

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

March 30, 2017

**Up Coming Events:**

March 31 - No School for Students - Parent Conferences All Day  
 April 11 - Passover Begins  
 April 12 - Thingyan (Water Festival) Begins  
 April 13 - Fine Arts Night - Grades 3, 4 & 5  
 April 14 - The Poetry Guy (Ted Scheu) Visit  
 April 24 - 28: No School - Spring Break

**From the Principal's Desk**

As more and more students come to be equipped with cell phones, we need your help in insuring that students meet the expectations concerning cell phones at EES, which are stated in our Student Handbook. Please remind them of the expectations which are that the phone should remain in backpacks or pockets. In reality, they should be off during the school day.

"No cell phones should be in use while at school. The cell phones should be in backpacks or pockets. Cell phones that are being used will be confiscated and kept in the office until the end of the day. Students have ready access to a telephone in the office for calls to parents."

Please do not text or call your child directly on their phones during school. Further, if your child calls to say that they are ill, please call our school nurse. Some children have taken up a new tactic of calling home to say they are sick when they have not gone to the nurse and they are perfectly healthy. Any message or question for your child should be directed through the office, including that you need to speak directly to your child. We will get your child and provide them access to a telephone in the office and in private if appropriate.

Technology makes it far too easy for children to say things we wouldn't say to someone's face. The children do not have the maturity to handle the responsibility that comes with the technology. Behaviors that come with the anonymity of apps like Snap Chat create serious emotional and unnecessary mental health problems because of the inappropriate and immature use of phones. It is far healthier for students to express their concerns face to face than hiding behind anonymous screen names.

If you feel that your child needs a phone, please consider the kind that can call your numbers, and 911 but does not text. If that isn't possible, please consider equipping the phone with an app that allows you to control things like usage times. I did some research and there are quite a few apps that would help you control the use of technology by your child including limiting when the phone will work.

We don't provide children with a driver's license until they are 16 because we know they are not mature enough to handle the technology. Children are causing serious emotional damage to their peers resulting in mental health issues and even suicide. Just because they can hold a phone doesn't mean they are mature enough to handle the responsibility.

**Whole School Assembly****April 5, 2017****Joanna Art Awards - Yellow Submarine****Miss Quinn's Class Leading****MESSAGE FROM THE BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD:**

The Burlington School Board is committed to protecting the right of every child in Burlington to attend our schools. We believe that in Burlington every child should be fully included and safe in school, and that every child should have access to high quality education. The Burlington School Board is committed to equity for all our students. We value all of the students, families, and staff, who together provide a rich diversity of perspectives, experiences, and cultures. We strive to create a climate in our district that honors and respects all students for who they are. We are united in our belief that diversity is an asset to the education of all, and view it as our greatest strength. With this statement we reaffirm the following District policies and procedures: • ALL students are welcome in Burlington schools, regardless of immigration status. Our top priority is the education and safety of all our students. • We do not ask about, collect, store, or share information regarding any student's or family member's immigration status. We will maintain our practice of protecting student information. We adhere to all provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the federal law that protects the privacy of all student records. • Any requests for access to schools or information from school records by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will be referred to the Superintendent. We will only release information or allow access as is required by law. • The District will provide information and support for families who have questions regarding their educational rights or legal status through referrals to others in our community who have this expertise; for example, Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program, Vermont Legal Aid, the Attorney General's office, and the offices of Vermont's congressional representatives. We are fortunate that you are part of the Burlington School District. This is your right, and having you here enriches the city of Burlington and our school community. We welcome you with open arms.

**PTO NEWS**

**PTO LEADERS:** Leigh Fisher, Hollie Foley and Rachel Shelley  
**PTO CONTACT:** [pto@eespto.org](mailto:pto@eespto.org)

**THANK YOU: SKATE NIGHT!**

Thank you everyone involved in putting on a fantastic Skate Night! A **BIG** Thank you to Kate Lekstutis for jumping in and organizing!

**PTO MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>:**

Join us at 5:45pm in the EES Cafeteria.

We will be hosting Rich Amato who will discuss Safety within the Burlington School District.

Followed by a Mayfair Brainstorming Session and other items. We will be Serving Pizza (let us know of any allergies) and Babysitting will be provided.

**LOST AND FOUND CLEAN OUT!**

Please stop by this week and claim that lost pair of boots, spare jacket or pair of snow-pants you know you bought but your child(re) claims "disappeared" Take it from us it probably in the lost and found! Everything left after **April 5<sup>th</sup>** will be donated.

**ART ROOM HELP:**

The Art Room is looking for a couple volunteers to help us get ready for the Rock Out/Fleming Museum of Art collaboration. Work will include photocopying, laminating, and hot gluing. Please email [jelliott@bsdvt.org](mailto:jelliott@bsdvt.org) if you can help.

**WELCOME BACK... MINI MILERS!!**

Delayed Start Date for Mini Milers Announced! The program will be now be led from **April 12<sup>th</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup> on Wednesdays, from 1:50pm-3:00pm**. If your child currently attends the Burlington Kids After School Program or the Y Program, we will coordinate with those programs to meet us at the end of the program each week. There is a \$35 fee for participation; however, if your child receives free or reduced lunches, the fee may be waived. In addition, if the fee is a hardship, please connect with us as we want your child to participate and will seek accommodations. Flyers will be going home with your children soon. Please email Brandi at [Brandi.littlefield7@gmail.com](mailto:Brandi.littlefield7@gmail.com) or Kirsten McNeil at [knstorch@yahoo.com](mailto:knstorch@yahoo.com) with any questions.

Feel free to also check in with Leigh Fisher or Marni Slavik. For further information, you can also go to RunVermont's website: <http://www.runvermont.org/youth/ready-set-run/registration>.

We are looking for 1-2 parents to join our mini milers parent volunteer group. No running experience required! Typically we break up the kids into three groups: running games and activities, middle distance, and long distance. Even if you can't be there every week, we welcome your help! Please contact Marni Slavik ([marnislavik@yahoo.com](mailto:marnislavik@yahoo.com)) if you would like to volunteer.