

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

April 7, 2017

Up Coming Events:

April 10 - Fiddle Duo Maja & David
 April 11 - Passover Begins
 April 12 - Thingyan (Water Festival) Begins
 April 13 - Fine Arts Night - Grades 3, 4 & 5
 April 14 - The Poetry Guy (Ted Scheu) Visit
 April 14 - Good Friday
 April 22 - Earth Day
 April 24 - 28: No School - Spring Break
 May 1-5: Teacher Appreciation Week

Whole School Assembly
April 12, 2017
Music Composition Share
Miss Fagan's Class Leading

SNOW DAY MAKE-UPS

We will be making up two of the four snow days we've had this year. The make ups will be on Friday, June 16 and Monday, June 19th, both of which will be half days with release at 11:30. We will be holding our 5th-grade tribute on the evening of Thursday, June 15th.

COMPOSITION CONTEST WINNER!

Congratulations to Isaac Dunkiel whose music composition titled "Road Trip Blues" was selected for live performance by professional musicians at a concert May 15th at the Elly Long Music Center in Colchester. A number of students submitted work and everyone did a fantastic job!!!

SAVE THE DATE: 3-5 FINE ARTS NIGHT - ART SHOW AND MUSIC PERFORMANCE

The 3rd, 4th and 5th graders are preparing art work and music for our Fine Arts Night on Thursday, April 13th. The art show is from 5:30-6:00. Doors open for the performance in the middle school gym at 6:00, the show starts at 6:15. Please save this date on your family's calendar. Every 3rd, 4th and 5th grade student has work to share at this event!

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY- MONDAY, APRIL 10TH

On Monday, April 10th at 2:00 there will be a special assembly featuring world renowned fiddle duo, Maja and David. Their music is a merging of Quebecois and Scandinavian fiddle and percussion styles which create a new and beautiful musical experience. Parents and families are welcome to attend.

From the Principal's Desk

The level of importance that children put on simple things like being first is really fascinating. When I was growing up, it was always who got the front seat of the car. I'm sure that you all remember the term for claiming that coveted seat, a throwback to the old western movies where the stagecoach driver always had someone sitting "shotgun". A surprisingly large list of rules exists for shotgun. My kids were experts in the rules and often quoted them. The level of sophistication has expanded with the introduction of the internet and now being able to access the front seat has been codified - see www.theshotgunrules.com.

It is not unusual for children to want to be first in line. First to receive something - food, treats, toys, time, it really doesn't matter what it is (although bed was not something I saw anyone rushing to get into first). I suppose if we think about it, it's a survival of the fittest mentality. If we lived in a time when food was really difficult to get, we would be able to easily understand rushing to the line for lunch. For the most part, rushing to be the front of the line does not get the student much. Sometimes jockeying for position results in the exact opposite of what they want and they end up with a trip to the office because they've knocked down a classmate in their hurry.

The point to all of this is helping kids to gain a sense of perspective when they are not first, they are cut in line or they don't get the "best" seat. Getting a sense of perspective often requires that we ask that they step back and ask themselves what will happen if they don't get what they were so anxious for. If being first means being rude, hurting someone, or being unsafe, it isn't worth it. By asking a series of questions, serious or silly, we can help them develop a view that helps put the target of their desire in perspective. Will the sky fall? Will you still be able to get a ride if you're not in that seat? Will you still be able to hear the story? Will you be able to see if you sat in a different seat? If you get your lunch 30 seconds later, will you faint from hunger? Asking questions helps them to examine their thinking and develop some self-talk when disappointed in an outcome. It also helps them to make better decisions about whether or not being first in something really matters. There are races where winning is important but not everything is a race.

PTO NEWS

PTO LEADERS: Leigh Fisher, Hollie Foley and Rachel Shelley
PTO CONTACT: pto@eespto.org

PTO LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

Hollie Foley will be stepping down at the end of this school year and we are looking for someone to take over her responsibilities. If you are interested in learning more about this role in the PTO leadership, please contact Rachel at pto@eespto.org.

FOOD! FUN! MAYFAIR!

We need two volunteers to help make our annual Mayfair event a success. We are searching for two capable people to lead the most important part of Mayfair - The food!! Limited commitment, but amazing reward for you and the kids! 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.

GAMES! FUN! MAYFAIR!

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.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED FOR MAYFAIR

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 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!

NURTURING HEALTHY SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT PARENT NIGHT: SAVE THE DATE THURSDAY MAY 4TH TIME TBD

A 90 minute training hosted by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont (PCAVT). The training provides participants with information and skills to help them understand the stages of healthy sexual development and common behaviors in children along with tips on how to talk with children and answering their questions.