

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

May 9, 2014

Upcoming Events:

May 13-15 Science NECAP

May 16 Mayfair 4pm - 7pm

May 19 Visiting Author Scott Nash 8:45-10:30

May 20 Musical Petting Zoo

June 5 Field Days

June 6 EES Chorus at Burlington Jazz Festival

June 11 Last day of school - Early Release 11:30am

From the Principal's Desk

You know it's spring when you see a unicyclist cycling up Cliff St.! Actually, I wish I could have watched him go the whole distance. The thing I have always loved about Vermont springs is the speed with which they occur. I know that sounds odd considering how slow this one has been to arrive. A friend asked me if I thought this spring was later than usual. I told him that I have observed that the leaves are usually out by Mother's Day. Two days ago, I doubted that would be the case and yet today, it looks like we will have a lovely spring day for this important occasion.

Many of our students have been busily preparing gifts. The artistry is very creative. I know that everyone will enjoy the efforts and the sentiments expressed. If you could see the level of effort expended as they make their offerings, you would be touched.

Days like Mother's Day and Father's Day are important to our children for more reasons than one might think. As parents, we do a lot for our children. We do it selflessly. So much of what we do goes without thanks as it is generally what needs to be done. Lunches are made, clothes clean, trips to the soccer and baseball practice, games watched, sleepovers allowed, hobbies supported, cuts cleaned, tears wiped off cheeks, and hugs given at a moments notice. We do these things out of absolute love. We don't expect gratitude expressed for each thing we do, but the idea of receiving gratitude is one more thing that we can teach our children. It is important that children have an opportunity to give back to you. And it is important for them to see how to accept gratitude graciously. Mom's enthusiasm for your children's offerings helps them to learn how to respond when someone gives them something. Modeling delight and enthusiasm and spending time saying what you admire about their gift helps them to learn what expresses gratitude more than words.

The idea that appreciation should be shown, and gratitude expressed is one that recognizes that an effort has been extended on our behalf. Saying thank you very easy, and often even that is forgotten (as I see every day when students walk through a door without thanking the door holder). Spending time thinking about ways to express gratitude is more difficult and in that difficulty we are actually thinking more about the person we want to thank.

Children love having an opportunity to do something for their parents. Whether making breakfast, drawing a picture, or decorating the house, they become incredibly enthusiastic. The mess at the end can be joyfully cleaned up together. Enjoy your day.

Whole School Assembly May 14**8:10 to 8:30****All are welcome****FOURTH GRADE TAKES SCIENCE NECAPS THIS WEEK**

Fourth graders will be taking the science NECAP's this Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please make sure they are well rested so that they can do their best!

CELEBRATE KIDS DAY THIS SATURDAY

Burlington School Food Project would like all to join us on Saturday, May 10th, for Kids Day, Vermont's Largest Children's Festival! Join the parade from Edmunds School to Battery Park at 9:30 a.m. and enjoy traditional music, dancing and singing in the park. A free lunch will be available for all kids 18 & under as The Burlington School Food Project kicks off its free Summer Meal Program. For more information, visit www.enjoyburlington.com. We hope to see you there!

BEAT MAKING LAB AT EES A ROARING GREAT TIME

Students in many of our grades and faculty were highly entertained on Friday, May 1st, by the Apple Juice Kid and the Beat Making Lab set up right in the EES gym. An original beat was made using the voices, hands and feet of EES students. It was the definition of COOL! Special thanks to Claudia Renchy Morton for making the connection and Clare Wool for gathering the necessary equipment!

PERSONAL SAFETY FOCUS OF GUIDANCE

Over the next couple of months classroom guidance lessons in all grades will focus on *personal safety*. In the younger grades we will go over the terms *comfortable, uncomfortable, and confusing* touches, 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, GET AWAY, and TELL AN ADULT THEY TRUST"**. It is very important that children also get this information from parents and guardians. For more information you can contact EES school counselor, Melissa Hathaway, or visit one of the following websites:

www.childluresprevention.com

www.dcf.vermont.gov/stepup/act_one_schools

Stay tuned to upcoming Friday Flashes for tips on talking to your child about sexual abuse prevention and personal safety.

