

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

February 22, 2013

From the Principal's Desk

Upcoming Events

Today students are going home with their report cards. You will also be receiving your child's NECAP (New England Common Assessment Program) scores. There is a lot of information to digest between the two reports. It makes sense to spend a bit of time reviewing what you are seeing in those reports.

The NECAP score is generated from the testing that was done in October. It takes a long time to get the results back and the information, while useful to the District, myself and the Edmunds faculty from a long term perspective, does not reflect the current status of your child. It reflects where they were in early October. The report seeks to determine how close your child is to the levels of proficiency established in the state standards. Do they meet the target, exceed it or are they below the target? The report shows you where your child stood in October in relationship not only against the targets but also as compared to the other students of their grade level in their school, the district and the state. Your child has been learning and progressing since taking that assessment.

The report card is a more current and accurate representation of how your child is doing now. We are measuring their progress as it compares to the target levels for the different skills and the content they are learning.

It is important to spend some time reading the report card with your student, reviewing what is said. It is also important to focus on the successes and where they are doing well. There is often a tendency to focus on the areas where there is less progress, without much mention of the areas of success. Remember that all areas that we measure are important and celebrating the successes is as important as examining what could be done to grow more in the areas of concern, especially when the report card shows success in all but one or two areas. Remember that success breeds success, especially as we celebrate it.

As you discuss your child's report card with them, help them to understand that teachers don't "give" them grades, they earn them. Their achievement is based in large part to the amount of effort they put into their learning. We've all seen people who are incredibly smart who go no where because they don't put any effort in what they do. Complimenting students on how hard they worked or how much effort they put in helps them to equate their success to their effort, rather than their intellect. This is important for all children, regardless of how smart they are. We want to cultivate a sense of personal responsibility and work ethic in our children so that they know that they do have control over their own success. This starts by focusing on effort.

- Feb. 22 Report Cards go home
- Feb. 25 - March 5 Winter break
- Mar. 6 Students return to school
- Mar. 13 New Comers Coffee 7:30 to 8:10
- Mar. 14, 15, 16 Pinocchio!
- Mar. 25 Harp and Soul - VSO visit to EES
- Mar. 25-29 Parent Teacher Conferences by appointment
- Mar. 28 Early release day for Conferences
- Mar. 29 No School

Whole School Assembly 8:10-8:25
Welcome back!

BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

Information about the Burlington School District Budget and our budget vote are linked to the BSD Website

<http://bsdweb.bsdrv.org/Board/BoardBudget.php>

Did you know that anyone who resides in Burlington can vote NOW by walking in to city hall and voting absentee ballot? Early voting has proven to **increase voter turnout** and the early voting/absentee ballot process can easily be used for this purpose. If every past and present teacher, NEA member, educator, and current (or former) BSD parent voted (regardless of how they vote) the voter turnout in BSD would increase significantly. ***If you are a Burlington resident – even if you will be around on town meeting day – please consider voting via absentee ballot now.***

If you know someone serving in the military, away at college or another educational institution, or living abroad, Vermont statutes allow citizens to keep residency for voting purposes and remain on the checklist in the town in which they resided. Make your voice heard, look at what is in the budget and vote now. Feel free to share this information about early voting with friends and neighbors.

NURTURING HEALTHY SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT:

March 21 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Karen Holz from Prevent Child Abuse VT will host a discussion to help parents and caregivers better understand the sexual development of children, and how to respond to children's sexual behaviors and questions in ways that promote healthy behaviors. Participants will learn to: identify normal sexual behaviors of children; respond to children's sexual interactions; respond to children's questions about sexuality; identify and report suspected child abuse; respond to disclosures of abuse.

Location TBA. ***Childcare provided.***

Calling all future Kindergarten Parents!

Please alert your friends with children who will be Kindergarteners to come to one of our Kindergarten tours.

We hope to have as many kindergarten students registered as possible by the end of this school year. This helps us prepare for our new children and learn more about them as people and learners. Help us to reach out into the community and bring our kindergarten students to us so that they and their moms and dads can participate in our Kindergarten Orientation in May!

Kindergarten tours are as follows:

- Wednesday March 13th 1:15-2:15 pm
- Thursday, March 28th 8:20 - 9:20 am
- Thursday, April 4th 1:15 - 2:15 pm
- Tuesday, April 16th 8:20 - 9:20 am
- Tuesday May 7th - 8:20 - 9:20 am
- Wednesday May 22nd - 1:15 -2:15 pm

RSVP's are helpful. Call 802-864-8473 extension #1

BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT: EXTENSION OF PRE-K-8 STUDENT YEAR

Due to the February 8 snow day (our second of the year), we are extending the student year to June 13 for grades pre-k-8. The last day of school for students in those grades is June 13; it will be a half-day.

HARP AND SOUL TO PERFORM AT EES

EES student body will engage their musical minds the morning of Monday, March 25, with the help of **Harp & Soul** (Flute and Harp Duo)!

The dynamic *SymphonyKids* duo, Harp & Soul, presents a fresh and engaging program which illustrates how the harp and flute work and sound, and how composers have used their special qualities in orchestral music. Kindergarten through 2nd grade will enjoy the performance and Q & A session 8:45-9:30, and 3rd through 5th grade will have their opportunity 9:45-10:30.

The VSO's traveling ensembles visit all corners of Vermont as part of an outreach program known as "Musicians-in-the-Schools." These lively performances are met with overwhelming enthusiasm, as the musical ambassadors spread the word that classical music is fun. Of course, EES students already know this!

Parents are welcome to join their child for the performance, which will take place in the cafeteria/gym.

THANK YOU!

Mrs. Flaherty/Palmer's class would like to express their thanks to City Market and Timberlane Dental for their gift card/in kind donations to our community service project. These businesses helped supply materials for the construction and distribution of dozens of candy houses. We were able to raise \$300 for COTS through the sale of these houses to members of the Edmunds community. Thank you also to the parents who provided supplies and purchased houses!

From the PTO**FRILLS FUNDRAISER: THANK YOU EES COMMUNITY!**

Thank you to all the families who gave our school the support we need by contributing to our No Frills Fundraiser! Our faculty and students greatly appreciate your financial contribution.

EES FAMILY VALENTINE'S DANCE: THANK YOU!

Big thanks to the following parents Emily Ankerson, Jay Gleason and Nicole Neimann who were instrumental in welcoming our EES families at the front door. DJ Lily was fantastic AGAIN! Thank you Travis Hathaway for helping set up and LinCo Entertainment for giving us a discounted rate for the DJ equipment. EES families has a fun night dancing to the hits.

MORE PTO NEWS ON THE ATTACHED LETTER**From the Community****TOWN MEETING DAY - 7 A.M. - 7 P.M. TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013****Where to vote:**

Locate your polling place, and confirm Your Voter Registration Info:

<http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CT/Elections/Voter>

Polling Places

Ward 1: Mater Christi School, 100 Mansfield Ave.

Ward 2: H.O. Wheeler School, Corner of Archibald and Walnut St.

Ward 3: Lawrence Barnes Elementary School, 123 North St.

Ward 4: St. Mark's Youth Center, 1271 North Ave.

Ward 5: Burlington Electric Department, 585 Pine St.

Ward 6: Edmunds Middle School, 275 Main St.

Ward 7: Robert Miller Rec Center, 130 Gosse Ct.

