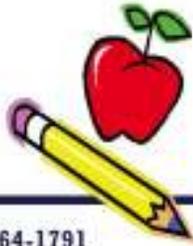


FRIDAY



FLASH



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

January 23, 2015

From the Principal's Desk

Why the UVM Women's Hockey Game on Jan. 30? It started four years ago, but my reasons were reinforced yesterday with a news story. The news announced the first woman to be promoted to the position of captain in the Vermont State Police. It is 2015. How could it be that it took this long to get a woman to that position? Then again, should I be that surprised? Laws don't make change in social norms and stereotypes. We know that racism continues to be a problem in this country. "Ism's" require conscious decisions to overcome. Title IX requiring that colleges and universities provide equal access to sports to women was passed when I was in college in 1973 (you will all now be able to guess my age at Math Night), and yet, take a look at how we still portray women's sports?

I remember the 1999 Women's World Cup Soccer Championship Game in the Rose Bowl. 90 thousand fans watched in the stadium and millions around the world watched on TV and it was a very exciting match. It was the largest audience in history for a women's sporting event. I remember believing that it would help change attitudes towards women's athletics. Not even close. The stands are still close to empty at most women's events and overflowing at men's.

So what would change attitudes towards women's athletics, and why does it even matter? Perceptions about capabilities of men and women are formed early and through multiple means. Watching sports is fun for everyone, but if the only teams we ever watch are men's teams, our children get a message that men's athletics are superior to women's. If our children see men being powerful in sports and women as cheerleaders and in half time shows, dancing in provocative clothes, the message is pretty strong about the roles of men and women. How does that message extend to other areas of society, whether employment, education, and positions of power? The fact is that women athletes are skilled, aggressive; that they play hard and well and their games are exciting. Too often, no one is watching. We want our girls and boys to understand that both genders are strong and capable. We want our girls to see this to open their minds to the possibilities open to them and our boys to be open to the idea that leadership and capability are based in one's actions, not one's gender.

Next Friday, our girls and boys have an opportunity to watch two strong women's team play ice hockey at UVM. Just as important, let them see us, their adult role models, appreciate the UVM women's skill and determination in competing against the Northeastern. Changing attitudes requires that we not only tell children what we want them to believe - it requires that we show them.

Upcoming Events:

Jan. 24 Family Math Night - Games and fun
Jan. 30 EES to UVM Women's Hockey Game
Feb. 1-17 Library Reading Race
Feb. 4 Walk and Roll
Feb. 5 Author visit
Feb. 16 Parent Night - Personal Safety and Healthy Relationships

Whole School Assembly
Wednesday, Jan. 28
UVM Women's Hockey Team Members
8:10 - 8:30

FAMILY MATH NIGHT THIS SATURDAY NIGHT!!!

UVM WOMEN'S GAME - FLYER ATTACHED TO THE FRIDAY FLASH -PLEASE RETURN BY Wednesday, January 28th. The UVM Women will be playing Northeastern University on Friday the 30th and EES is going to be going in force! This is our 4th year and let me tell you, the girls really look forward to our voices in the stands. A form is attached to the Friday Flash and we ask that you please fill it out and return it so we can let UVM how many tickets we will need. Students need to come with an adult, and it is fine if children go with another family as long as there is an adult who is responsible for them. It is best to get to the door by around 6:30 as we have a large crowd. We sit in the Student Section as a group. Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

EES STUDENT COUNCIL

The next **Spirit Day** will be **Friday, January 30** and it's **Green and Gold** (yellow) day to support the UVM Women's Hockey Team.

PERSONAL SAFETY AND HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

We are hosting a parent night, Mon. Feb. 16 6:30 - 8 pm where Johanna Straavaldsen from Prevent Child Abuse Vermont will be speaking with parents/ caregiver about:

- ◇ Sexual abuse prevention education for home
- ◇ K- 5th early sexual abuse education curricula taught by your child's School Counselor-*Care For Kids (K-2nd) and We Care Elementary (3rd-5th)*

We hope you will join and learn more about these topics.

FEBRUARY IS LOVE YOUR LIBRARY MONTH

February is **Love Your Library** month at EES and this year we are excited to offer a reading challenge to all of our students called "**Reading to Race!**". This year's theme will have our students racing through Burlington around various landmarks on their way to the finish line! From February 1 through the 17th, students will record the amount of time they spend reading outside of school and we will tally each classroom's total to see which class reads the most during the month. Progress will be recorded on the library bulletin board racetrack with each class having their own race car sprinting to the finish line. Your child will be bringing a letter home that gives more details about the race along with coupons to record their reading time. Please look over the letter and help your child to remember to fill out the coupon and return it to school. We are looking forward to a fun reading event and thank you for your support!

BURLINGTON KIDS NEEDS YOUR VOICE

Burlington Kids Afterschool is planning for our next session of activities, and we want **YOUR** input! What would you like to see offered at afterschool? Might there be an activity you or someone you know would like to facilitate? Please let us know! Email Priscilla at praba@bsdvt.org or drop a note in the afterschool mailbox, with all your ideas! Thank you

IDLING YOUR CAR? PLEASE STOP!

Did you know that Burlington has an anti-idling ordinance? Comply with the law while saving money avoiding fuel waste and engine wear, improving air quality and public health, and slowing the advance of climate change. Burlington's ordinance does not permit idling a vehicle for more than three minutes. There is no seasonal exemption. For additional information, please visit <http://www.codepublishing.com/VT/Burlington/> or contact Sustainability Coordinator Jennifer Green at jgreen@burlingtonvt.gov or 865-7532. For more general information about the impacts of idling, and Vermont's State regulations, visit the Idle Free Vermont website at <http://www.idlefreevt.org/>.

FROM THE PTO**EES MUSICAL NARNIA UPDATE**

For rehearsal schedules and updated information, please check the EES PTO's Web site drama page. <http://eespto.org/theater-program/>. Please contact Kirstin at 343-5502 or kkworden@gmail.com if you have any questions.

VERMONT COFFEE FUNDRAISER DUE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

EES makes \$6/bag! Coffee will be delivered on Friday, February 6. Order forms at Front Office and EES PTO website (<http://eespto.org/fundraisers/Vermont-coffee-fundraiser/>). Checks payable to EES PTO, OR Pay via PayPal; Please note in PayPal "Purpose Box" number of bags and coffee choice. Contact Pam Moreau (802.999.4590; pmoreaulawvt@gmail.com) with questions.

WINTER WALK AND ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Bundle up and join other students from Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine to walk or roll to school!

AUTHOR KATE MESSNER TO VISIT EES THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

We are excited to be welcoming author Kate Messner to our school on Thursday, February 5th. Our 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classes will attend a presentation by Kate where she will share with them her research, editing and writing skills and how they can apply them to their own writing. She will also be talking with them about her new book, *All the Answers*, which is about a girl who discovers a magical pencil that can answer any question. In anticipation of Kate's visit, we were sent the first two chapters of the book which we are reading during library time. Prior to her visit, students have the unique opportunity to purchase personalized autographed copies of this soon to be released title through Phoenix Books. If you would like to order a copy for your student, please submit the form found in the PTO newsletter, the Friday Flash, or have your child pick one up in the EES Library.

THANK YOU FROM EES STUDENT COUNCIL

A heartfelt thank you for the generous donations of food. The 20 milk crates filled the UVM student's car and they received enough food to make meals for the next few months and feed many families. We thank you!

NARNIA SET BUILDER'S PARENT MEETING MONDAY JANUARY 26th AT 7:30PM

Location: 23 Kingsland Terrace. Contact: Dave Jenemann (david.jenemann@uvm.edu).