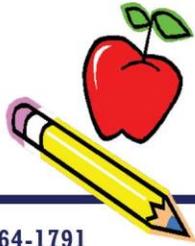




EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FRIDAY



FLASH

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

Date and Volume Number

September 19, 2014

From the Principal's Desk

When my son was three, I was reading "Little House in the Big Woods" to him before his nap. I'd gotten tired of reading picture books, so I decided to give a chapter book with very few illustrations a chance. One afternoon, I was reading in a place where both pages had nothing but print. John, reached across my lap, and waved his hand across the words on the page, saying, "I'm getting used to this kind of picture."

I was surprised. I asked, "Do you mean the picture you make in your head from the story?"

"Yes", he responded. It was amazing that I actually got a chance to know when he started developing the ability to create a mental image of what was being said or read to him.

Making images of things that we read about is a really important part of understanding, and reading comprehension. If you make images while you read, the reading can come alive in your head - you are the director in your own movie.

Try this. Picture one Macintosh apple. Now picture three. Put them in a line. Now put them in a triangle. Can you change them to Granny Smith's (the green ones)? Is it easy for you to do, or hard? It is something that your brain is definitely capable of doing, and even if you can't do it now, you can develop that skill with some practice. If you have a hard time doing it, you may also have a hard time keeping track of all that you read, and may find that you have to re-read things several times before you really get it all.

The ability to visualize is also critical in math. It helps students to begin to grasp the concepts of numbers, of what one is, or two. They are not the digit or a word, but an idea that tells us "how many" of anything. Being able to quickly picture a number of any item is really important to gaining a sense of numeracy.

The number of children who make mental pictures of their reading has really declined. We believe it is the result of so much video being available. Children don't have to make mental pictures because TV, movies and video games make the pictures for them. You can help them learn this incredibly important skill. When you read to them, don't always show them the pictures. Ask them to make a picture in their own mind. Ask them to describe their mental picture with details of size, shape, color, location, and more. The suggestion that they can use their imagination and make their own pictures, and, especially at an early age, is a great start in helping your child not only understand but also remember what they read later on.

Upcoming Events:

Sept. 30 Picture Day

Oct. 2 Open House 5:45 -6:15- Dinner (free)
6:00 -7:00 - Open House (in classrooms)

Oct. 9 PTO Kindergarten Pajama Story Hour 6-7pm

Oct. 29 Multicultural Night

**Whole School Assembly,
Wednesday, Sept. 24
8:10 - 8:30
Kindergarten Welcome by 5th Grade**

Open House Date Change - Now Oct. 2

We were alerted to the fact that our Open House conflicted with Rosh Hashanah and for that reason, we have changed our Open House to the following week. We apologize for the oversight and for any inconvenience it causes. We hope that you will be able to join us for the PTO supper on Thursday, Oct. 2 and for the Open House.

5th Grade Kindergarten Welcome Ceremony at Whole School Assembly

One of the traditions of Edmunds is when the 5th grade students welcome each kindergarten student with a pencil. It is something that our 5th graders all look forward to. We hope that the parents of our 5th graders and kindergarten students in particular will be able to join us for our Whole School Assembly on Wednesday, the 24th at 8:10.

THANK YOU MORNING TRAFFIC CIRCLE VOLUNTEERS!

Several parent volunteers help out with the traffic circle in the morning. They serve an important role in keeping the traffic flow and our children safe. There are some things that drivers need to be aware of. First, the handicapped parking spot has been moved and is now the first parking place on the left hand side of the driveway. Please only park there if you have a handicapped permit. Also, please do not try to turn left leaving the horse shoe. You will tie up traffic and there is a right hand only sign at the end of the driveway. Finally, please be courteous to our volunteers. They are doing a valuable service in keeping kids safe during a very busy time.

