



FRIDAY FLASH

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

December 21, 2012

From the Principal's Desk

This has been a good week at EES, despite the concerns we all shared over the weekend. The children were fine; they were their normal selves, happy and excited about the approaching holiday. This is as it should be. Our world should be a place where children can peacefully anticipate a holiday. They continued with learning, gift making, and planning celebrations.

Today was a special day for the children. There were quite a few activities that were planned by them with the help of their teachers - whether gathering the last boxes of food for the food shelf, making gingerbread houses for COTS, performing and watching the Winter Solstice celebration, and participating in the Whole School Celebration to recognize all the Bees that have been earned since the beginning of this year.

Celebration is an interesting idea. It is based purely on an a thought - "let's all have fun together" or "Let's recognize or commemorate an event". We can dance and sing and eat good things, tell stories and laugh together. When you think about it, it is the "idea" of celebration that gets us going. It is the idea that we're going to have fun...on purpose! Sometimes it's with a purpose, such as marking something that happened such as a birthday. Someday it's just because!

Throughout our weeks, each classroom has small celebrations, marking achievement of their own goals, whether behavior or academic. They help plan, picking the activity and figuring out how it will work. The more they are involved, the more meaningful the celebration is and the more meaningful, the more memorable.

We're celebrating today together at EES as much to be together as a community as a reward for the students working hard on our school wide expectations. Coming together as a community - large or small, is something that helps us feel like we belong to something which is a feeling that helps us feel more secure and better overall. The fact that our students actually planned the whole celebration makes it that much more special and hopefully memorable.

It is our sincerest wish that all our students feel very much a part of this community; that as they go forward in their lives, they will look back at the time spent here with warm thoughts and good feelings. We hope that all who are able to join our celebrations, whether every Wednesday morning, or occasionally, in the class or in the cafeteria, feel as much a part of this community as your children.

We wish all of you a lovely holiday break and a wonderful New Year.

Upcoming Events

- Dec. 24 Start of Winter Break—no school
- Jan. 2 Back to school
- Jan. 3,4,7,8 Play Auditions
- Jan. 21 No School Martin Luther King Day
- Jan. 26 Math Night at EES!
- Feb. 9 EES to UVM Women's Hockey - 2:00

**Whole School Assembly -
Edmunds Expectations - PBiS**

Over 500 Items Collected For the Food Shelf

Ms. Flynn's 4th grade class has been collecting food donations from the Edmunds community for the Burlington Food Shelf. The class created collection sites and has been gathering up donations each day. Today, the food was picked up by the Food Shelf. Ms. Flynn's class would like to thank everyone for helping them meet their goal of 500 items.

Request from the Nurses' office!

Our nurses are often asked for changes of pants as students' clothes become wet from accidents. We are out of our supply and could use underpants, pants and shirts for boys and girls in a variety of sizes with a concentration of smaller sizes. If you have clothes that have been outgrown, please consider dropping some off at our Health office.

EES CHORUS DELIGHTS AUDIENCE AT UNIVERSITY MALL

The EES Chorus performed at the University Mall JCPenney Court on Wednesday, December 19. The students delighted shoppers, parents and friends at the mall for close to 30 minutes with a selection of songs from Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza. We'd like to thank the parents who helped transport the students as well as Mrs. Norland for forming the chorus and seeking the performance experience for the students.

EES STUDENT COUNCIL PLANS CELEBRATION

The student council put together the program for a whole school celebration marking the excellent work that students have been doing in meeting our school expectations. The program was a fun competition based on the game, "Are you smarter than a 5th grader". A short "commercial break" delighted students as faculty were models in a blind fold make up demonstration.

PTO News

PTO LEADERSHIP COMMENTS ON SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY

In the wake of the horrible tragedy at Sandy Hook School in Newtown, CT, Signe and I have met with Dr. Mathias to speak about EES school safety. We, along with Dr. Mathias, believe in continuing to make Edmunds a welcoming school, while working to improve school safety and security. As the school moves forward with some security measures, we remind you that it is critical for all visitors to check-in at the main office to get a visitor's pass, before going on to your child's class, the cafeteria, etc.

We would be open to sponsoring a conversation about school safety or general concerns following the horrific events in Connecticut. If that is something you would be interested in attending, please email us: Signe Daly (signe.daly@burlingtontelecom.net) or Peggy O'Neill (peggyov@burlingtontelecom.net). Visit: <http://eespto.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/eespto>

BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET HEARINGS

Public comment hearing is scheduled for *January 7th, at 7 p.m. at BHS*. A public comment on January 8th at 7 p.m. at BHS will also be held prior to final budget decisions. For detail on the 2012-2013 Budget, visit <http://www.boarddocs.com/vt/bsdvt/Board.nsf/Public> School Board/Meeting Agendas, on the left side. *Stay informed.*

SPRING MUSICAL: PINOCCHIO. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This year's EES Drama performance is *Pinocchio*. Please see EES Drama site: <http://eespto.org/theater-program/> for forms, permission slips and parent handbook. *We need approximately 40 parent volunteers for the play to be as successful as it has been in the past. Please visit the SignUp Genius link to volunteer:*

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094AA8AC2FAA8-2013>

**The dates and times for the three spring performances are: Thursday, March 14, in-school performance; Friday, March 15, 7:00 pm performance; and Saturday, March 16, a 4:00 matinee.*

EES PTO VOLUNTEER SURVEY: THANK YOU

Thank you to all who completed the EES PTO Volunteer Survey. We will leave open the survey for another week, as there were some folks who expressed interest in volunteering, but did not provide any contact information. We will continue to put out calls for volunteers throughout the year. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE: MATH NIGHT - SATURDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 5:00-7:00 PM

The 5th Annual EES Family Math Night will be on Saturday, January 26th from 5:00 to 7:00. We serve pizza from 5:00 to 5:30 and games from 5:30 to 7:00. Stay tuned for more information and an R.S.V.P.

LOST AND FOUND

We have lots of clothing, boots, shoes, lunch boxes, and miscellaneous items in our lost and found in the entryway of the first floor. Please be sure to check it out if your child is missing something (and even if you think they are not, you might be surprised at what you find). *Any items not claimed by the December break will find a new home. Please remember to label your child's items.*