PTO NEWS**MAYFAIR SILENT AUCTION IS LIVE UNTIL MAY 15th AT 6PM**

See the auction and register at

<http://www.32auctions.com/eesmayfair>. Win a gift certificate to our local bookstore, area restaurants and museums all while supporting Edmunds Elementary School! With over 80 items, and more added every day, you can pick up adorable hats made by an Edmund's parent, baskets of products from 7th generation, tickets to the Montshire Museum and gift certificates to A Single Pebble, the Bearded Frog, SoYo and much more. The silent auction is only online this year- no chance to bid at the Mayfair event. Sign up to bid soon, and bid generously! All proceeds go to Edmunds Elementary PTO. Spread the word with friends, family and co-workers. Anyone can bid!

"MAY WE ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT"- NO FRILLS FUNDRAISER

Support EES PTO by making a financial donation. Funds enrichment activities, field trips, and community-building events. 100% of donations go to all of these enrichments for our community. No amount is too small or too large- every dollar matters. EES PTO is non-profit so donations are tax-deductible. You can drop off checks to office made payable to EES PTO or you can donate online at www.eespto.org. Our goal is to receive all contributions by Thursday, May15. Thank you!

EES TOURS FOR INCOMING KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES

Tours will take place on Wednesday mornings at 8:05 am from the front entrance. Upcoming tour date: May 14. Tour participants will have the opportunity to attend the whole school assembly and then take a guided tour from 8:30-9:00. To sign up for a tour, contact Monica Gragg at 864-1791.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MAYFAIR FRIDAY MAY 16TH FROM 4-7 PM

The Mayfair is coming! The Mayfair is coming! The Mayfair is on.

This is one our school's most beloved events and a successful fundraiser with all donations going directly back to our school for students and teachers. There will be games, prizes, a jumpy castle, food and more! It takes many volunteers to run the Mayfair so we are asking families to please consider volunteering an hour of their time. Signing up is easy! Either fill out the form sent home with your child or go online at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E4BABAA2EA13-mayfair> to sign up. Any questions or thoughts please email Courtney Asaro at courtneyasaro@gmail.com or call 233-1734. Thank you for supporting our school!

Cake bakers wanted for MayFair Musical Cakes game.

Cake pans will be available next to the front office starting Friday, May 9th. Extravagant decorations welcomed. Nuts, however, are not welcomed. Please email Annie Howell to let her know of your interest/availability at annebhowell@gmail.com.

WALK AND ROLL TO SCHOOL WEEK/ WAY TO GO CHALLENGE WEEK OF MAY 12th-16th

Compete with other classes to see who has the most walkers and rollers at EES. Join other schools thru out Vermont to see who can have the smallest carbon footprint. Join Us Tuesday the 13th before school to decorate your helmet. If you walk or roll to school mark your house on the Map of Burlington!! Other fun walking and rolling activities to come!!! If you can help with the week long fun of walking and rolling please contact Rachel Shelley rachskye@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FIELD DAY THURSDAY, JUNE 5TH

The annual Field Day is an outdoor sporting/teamwork building event for all classes. The kids LOVE it, but we need your help. Tyler Sessions, the PE teacher has a wonderful day of fun activities set up for the kids. Please help her by signing up to lead an activity. There are two different time slots to choose from (or stay the whole day). Grades K-2 is 9-11am, and grades 3-5 will be from 12-2pm. Volunteers will get two 10 minute breaks each shift and can enjoy watermelon and rocking tunes along with the kids. To sign up click on:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094BADAA2EAA8-field> or contact Kate Lekstutis at katelekstutis@gmail.com

FROM THE COMMUNITY**BURLINGTON FRIENDS OF EDUCATION MEETING MAY 14 6-9PM**

Hey Friends of Education! Please come to a working meeting at The Miller Center in the New North End on Wednesday, May 14 from 6-9 pm. We will have a short presentation on the budget and the rest of the time will be devoted to sign making, leaflet bagging, and other tasks in support our "Vote Yes" campaign. The hope is that folks can find one hour or more during this time frame to come out and help. All we need is YOU! RSVP's are appreciated to bfoevt@gmail.com but are not required. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/volunteerBFOE>.