CALLING VOLUNTEER PARENTS and EES FAMILIES

This year we are able to offer enrichment opportunities to our second through fifth graders in both technology and art. To make the most of this extra time in these areas we need your help in offering students support where necessary. Individual help is key in helping our students succeed. Volunteers would meet students in the 3rd Floor Media Center at EES on the following days:

2nd GRADERS NEED HELP

MONDAYS 2:00-2:45 PM

FRIDAYS 2:00-2:45 PM

3rd and 4th GRADERS NEED HELP

THURSDAYS 1:05-1:50 PM AND 2:00-2:45 PM

FRIDAYS 1:05-1:50 PM

5TH GRADERS NEED HELP

FRIDAYS 2:00-2:45 PM

Please contact Kathy Neil, our librarian, or Emily Willette, Technology teacher, who will be thrilled to know you have a day to volunteer and help out our 2nd-5th grade students.

kneil@bsdvt.org ewillett@bsdvt.org

FROM THE PTO**PTO-SPONSORED OPEN HOUSE DINNER AND MEETING
OCTOBER 2- 5:45-6:15PM**

Join the EES community for a free full spaghetti dinner and brief introductory meeting before the Open House. This is a fun and easy way to start the night with your families. The Open House is from 6-7PM, which is a chance to meet the wonderful teachers and see your children's classrooms.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH FUNDRAISER FOR
THE FOUR WINDS PROGRAM SEPTEMBER 27:**

Four Winds program costs thousands of dollars to run every year and this is the ONLY fundraiser that is specifically attached to the Four Winds program. Location: Williston Rest Area (Northbound AND Southbound). Need volunteers to man the stations for a two hour slot AND people to make baked goods or donate drinks/sodas. If you've never done it, it's a lot of fun, and you need not have any skills other than your enthusiasm for the Four Winds program and how our school's children directly benefit from a parent led hands on program that brings real life science into the classroom. To sign up for a slot for the Northbound OR Southbound Rest area, please click on the link here: (or paste the URL if the link is not viable) (www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080845AAA829A31-come/). Please note that when you volunteer for a slot, please plan to be there 15 minutes BEFORE your time starts and 15 minutes AFTER your time ends to be sure that there will be someone at the table at all times.

To sign up for a slot to donate baked goods, drinks, and other things, please click on the link here:

(www.signupgenius.com/go/5080845AAA829A31-baked).

Please note that you should only grab one slot per category. For example, if you are providing 2 dozen cookies, put your name down for one slot, and then approximate the quantity in the comments section.

Thanks! Contact: Gina MacKinnon (862-0424 or gina.mackinnon@comcast.net)

THANK YOU EDMUNDS WELCOME BBQ

Thank you to all volunteers who helped set-up, grill, serve, and clean up. A special thanks to Nancy Westbrook who coordinated the event. It was great to have the UVM Women's Hockey team join us and dance with the students!

KINDERGARTEN PAJAMA STORY HOUR OCTOBER 9 AT 6-7PM

Bring your Kindergarteners dressed and ready for bed for a story hour with milk and cookies. More information to follow.

PTO EMAIL UPDATES

The PTO sends out weekly email updates. If you would like to be added to the PTO email list, please contact Marni Slavik at EES PTO (pto@eespto.org).

For more information about PTO events visit: <http://eespto.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/eespto>.

**HELP COORDINATE MULTICULTURAL NIGHT/ROCK AROUND
THE WORLD OCTOBER 24**

Multicultural night is a fun event designed to share our diverse cultural origins through food, music, and dance. If you would be willing to help coordinate this event, please contact Marni Slavik (pto@eespto.org).

FROM THE COMMUNITY (*Burlington School District does not endorse or sponsor these organizations.*)**Burlington Girls Mini Metro Basketball Tryouts**

Mini-Metro is a competitive basketball league with teams from high school districts including Burlington, CVU, Colchester, St. Albans, Milton, Essex, Mount Mansfield, Missisquoi Valley, Montpelier, Lamoyille, and S. Burlington.

Grades 5th / 6th

Sept. 30 & Oct. 2 7 pm - 9 pm Burlington High School

Each player is encouraged to bring their own basketball.

For more information contact Coach Chris Johnson / 233-6967

Visit our website: www.vermontbreeze.com/minimetro

Burlington Amateur Hockey Wants You!

OPEN HOUSE & REGISTRATION

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2014, 10AM-Noon

LEDDY PARK ARENA

Kids 3+ and their parents are invited to skate with or just talk to current players, coaches and parents, as well as BAH Alum from CHS, BHS and RICE MEMORIAL. Meet members of the UVM Club Team and the VT Lumberjacks too! Learn all about BAH's youth hockey programs and how rewarding youth hockey can be for players and parents alike. Visit us at: www.bahabobcats.com for more information.