

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

March 17, 2017

Up Coming Events:

March 17 - St. Patrick's Day

March 17 - Shrek Performance, 7:00 PM

March 18 - Shrek Performance, 4:00 PM

March 24 - Skate Night

March 30 - $\frac{1}{2}$ Day for Students (AM) - Parent/Teacher Conferences in PM

March 31 - No School for Students - Parent/Teacher Conferences All Day

April 11 - Passover Begins

April 24 - 28: No School - Spring Break

From the Principal's Desk

We all know that children are not born knowing appropriate social skills. We've all had to correct a child who has said or done an unkind thing to another. As adults, our job is to teach appropriate social skills so that our children can successfully navigate in the community. While the vast majority of children are reasonably successful socially by the time they reach elementary school, they are not perfect by any stretch. The range of social skills is very wide, within classes and even within individual students. Students can be both capable of great empathy, kindness, and oblivious to their impact on others or even the need to consider others at other times. All students understand justice as it relates to them, but many do not consider how their actions might impact another, unless they are specifically directed to think about their actions from the other's perspective. Children make mistakes. They make poor choices and those choices can hurt others.

As a society, we have become acutely aware of the damage that bullying can and has done to individuals. Parents are understandably sensitive to the issue as it could impact their children. As a result, I have found that many parents, when reporting a wrong their child experienced use the term "bullied". Any behavior that hurts another, whether physically, socially or emotionally is wrong and is misbehavior. It is important that we all understand that, while bullying always includes misbehavior, misbehavior is not automatically bullying. I want to emphasize however that all misbehavior is subject to correction by the school.

So what is bullying? By legal definition, in order for behavior to be considered bullying, *it must target an individual, be repeated over time, have the intent to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate the student, and it must interfere with another student's rights to access educational programs. All of those conditions must exist for behavior to be bullying.*

Every day, children do things to each other that have the impact of making another child feel badly. This isn't exclusive to school. It happens between siblings too. That said it is pretty rare for an elementary aged student to meet all the criteria for bullying. Consider the question of targeting or intent. How often you have asked your child, "Why did you do that?" and they say, "I don't know". Young children rarely plan or consider ramifications of their actions. Most children who hurt other students treat everyone the same way. Some only know

(con't)

retaliation as a strategy for handling a situation because that is what they have been taught by adults. Some have very poor impulse control. Some have no awareness of their size as compared to their classmates. They flail around, hurting kids in their wake. All of these things can be changed through teaching, coaching and practice.

MUSIC NEWS

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 you child would like to join for the spring semester, please fill out the registration form [here](#). EES is a member of Music-Comp, an online mentoring program for student composers. EES has 5 students who have submitted work for a composition competition hosted by Music-Comp. Music-Comp is currently raising funds to support the live performance of the winning pieces. Please consider supporting this work with a donation. [Donate here](#). Find out more about Music-Comp at music-comp.org. 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.

Whole School Assembly
March 22, 2017
World Water Day - Lake Champlain
Miss O'Brien's Class Leading

PTO NEWS

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

COME SEE THE SHREK PERFORMANCES!

**FRIDAY MARCH 17 at 7:00PM and
SATURDAY, MARCH 18 AT 4:00PM**

VERMONT COFFEE COMPANY ORDERS DUE TUESDAY**March 21st!**

EES makes \$6/bag! This month orders will be delivered Friday, **March 24th**. Order forms at Front Office and EES PTO website.

(<http://eespto.org/fundraisers/Vermont-coffee-fundraiser/>).

Checks payable to EES PTO, OR Pay via PayPal; Please note in PayPal "Purpose Box" number of bags and coffee choice.

Contact Pam Moreau

(802.999.4590 or pmoreaulawvt@gmail.com) with questions.

SKATE NIGHT 2017

Friday March 24th from 6pm-8pm Leddy Park Arena

Please join the EES community for our annual skate night! FREE pizza and skate rentals. We ask that each family bring a snack, drink or dessert item (if you are able) to share.

Looking for a few volunteers to help. See link below...

Mark your calendars and get excited for this fun night!

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/805094BADAA2EAA8-skate

any questions please contact Kate

Lekstutis: Katelekstutis@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE PTO MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 4TH

More Information to come