

FRIDAY



FLASH



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

March 15, 2013

From the Principal's Desk

I would imagine that you've noticed the condition of the bank between the driveway and the field on the east side of our school. It's pretty bad. It's muddy, and rather unattractive. It has a problem with erosion, and the kids have a tendency to run up and down it, which only makes the problem worse. The other problem is that we would like to have gardens as a means to enhance our instruction. Take the two problems and we have an opportunity.

Working with an Environmental Design class at UVM, I have the five site plans that the student teams created for us. They are all beautiful designs and incorporate native vegetation and features like an amphitheatre, outdoor classroom, vegetable gardens, fruit trees and bushes, and landscape features including a walkway that makes the area accessible to those in wheelchairs, paths that direct the traffic in a way that would reduce erosion, and even an Abenaki wigwam and a ship using an existing tree as a mast! They've thought about ways to enhance the water garden, included maple sugar trees for possible future tapping and rocks for jumping from one to the next, and plants to attract butterflies and hummingbirds.

We will be displaying the plans in the hallway of the first floor next week. We would appreciate it if you would take a look. We can either use one plan, or we can take features from several plans and incorporate them into one plan with the help of a landscape architect. We have an individual who is helping us in that area at least in helping us find someone who can help finalize the plans. We will have feedback forms so you can let us know your thoughts.

We have volunteers from IBM lined up to help with the physical work of landscaping for a day in May! I'm sure we'll need more volunteers to pitch in and help and we may need help securing materials. We have a donation from Champlain College that will help with a good amount of the costs (although we won't know the full costs until the final design is selected). It could be that the design is put in over a two year period, but this will be a vast improvement over what we currently have.

Anyone interested in working more closely on this project should contact me at smathias@bsdvt.org, Please put Garden Committee as the subject to help me identify your interest quickly (there are days when I get 100 emails).

I'm really excited about our being able to provide students and the community with a more attractive, useful area in which to learn and recreate. This should be a wonderful community project.

Upcoming Events

Mar. 15, 16 Pinocchio!

Mar. 18-21 - View Garden Designs on First Floor

Mar. 21 Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development
6:30pm-8:30 pm

Mar. 25 Harp and Soul - VSO visit to EES

Mar. 25-29 Parent Teacher Conferences by appointment

Mar. 28 Early release day (11:30) for Conferences

Mar. 29 No School

**Whole School Assembly
Music in the Schools Month -
Sing along with us!**

Come one, come all, to this Wednesday's morning assembly at 8:10 (March 20). March is "Music in Our Schools" month, and we will celebrate by an all-music gathering. We'll sing, dance, and play together for a VERY cheerful start to the day!

Parent/Teacher Conference Scheduling

Electronic scheduling for our March Parent/Teacher conferences is available starting Monday, March 11.

Please click on the following link to access the teachers' conference schedules. If you cannot access the link directly, please cut and paste the link into an Internet browser. If you need assistance, please contact Mrs. Monica Gragg at 864-1791.

http://ptcfast.com/schools/Edmunds_Elementary_School

If needed, please see the web documentation related to scheduling your March EES conferences at PTC

Fast: <http://tinyurl.com/helpforconferences>

PINOCCHIO PERFORMANCE DATES

EES students and the EES Drama program, under the direction of Don Wright from Very Merry Theatre present *Pinocchio*. Join us for the following performances: *Friday, March 15, 7:00 pm performance; and Saturday, March 16, a 4:00 matinee in the EMS Gym.* All are free and open to the public, and there will be refreshments for sale during the intermission.

TWO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO PREP FOR ART SHOW ON 16 APRIL

EES Art Teacher, Anne Lamont, needs a couple of volunteers to help her hang our children's art pieces in the cafeteria for the Art Show. She needs help around 3 pm on Tuesday, 16 April. Please contact Anne (alamont@bsdvt.org), if you are able to help.

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:

- 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

PERFORMANCE CLUB: CALLING ALL EES TALENT SIGN UP BY 21 MARCH

Performance Club is a place to bring your ideas to create original stage acts. Whether it's singing, dancing, comedy or music, guest artist Trish Denton will coach participants on how to be a powerful and expressive performer. Be prepared for loud voices, laughing and rockin' out.

PROGRAM IS FREE. Dates are Friday, March 22, April 5, 12, 19, May 3 from 3:00-4:45 pm. In-school location TBA. **Please SIGN-UP IN THE MAIN OFFICE BY Thursday March 21.**

For those who want to take the next step, there is the option to perform/host a spectacular school and **STAGE SHOW on May 24th!** Contact Trisha Denton: orksbox@gmail.com for more details.

NURTURING HEALTHY SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT: 21 MARCH, 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 EES Cafeteria. **Childcare provided.**

INTERMISSION BAKE SALE FOR PINOCCHIO

We need donations of baked goods, fruit, or savory treats (popcorn, pretzels, etc.) and paper cups for the Pinocchio intermission bake sale. In an effort to reduce waste from plastic water bottles, we will be providing paper cups, and have cold water available for purchase. **We need goods for both performances: Friday March 15th and Saturday March 16th; and volunteers to staff the table during intermission.** Please contact Emily Ankerson (emilyankerson@gmail.com) or go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4BAAAA238-pinocchio> if you can help staff a table or provide items for the bake sale (or both). Your donations and time help support the EES Drama Program and the amazing work that Don Wright does with our children. Thank you in advance.
Art is Alive at Edmunds

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK IS MARCH 25-29

To show our gratitude for our teachers and staff, we are planning a week full of special treats. We are asking each class to be responsible for a particular day, so that we make sure the week is full of goodies! Below is a list of class assignments. If you can help, please email Peggy O'Neill (peggyov@burlingtontelecom.net) with the day and item that you can contribute, and if you would like to coordinate food for the week. Bring your contribution to the Staff Room on the second floor. Also, if anyone could help with set up on Monday morning that would be great!

