



FRIDAY



FLASH

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

Date and Volume Number

February 21, 2014

**Upcoming Events**

Feb. 21 Report Cards go home

Feb. 24-Mar 4 Winter Vacation

Mar. 13 School Performance of Willy Wonka

Mar. 14-15 Very Merry Theatre - Willy Wonka

Mar. 24 -28 Parent Teacher Conferences

Mar. 27 - Early Release 11:30am Bag Lunches

Mar. 28 - No School

Apr. 1 Reading to End Racism

**From the Principal's Desk**

Those of you with students in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be receiving your child's NECAP scores along with their report cards. The NECAP tests were given to students in October. The tests are difficult and take stamina and require perseverance on the part of all children. The concept is that the testing will indicate the level of effort that the school is expending on all students to help all achieve. It's not a perfect system. We work very hard to insure that all of our students are learning. You can see that throughout the hallways and in the interesting projects they are working on. Hopefully you are hearing about what they are learning when they come home.

I've often thought that if we were all very interested in all of our students do better in school, we could help by doing one very simple thing. We could all ask children what they learned in school today, or this week. As parents and citizens, we need to get away from "What did you do in school today?" We all know the answer to that question. "Nothing". Right, you spent 6.5 hours in a building and sat looking at the ceiling. *Of course they did something* and if you asked them to actually think about what they did and share some portion of it with you it would force them to actually think about their day. If adults started asking more pointed questions, we would be giving the children a message that will become very loud despite the volume of our voices. That message would be that we think education is important.

If you think that I'm being overly simplistic, consider how much attention is paid to children when it comes to sports. Parents stand on the sidelines or in the stands watching as their children practice soccer, lacrosse, football, baseball, and so many other sports. We drive them to one practice after the next. We ask them about their games and how their practice went. Relatives and neighbors will ask about sports but not many ask about what was learned in school. They might ask "how's school?" but that's a pretty easy question to answer. Asking "what did you learn about today?" or "what did you learn that you were surprised about?", "what did you find difficult in school today?" makes it tougher to get away with a one word answer.

I know that it is impossible for you to stand on the sidelines of their classroom and watch as they learn. Frankly it would be terribly distracting to the students. Taking the time to show your interest involved and you can encourage your friends and neighbors to ask your children more direct questions to help the children understand that our society places value on education; that we are committed to the process, and that we honestly expect them to try to remember what they are learning.

**Wednesday Whole School Assembly**  
**All are welcome 8:10 - 8:25**

**UVM WOMEN'S HOCKEY GAMES**

If you're in town over the break, the women can use your support. Today, Friday, Feb. 21 at 7 and tomorrow, Saturday, Feb. 22 at 4 they will be playing Providence College. It's senior night for the graduating players. *For the first time in the history of the women's hockey program, they will be playing a playoff game on home ice next Friday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.* Please go and support them!

**PAJAMA STORY HOUR AT EES MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup> 6:30-7:30 PM**

Kindergarteners and future Kindergarteners! Come in your pajamas to listen to a few stories for enjoy some milk and cookies. This is a chance for prospective new families to get a feel for the wonderful community we have here at EES by mingling with our families who are currently in kindergarten. Let your kindergartener be the "big kid" for a night by coming to Pajama Story Hour! Encourage your friends with children entering kindergarten in the fall to come.

**HEALTH EDUCATION DUSCUSSION for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.**

Parent information on Dr. Andrea Green's health education curriculum was sent home with your student. Please look for this information in your student's backpack. Dr. Green will be visiting our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes and talking with students as part of the district's Health Education curriculum in March. If you have any questions about the information sent home or about Dr. Green's presentations please call the school nurses at 864-8450.

**EES TOURS FOR INCOMING KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES**

Do you know a neighbor or a friend who will have a Kindergartener next year? Encourage them to come tour Edmunds! Tours will take place on Wednesday mornings at 8:05 am from the front entrance. Upcoming tour dates: Mar 5, 12, 19, and 26. Tour participants will have the opportunity to attend the whole school assembly and then take a guided tour from 8:30-9:00. To sign up for a tour, contact Monica Gragg at 864-1791.

