

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

June 9, 2017

Up Coming Events:June 15 - 5th Grade Tribute 6:00 PM

June 16 - Step Up Day K-4: 11:30 Dismissal

June 18 - Father's Day

June 19 - Last Day of School - 11:30 Dismissal

June 21 - Lake Monster Baseball Game (To benefit Four Winds Science Program - 7:00 PM)

From the Principal's Desk

As I walk through the halls at EMS, I see many students that we had here at EES. Of course, most of them now tower above me, and I no longer have the authority to tell them to "stop growing". I tried that with them while they were at EES. Apparently, the power of a principal does not extend to growth. Can't blame a short person for trying through. The end of the year activities frequently provide an opportunity to witness the growth of our students. While we may see them every day, their incremental growth isn't necessarily something we think about, but then they will participate in a culminating activity with their class, or show us a project and describe with confidence what they have learned and we can remember where they were when started at EES.

The ranges of abilities, capacities, and existing knowledge within a classroom are significant, let alone an entire school. When most people think about development, they think about it as a single issue, but we work at a finer grain - acknowledging that development is in multiple areas - intellectual (thinking and making sense of what we are learning and using the information in logical ways), social (being able to play and work well with others), emotional (being able to cope with our feelings and impulses in a way that allows us to continue in our daily lives), gross motor skills (walking, jumping, running, throwing), fine motor skills (holding a pencil, writing), auditory (listening skills - making sense of what people are saying) and verbal (being able to clearly communicate what we know, feel or need). Within each of those areas of development are even finer grains which we learn about when we need to work more intensively with students who have greater needs.

We all know that we can expect different things from different ages because of developmental stages, but we do not all realize that the various areas of development can be out of synch with the rest of development. A 7 year old can have the emotional age of a 5 year old, the intellectual age of a 7 year old and the gross motor development of a 9 year old. While generally, developmental ages are within six months of each other, there are plenty of times when they are out of synch. That can create some interesting challenges. Over time, with work and coaching, those levels of development move closer to being synchronized. We see the students become increasingly more capable. They are no longer the student who struggled walking up and down stairs; the student who didn't talk, who couldn't sit still for 30 seconds, or who was so shy they couldn't make friends or was frozen when faced with a new challenge. Now, they stand in front of their work, proudly displaying what they've learned and sharing it with us. This is where we take our quiet joy in being educators.

Whole School Assembly**June 14, 2017****Good Bye - What a Wonderful World****CALLING ALL BOOKS!**

Students (and adults) are reminded that the final day for library books to be checked out is May 31st. **All books should be returned by June 7th.** If your child has misplaced their book, please let us know. Overdue notices are sent home with your child weekly so please check to see if we are expecting a book to be returned! Books can be returned any day, not just on the day of their library class. Thank you for your help in getting all of our books back to the library before school ends.
Mrs. Neil

ABCD STUDY:

A team from the University of Vermont is conducting another round of research as part of an Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) study. If you would like more information about how your child can learn about science by participating in the study (for which you will be compensated), please contact the UVM ABCD research team at 802-847-4562 or online at abcd@uvm.edu. Informational brochures may also be found outside our school's main office.

PTO NEWS

PTO LEADERS: Leigh Fisher, Jenny Sullivan and Rachel Shelley
PTO CONTACT: pto@eespto.org

PTO LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

Please join us in thanking Hollie Foley for her two fantastic years helping to steer the PTO ship! You will be very missed. We are happy to announce that Jenny Sullivan will be stepping in to take over Hollie's responsibilities! Welcome aboard Jenny!!

LOST & FOUND!

Time to search for that missing t-shirt, sweatshirt, ski jacket & snow boots!! Our lost & found is over-flowing once again and needs to be cleaned out for the end of the year. Please take the time to search for lost items. **Anything left after 6/19 will be donated.**

VSO PETTING ZOO!

Thanks for all the volunteers who helped put on an enriching experience for the K-1 students.
A special thank you to Bethany Fitzgerald for organizing it!

GREEN THUMB COMMITTEE 2017/18:

Do you enjoy gardening and landscaping? Does the constant state of our flower beds drive you crazy? We are looking for a few amateur gardeners to help us maintain our gardens. If you are interested in being involved please contact Rachel @pto@eespto.org