Monday: Breakfast - Kindergarten parents

Tuesday: Lunch - 1st & 2nd Grade parents

Wednesday: Desserts - 3rd Grade parents

Thursday: Desserts - 4th Grade parents

Friday: Breakfast - 5th Grade parents

PTO MEETING AND COMMUNITY SOUP DINNER: 9 APRIL FROM 5:45 - 8:00 PM

Join us for an EES community dinner with soup and bread on **Tuesday, 9 April at 5:45 pm in the EES cafeteria.**

5:45 - 6:15 pm Soup and Salads (in the EES cafeteria)

6:15 - 8:00 PM Edmunds' vision with Dr. Mathias (in the third floor Resource Room). Please bring your ideas to share.

PTO Leadership plans will also be discussed, as we're looking for parents to lead the PTO for next school year.

Childcare will be provided after the meal in the Library.

If you are able to bring something to supplement the meal, please see the list below for suggestions.

K and 1st grades: drinks

2nd and 3rd grades: desserts (fruit and cookies)

4th and 5th grades: dressed salads

RSVP to Peggy O'Neill (peggyov@burlingtontelecom.net) with the number of adults and children who will be joining us for dinner.

BOX TOPS UPDATE!

Thank you all for your hard work collecting Box Tops for Education. *Our latest submission at the end of February netted \$142 to bring our total for the year to \$216.60.*

This is the largest amount ever collected by EES and the school should receive a check soon. Please continue to collect Box Tops deposit them in the bin outside the EES Main Office. Our next submission will be in the Fall. Every little bit helps and your collective efforts really add up. To give some perspective of what is possible, Williston Central School and Northfield Elementary collect the most in Vermont, with each receiving over \$1900 per year on average since 2004 according to the www.boxtops4education.com.

Also, feel free to send in "Labels for Education" as well.

These are on products such as Campbell's soup. Cliff Morgan will track these and make a submission when we have enough. Any questions, contact Cliff at 863-5891 or cmorgan@us.ibm.com

SAVE THE DATE FOR MAYFAIR!!! 17TH MAY, 4-7 PM

The Edmunds Elementary School's annual Mayfair celebration is just around the corner - on Friday May 17th. Mayfair is a fun-filled afternoon of food, games, raffles, prizes, a silent auction and much more. Not only is it a blast for the EES community, but it is also the PTO's largest fundraiser. *Each year, more than \$5,000 dollars are raised to fund such activities as classroom grants, field trips and PTO-sponsored events such as Skate Night, and Math Night just to name a few.* More information about ways in which you can participate in this event will be coming shortly. If you have any questions or suggestions about Mayfair please contact Pam Shea (pj_shea@yahoo.com) or Courtney Asaro (courtneyasaro@gmail.com).

From the Community**LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL SIGN UPS**

It's time for 2013 Sign-Up and Indoor Practice! If you live **North of Main Street**, you play for CENTER CITY LITTLE LEAGUE

****Boys & girls aged 9-12 (Kid Pitch)**

Memorial Auditorium

Wednesdays, March 13, 20 & 27 from 6 pm - 7:30 pm

****Boys & girls aged 6-8 (Coach Pitch)**

I.A.A at H.O. Wheeler

Fridays, March 15, 22 & 29 from 6 pm - 7 pm

****Boys & girls aged 4-5 (T-Ball)**

S.A. at Lawrence Barnes

Saturdays, March 23 & 30 from 9 am - 10 am

For more information or to volunteer, contact Christine Dodson at 881-6457, or visit www.centercityllburlington.org

SARIS 5TH GRADE BICYCLE POSTER CONTEST: DUE 1 APRIL

The Vermont Safe Routes to School Resource Center is partnering with Saris Cycling Group, a manufacturer of bicycle racks and cycling training products, to launch a poster contest to get fifth graders to think about the benefits of the bicycle. The contest is asking 5th grade students to create a poster around the theme "Bicycling makes life better." The purpose of the contest is to promote youth riding bicycles as a way to lead a healthy lifestyle.

One winner will be selected from each state to receive a bike, bike light, and helmet. One National winner will win a trip to the 2014 National Bike Summit in Washington DC and their school will receive bicycle parking to park twenty bikes and a bike/walk tracking system called The Hub. **Entries due April 1st!**

For contest rules and to enter visit:

http://saferoutes.vermont.gov/whats_happening/press_room

For more information, please contact: Abby Mattera, State Outreach Manager, Vermont Safe Routes to School Resource Center; (802) 598-8651 or Abby@SafeRoutesVT.org

<http://saferoutes.vermont.gov/>

This is not a PTO-sponsored event/activity.

YOUNG WRITERS PROJECT: NORTH BY NORTH CENTER DROP-IN HOURS

Young Writers Project's North by North Center drop-in hours are free and open to all youths. YWP will provide a writing mentor, computer support, constructive feedback and a welcoming, creative environment. Mini-workshops will be held each day at 4 p.m.

Mondays - Fridays, 3-6:15 p.m., beginning Monday, March 18
12 North Street, Burlington