**BURLINGTON KIDS AFTERSCHOOL NEWS!**

We are planning a family night to showcase what the kids have been doing all session 2, and to preview some of the activities coming up in session 3! Family night will be on Thursday March 6 from 5:00-6:30, we will have light food and drink, photos and a performance from the Wednesday Drumming with Ali class! Please mark your calendars and join us! All are welcome, even if your child does not currently attend afterschool.

Session 3 is coming up! Brochures are being sent home today, Friday February 21. We will also be emailing a copy of the brochure to those currently enrolled, if you would like to request an electronic copy of the brochure and sign up sheet, or have any other questions, please call (802) 316-0195 or email Priscilla ([praba@bsdvt.org](mailto:praba@bsdvt.org)) or Stephanie ([sellisto@bsdvt.org](mailto:sellisto@bsdvt.org)). Sign ups are due Monday March 10. Thanks! We're looking forward to another great session!

**BSD 2012-2013 Annual Report**

Now Available at [www.bsdvt.org](http://www.bsdvt.org)

Burlington School District's 2012-2013 Annual Report includes the comprehensive budget for 2014-15, comparative data on school spending between Burlington and other Vermont communities, and a review of school accomplishments and assessments for the 2012-13 school year.

**PTO NEWS****VOTE ON SCHOOL BUDGET TUESDAY MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>**

Support Burlington schools! More information on BSD website at:

<http://district.bsd.schoolfusion.us/modules/cms/pages.phtml?pageid=299231&sessionid=3776ebc815519a2a851f8de8942ec84e&t=70f3972e1eab3ba389d2d6d0a09a5f21>

**VOLUNTEER FOR EES DRAMA CLUB BAKE SALE TUESDAY MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>**

Help the EES Drama Club earn money for its program! Location: EMS gym (Ward 6 polling site). Need donations of baked goods or food to sell. Also need volunteers to man the bake sale. Contact: Kim MacQueen at [kimmacqueen@gmail.com](mailto:kimmacqueen@gmail.com)

**THANK YOU: MATH NIGHT VOLUNTEERS AND PARTICIPANTS!**

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Math night was held this past Saturday night. Over 125 people showed up to enjoy pizza and play many fun math-related games. A HUGE thank you to past Edmunds parent Sandy Flemer for generously donating her time and skills to make this night such a success. We would also like to thank Lisa Brighenti, Kindra Johnson, Lara Gentchos, Rachel Shelley, Kate Lekstutis, Kate Larson, and Wendy McKinnon for all of your help. If you missed it this year, come next year! Sandy has agreed to coordinate a Math Night for the upcoming year.

**WILLY WONKA SCHOOL MUSICAL SCHEDULE AND IMPORTANT DATES****5<sup>th</sup> Grade Rehearsal Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup>:**

- In the EES Library from 11:00 am -1:30 pm with Don. Please eat lunch before coming to this rehearsal. Dismissal will be from the front door of EES.
- Looking for at least one or two parent volunteers to attend this rehearsal.
- Please contact Clare ([clarewool@mac.com](mailto:clarewool@mac.com)) or Kirstin ([kkworden@gmail.com](mailto:kkworden@gmail.com)) if you can help out.

**Bake sale Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup>:**

Location: EMS gym (Ward 6 polling site)

All proceeds benefit EES drama club

- Need donations of baked goods or food to sell
- Also need volunteers to man the bake sale
- Contact: Kim MacQueen at [kimmacqueen@gmail.com](mailto:kimmacqueen@gmail.com)

**PTO EMAIL UPDATES**

The PTO sends out weekly email updates. If you would like to be added to the PTO email list, please email the EES PTO ([pto@eespto.org](mailto:pto@eespto.org)). For more information about PTO events visit: <http://eespto.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/eespto>.



Thinking hard!