

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

March 8, 2013

From the Principal's Desk

Thank you for your support!

On behalf of all the faculty, staff and students at EES, I would like to thank the taxpayers of Burlington for their continued support. We are grateful that the budget passed. It allows us to fully focus on the work at hand with your children. Please know that we do the best we can to use the funds that are provided to best advantage.

A Little Lesson in Conservation - Shake, Fold

Wednesday at our Whole School Assembly, I showed the students a video on Ted.com. It had to do with reducing the amount of paper towels that people use. According to Joe Smith (really), hundreds of millions of pounds of paper can be saved if everyone in the country used only one paper towel in a day rather than what is typically used. He discussed how people typically use 3-4 sheets of paper towels. I knew he was right because I see kids and adults do it every day. I thought I'd try changing the students' behavior by showing the students the Ted Talk which is at this link:

http://www.ted.com/talks/joe_smith_how_to_use_a_paper_towel.html.

Before watching the video, we had a short conversation about paper. It was great to see that most of our students were very well aware that paper comes from trees. What was even better was that they also understood that trees are very important because they clean our air. They could understand that saving trees is important to the environment.

Mr. Smith demonstrated his method of conservation which was to shake his hands 12 times after washing, fold a single sheet of paper towel in half (scientific reason for this) and dry his hands. I asked the students to try it to help save trees, and reduce the amount of trash that goes into the environment and to save money.

Now for the impact! The students did it yesterday throughout the building. They shook their hands. They took only one towel. They folded it and they dried their hands. Out of curiosity, I went around the school at the end of the day to check what the results were. The reduction in waste was incredible. Normally, the large garbage can in each student bathroom is overflowing with paper towels by the end of the day. Wastebaskets in each faculty bathroom are also overflowing. Yesterday and today, the waste was only about a third of what we'd normally see. Students reminded each other and their teachers. I let them know what a positive impact it was in just one day.

If they haven't already done it, let them show you what they learned. It's simple, effective and something that everyone can easily do without sacrificing much of anything (and it works). Pass it on!

Upcoming Events

- Mar. 9 Daylight Saving Time Begins-advance clock one hour
- Mar. 13 New Comers Coffee 7:30am to 8:10am
- Mar. 14, 15, 16 Pinocchio!
- 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

Red Clover Week!

We will be reading books that are finalists
for the Red Clover Award school wide.
No Whole School Assembly

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>

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:

- Wednesday March 13th 1:15-2:15 pm
- 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

EXHIBITORS AT 26TH ANNUAL DISTRICT WIDE BURLINGTON CITY ARTS SHOW ANNOUNCED

Congratulations to the following students whose work was chosen to be part of the 26th Annual District Wide Burlington City Arts Show at City Hall. The show will run through March 27th. There is a reception with the mayor on Tuesday, March 12th, 5-7PM, with an award ceremony starting at 5:45. Join us in congratulating our students.

Kindergarten: Stella Donovan, Jada Barrow, Mateo Baker-Djele, Henry Gogo, Elizabeth Cunningham, Sayre Fisher

First grade: Henry Gentchos, Sofia Bassett, Isabel Baggott, Rosie Perkinson, Carter Beaupre, Evan Eleck

Second Grade: August Rinehart, Lilly Gleason, Will Downey, Enya Arentzen, Davis Hobbs, Paw Tho Ka Mae .

Third Grade: Rebecca Cunningham, Nolan Simon, Nancy Budiman, Zeb Burton, Colin Ward.

Fourth Grade: Colby Beaupre, Rose MacQueen, Claudette Butoyi, Villads Klitgaard, Elsa Adrian, Makayla Bonilla

Fifth Grade: River Seaman, Ella Becker, Helen Worden, Julius Dodson, Chlöe Malone, Ethan Hobbs, Jake Moran

HEAD LICE? READ THE ATTACHED FLYER

The American Pediatrics Association has made a determination that head lice are not a health risk. It is an annoyance to be sure, but because it does not pose any risk to one's health, the district policy is to not send children home with lice. School districts state-wide no longer do head lice checks because of the determination that it is not a health risk. We have received some inquiries about our practices and we thought it would be helpful to tell you current information regarding how to stay ahead of head lice.

