

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

March 10, 2017

Up Coming Events:

March 12 - Daylight Savings Time Begins
 March 13 - Holi (Festival of Color)
 March 17 - St. Patrick's Day
 March 24 - Skate Night
 March 30 & 31 - Parent/Teacher Conferences

From the Principal's Desk

I was listening to the local news on WCAX this week and heard a story about some alarming and inappropriate behavior by middle and high school students in a Vermont community. The children were videotaping each other fighting for "entertainment" over the vacation. The concern of the community was that it was not the first time it occurred and it was only discovered because the children happened to choose the area high school where their activity was videotaped by the school's security cameras.

I was struck by a comment made at the end of the report which was that parents felt that the children should be taught that the behavior wasn't appropriate or safe. I was startled by the comment because it seemed to indicate that it was someone else's responsibility to do that. I can't tell for sure whether the comment came from the parent or the reporter, but I can say that it isn't the first time that I've seen instances of news reporters (and politicians) intimating that schools should be in charge of teaching social skills. In fact, schools do spend a great deal of time teaching social skills. We teach about behaviors that are safe, respectful and responsible. We teach about personal space and safe touch. We teach language to help students verbalize what they are concerned about to reduce the instances of physical aggression. We even role play with them to practice using the skills.

As a parent of four, as well as an educator, I have often thought that there is a slippery slope in the media, and politicians assigning responsibility for teaching social skills so heavily on educators. The danger in doing this, is that it can give a message that parents and guardians either are not qualified, or don't need to teach the skills to their own children. I can think of no one more important to teach these critical skills to children. Parents are a child's first teacher, They are the ones who can have the strongest effect in teaching social skills, as they spend more time with their child than schools, and they have more influence on children than educators.

From my perspective, there should never be a "they should" when it comes to teaching children that which they need to know. It should always be a "we should" or an "I will" teach.

Whole School Assembly

March 15, 2017

"Shrek Teaser"

Miss Quinn's Class Leading

MUSIC NEWS:

EES Composition Club will have its final meeting and listening party on Thursday, March 16. We will listen to each other's work and have some snacks. Any interested parents are welcome to join us!

Students who have submitted work for the OPUS competition can continue to meet with Ms. Nolan during recess or after school on Mondays until final submissions are due March 30. Winners will be announced April 3rd. All composition club students are invited to the Opus Concert and workshop day, May 15th.

EES 4/5 Chorus will be starting up again on Thursday, March 23rd. If your child participated in the fall then they are still enrolled. If your child would like to join for the spring semester, please fill out the registration form [here](#).

Congratulations to all the 4th and 5th grade string players who participated in last night's **Orchestra Night** event at Burlington High School. The music was amazing!

Vermont Symphony Orchestra **Percussion Trio, Drumschtik**, will play two short concerts for EES students this Tuesday, March 14th. Students in Bellavance, McMorris, Ide, Styles, Flynn, Bonanni and Gillard will attend at 9 AM and students in Weidman, Kilburn, Quinn, O'Brien, Fagan, Goldsmith/Flaherty, Palmer, Fitzpatrick, and Houchens will attend at 10 AM. Both performances will be held in the EES cafeteria/gymnasium.

PTO NEWS

PTO LEADERS: Leigh Fisher, Hollie Foley and Rachel Shelley
PTO CONTACT: pto@eespto.org

THANK YOU ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE CREW!

Thank you to all for baking, delivering, volunteering time and money and effort to make the Election Day Bake sale happen! We Raised \$500. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Baked goods and beverages needed! Please donate an item for the Shrek Performance Bake Sales, March 17 and 18.

Your contribution makes a big difference to our school and offers a popular intermission destination for the audience! You can sign up at the link below:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b44acab2ba57-shrek/>

Questions? lisa.brighenti@gmail.com; aliciamcunningham@gmail.com

PLAYBILL ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

Local businesses, organizations and individuals generously support the arts at EES by sponsoring an ad in the Edmunds Elementary School Spring Theater Production. We'd like to reach out to the Edmunds community for new supporters. Each year Don Wright and his Very Merry Theater Production Co. collaborate with talented kids, dedicated families and friends, and supportive school staff to put on outstanding shows. There is considerable time and effort given by everyone, and there are costs for set materials, costumes, equipment and professional support. Each student that participates is asked to pay a fee to help cover their costs, but not surprisingly, a modest fee is not easy to absorb by all EES families. This year's production is a (modern) classic- **SHREK**. Opening night is Friday, March 17th. We would love for you to support our school kids and their start in the arts by purchasing an ad in this years play bill. Options for an advertisement in our 5 1/2 " x 8 1/2" program are as follows:

QUARTER-PAGE, 2-1/2" x 4", black and white, \$75

HALF-PAGE, 5" x 4", black and white, \$100

FULL-PAGE, 5" x 8": Interior, black and white, \$200

Interior, color, \$250

Inside front or back cover, color, \$275

If you are interested, please reply or contact me at [802-922-3125](tel:802-922-3125) or mmmoore@burlingtontelecom.net. I'd like to receive responses this week (by **Friday, March 10th**) and finalize ads by **Monday the 13th**.

Sincerely - Matt Moore

(Quinn Moore, Grade 4 and Galen Moore, BHS Freshman

SHREK THE MUSICAL NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!

Lots of fun jobs still available!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094aa8ac2faa8-20151>

Contact Andrea at andreamaryjuneau@gmail.com

if you have questions.

SAVE THE DATE SKATE NIGHT

Skate Night 2017

Friday March 24th from 6pm-8pm

Leddy Park Arena

More information coming next week!!