015

Up Coming Events

- Apr. 18 Spring Break Begins
- Apr. 27 Return from Spring Break
- Apr. 30 Trash on the Lawn Day
- May 1 Green up Day
- May 13 Kindergarten Get Acquainted Day

From the Principal's Desk

While we all had the experience of "being raised", each of us has to go through "on the job training" when it comes to raising our own children. I came from a family of four, and I was second in line. The space between us was very short - 14 months between me and both my older and younger brother, and then my little sister came along 9 years later. While my parents were pretty consistent in their parenting with the three older kids, the reality is that by the time they got to my sister, they'd learned a few things. She benefited from their experience with us and I'm sure those of you who come from large families saw the same phenomenon. The younger child got to do things you never got to do, or something was decidedly different from when you were their age.

I too am a parent of four, and there is a gap in age between the older two and the younger two. When my older daughter was 15, and going through some teenage angst, she said I didn't love her as much as her younger brother and sister. Her evidence was interesting. She said, "why didn't you make me practice piano like you make them?! Whoa! That was an interesting thought. I looked her in the eye and said, "I'm sorry about that. I made a mistake with you that I regret. Would you prefer that I make the same mistake with your brother and sister"? That changed her perspective immediately and she said "no". The conversation went on to include the fact that in reality, parents learn parenting as their children grow and sometimes we get it right, and sometimes we could have done it better.

There are times when I found myself realizing that I really blew it - that I let my temper get away from me, or I jumped to conclusions without actually listening carefully. There were times that I wish I could have a "do over". When that happened, the only thing left for me was to go back and say I was sorry. The thing is, making a mistake is a human thing to do. We all make them and even when we do, as parents, it presents us with a golden opportunity. It allows our children to not only make mistakes, but to learn to acknowledge them, and when appropriate, to apologize. So I guess you could say, the good thing about messing up, is that it is still a teachable moment. How we handle our mistakes, giving ourselves permission to be imperfect, allowing that we can and do make mistakes, is modeling really healthy behavior. Acknowledging mistakes, and apologizing also important to model. It gives all children a great start in learning social skills that will serve them well throughout life.

**Whole School Assembly
Wednesday, Apr. 29**

FROM THE PTO

LOST AND FOUND WILL BE DONATED FRIDAY APRIL 17

Check out Lost and Found, including a rack of clothing and several pairs of boots located outside music room. They will be donated this Friday to Salvation Army

THANK YOU: SKATE NIGHT VOLUNTEERS!

Skate Night is a great tradition at EES, made even more so by your efforts as volunteers and supporters of the event. Thank you for all that you did to set up, clean up, bring food, play tunes, and skate the night away! A special thanks to Annie Howell, Chris Burns, and Kate Larson for coordinating the event

THANK YOU: PTO MEETING

Thank you to all who participated in the meeting. We discussed highlights from this past year and ideas for the upcoming year. Please contact Marni Slavik (pto@eespto.org) if you are interested in helping out with a certain event or activity next year.

GREEN UP DAY ON AFTERNOON OF MAY 1

More information to follow. Contact Signe Daly (signe.daly@burlingtontelecom.net) with questions.

MAYFAIR AUCTION DONATIONS

Mayfair Is Coming Soon. We are now looking for items for the Mayfair Silent Auction. All ideas are welcome. Past items donated by friends and family have included bike tune-ups, hand made jewelry, a bike-blended smoothie party for 10 people, knitted hats and more. Or, do you have a connection to a restaurant, bakery, business or artist who would donate an item or gift certificate? The Silent Auction raises funds to help cover the costs of school activities such as field trips to the Flynn Theater, attending the Burlington Clay Studio, and bringing in guest authors. Please contact Stacey Kelleher at staceyhk1568@yahoo.com if you can help.