GUIDANCE FOCUSES ON PERSONAL SAFETY

Over the next several weeks classroom guidance lessons for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will focus on *personal safety* (kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade lessons will start in April). These lessons will include what to do if you are in an unsafe or uncomfortable situation, and when it is crucial to get help from a trusted adult. In classes we will be emphasizing for each child, "my body belongs to me". The basic safety message for children is that if they are experiencing *uncomfortable* or *confusing* touches, they have the right to "**SAY NO**" and tell an adult in their personal support system. It is important that children also get this information from parents and guardians. If you have any questions about how to continue this conversation with your child, or if you have any concerns please contact Melissa Hathaway (540-0137).

On a similar note, don't forget to come to the parent night on Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development Thursday March 21st from 6:30-8:30 in the Cafeteria.

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

ART IS ALIVE

More than 30 Edmunds Elementary School students submitted pictures for the playbill cover contest. Thanks to every artist who took time to submit their artwork. All entries will be on display at school through the play. Please stop by and check out the work of our talented students.

The grand prize goes to Cecilia Field and Ruby Guth who created the winning picture together. In the K - 3rd grade category the winners are as follows: 1st prize - Anna Jenneman, 2nd prize - Maria Worden and 3rd prize - Adyson Laframboise. In the 4th and 5th grade category, the winners are as follows: 1st prize - Isabel Vivanco, 2nd prize - Ella Dunkiel, 3rd prize - Adam Morgan and Chloe Evans, and 4th prize - Ethan Hobbs.

HARP AND SOUL TO PERFORM AT EES

EES student body will engage their musical minds the morning of Monday, March 25, with the help of **Harp & Soul** (Flute and Harp Duo)!

The dynamic *SymphonyKids* duo, Harp & Soul, presents a fresh and engaging program which illustrates how the harp and flute work and sound, and how composers have used their special qualities in orchestral music. Kindergarten through 2nd grade will enjoy the performance and Q & A session 8:45-9:30, and 3rd through 5th grade will have their opportunity 9:45-10:30.

The VSO's traveling ensembles visit all corners of Vermont as part of an outreach program known as "Musicians-in-the-Schools." These lively performances are met with overwhelming enthusiasm, as the musical ambassadors spread the word that classical music is fun. Of course, EES students already know this!

Parents are welcome to join their child for the performance, which will take place in the cafeteria/gym.

Steps to Keep Ahead of Head Lice

- 1) Watch for signs of head lice, such as frequent scratching. Lice are mainly spread by direct head to head contact and anyone can get them.
- 2) Check all family members for lice and nits (lice eggs) at least once a week. Nits are the size of a poppy seed, white or tan in color, oval shaped and are attached at an angle to the side of the hair shaft close to the scalp. They are attached to the hair by a glue-like substance and cannot be shaken off. Common places to look for nits are behind the ears, along the neckline, over the crown and under bangs. Adult lice are the size of a sesame seed and vary from gray to brown in color. They do not have wings, but have 6 claws with which to grab the hair shaft and can move very quickly, making them difficult to find in hair.
- 3) Most experts recommend checking wet hair with a metal lice comb for signs of an active infestation.
- 4) Consult your health care provider or a pharmacist before applying pesticides or other lice treatments if anyone involved is pregnant or nursing, has allergies or asthma. Finding a live louse is necessary for a definite diagnosis of lice. Do not treat unless you see live lice or find nits within a half inch of the scalp. If you are not sure it's a louse, save a sample on scotch tape and bring it in to the school nurse.
- 5) Consider all of your treatment options. Remember, lice killing products are pesticides and must be used with caution, following directions carefully. Using Cetaphil brand cleanser is another method of treatment which Medicaid will pay for. See the school nurses for directions. The only completely safe alternative is manual removal by combing. Experts from Harvard recommend daily combing for 1 ½ weeks after no live lice are found.
- 6) Wash bedding and recently worn clothing (within the last 3 days) in hot water and dry in high heat for 30 minutes. Combs and brushes should be soaked in hot water for 10 minutes. Because lice cannot survive off the human body for more than 48 hours, it is not necessary to bag stuffed toys, treat pets, or clean the entire house. It is helpful to vacuum places where your child's head touches – couches, car seats, etc.
- 7) There is no evidence to prove that lice sprays or other prevention products have any positive effect. They waste your time and money.
- 8) If lice are found on your child, please be responsible and notify your child's school, child care provider, or playmates so everyone can work together.

It is the family's responsibility to check for lice on a regular basis.