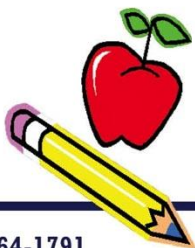


FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

March 6, 2015

From the Principal's Desk

My dad used to say, "You've never been anywhere if you've never been a ground". We sailed a lot and sometimes, when we were in an unfamiliar place, we went a ground. Then the choice was for someone (my brother) to get in the dinghy (a little row boat used to get ashore) and try to pull us off the sand bar we'd discovered, or if we were lucky and it was low tide, we just waited for high tide to lift us up.

His expression has equivalents in sports and in cooking. You've probably heard the expression, "You have to break a few eggs to make an omelet". Then there's the "You miss 100% of the shots not taken". The intent in each of these is to express that there is some risk in a lot of things we do, but we will never expand our horizons in some way if we don't take risks.

Getting people to try new things or to continue to do something they are not good at in order to improve can easily be impacted by the reactions of those around them. For example, my daughter played basketball and was a shooter. As an 8th grader, 3 point shots were very much part of her abilities. She made varsity her freshman year in high school because of her shooting ability. Unfortunately, every time she missed, her coach would yell at her. The shots stopped. There was enough risk in shooting and missing without also risking being criticized.

We live in a culture that gives a lot of attention to being the best at things, but we don't see the work that went into getting to be the best or just good at something. For that reason, it is easy for students to assume that people are automatically good at things. Some children are disappointed when they can't immediately do things perfectly - whether it's forming letters, reading or playing sports. Some simply give up. Talking about how much someone had to practice before getting very good at something helps children to realize that no one is automatically good at anything. Changing focus from achievement to effort rewards a child for practicing, and continuing to try, especially when something is difficult for them.

I took up hockey when I was 47. The first season I played, I went to a camp for women and had a goalie coach from Sweden. He coached the Swedish National Women's Team in the Olympics the following winter. It was hard to do the things he had us practicing. I apologized to him when I couldn't do what he'd told me to do. He would say, "Are you trying your hardest?" I told him I was. He said, "That's all I ask for". He made being a goalie a possibility rather than an impossibility. That's all we want from our students, that they try even when it's hard and eventually, they will improve. If we honor their efforts, they will take the risks to try.

- Mar. 9 -11 Red Clover Days
- Mar. 11 No Whole School Assembly
- Mar. 11 Ah! Cappella 10:15am - 11:00am
- Mar. 12 Narnia Dress Rehearsal
- Mar. 13 Narnia 7:00pm EMS Gym
- Mar. 14 Narnia 4:00pm EMS Gym
- Mar. 18 Annual City Arts Show - City Hall
- Mar. 23-27 Parent Teacher Conferences
- Apr. 3 Skate Night

NO Whole School Assembly
Wednesday, Mar. 11
Red Clover book reading in classrooms

Ah! Cappella TO SING FOR EES STUDENTS

This Wednesday morning, March 11, some of our students will enjoy a special concert by a group of professional musicians called Ah! Cappella, who use only their voices to make music. The performance is made possible by funding from the Ruth and Peter Metz Family Foundation. The 45-minute concert will be in the gym/cafeteria, 10:15-11:00. Parents are welcome to attend. The classes who are attending are KW, KZ, 1N/G, 1Q, 2B, 2F, 2M, 3F, 3F/P, 3/4H, 3/4P, 4F. If your child attends the concert, be sure to ask some questions about the lively performance!
-Christina Norland, Music Teacher

RED CLOVER DAYS CONTINUE MARCH 9-11

We are holding our annual school-wide Red Clover read aloud event March 5-11. The Red Clover Award, which fosters an appreciation of picture books through their reading and discussion, is voted on by Vermont students in grades K-4. At Edmunds, groups of all ages travel throughout the school listening to each of the ten books that were nominated for the award this year. The books are read by our staff and related projects are done by the students after each book is heard. Voting will take place in the next few weeks with our votes being sent to Montpelier to be included with those from schools all across Vermont. Once all votes are tallied, the winning book will be presented with the Red Clover Award. The winning title will be announced sometime later in April. Check in with your student and ask which book was their favorite and why. Hopefully it will be the winner! To find out more about the Red Clover Award, visit <https://sites.google.com/site/redcloveraward20142015/>

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Sign-ups for Parent Teacher Conferences will open on March 14th.

FROM THE PTO**COME SEE THE NARNIA PERFORMANCES:**

FRIDAY MARCH 13 at 7:00PM and
SATURDAY, MARCH 14 AT 4:00PM

EES MUSICAL NARNIA UPDATE

We need everyone who has a child in the musical to please help out in some way. Please visit the sign-up genius website at the following link and see what the needs are, email directly with the role you would like to provide, or ask what is needed most. We really can't put on the show without the help of everyone. Please see what you can offer. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at kkworden@gmail.com <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094aa8ac2faa8-20151>

NARNIA PERFORMANCE BAKE SALES - PLEASE HELP!

Thanks to those who have signed up to help with the Narnia performance bake sales. These are important fundraisers to help cover the costs of the musical. We still need lots of goodies! Can you help with a donation of food, baked goods, or drinks for the Friday night and/or Saturday afternoon performances? We welcome participation from all families whether or not you have children in the musical. Your contribution is much appreciated to support costs and treat-seeking audience members during intermission! Please [SIGN UP \(www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0B44ACAB2BA57-narnia\)](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0B44ACAB2BA57-narnia) to help at one of the bake sales during intermission and/or to donate food or beverages.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Brighenti (lisa.brighenti@gmail.com or 999-2934)

NARNIA MUGS FOR SALE

Kate Larson will be selling mugs to celebrate and help pay for this year's school play: Narnia. Pick up a mug (or more) at the final play practices or at one of the weekend shows. Mugs are selling for \$8 each. If you have any questions, please contact Kate at kate.larson@mac.com.

Special thank you to Korinna Hilleman for providing amazing sketches and costumes for so many years!

**SKATE NIGHT FRIDAY APRIL 3**

AT CAIRNS ARENA More information to follow.

FROM THE COMMUNITY**"Think Spring!! -- Indoor Center City Little League training starts soon!!"**

There are different days and locations depending on the age of the player.

Ages 4-5 (T-Ball) Sustainability Academy 123 North St, Saturdays 3/21, 3/28, 9am-10am

Ages 6-8 (Coach Pitch) St Joseph's School, 20 Allen St, Wednesdays, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 6pm-7:30pm

Ages 9-12 (Kid Pitch) Memorial Auditorium 250 Main St, Wednesdays, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 6pm-7:30pm

Details-

Players must show up to at least 1 indoor practice to be placed on a team

New players should bring a copy of their birth certificate Scholarships available. No player will be turned away for lack of funds

You can PRE-REGISTER

online!! www.centercityllburlington.org

Residency Requirement-

Center City Little League serves players who live between Main Street and Burlington High School. (Any student of IAA and SA can attend regardless of residency)

For more info- www.centercityllburlington.org

facebook.com/centercitylittleleague



Bake sale during the Election. Thanks to all who contributed and to those who worked at the bake sale!