

FRIDAY



FLASH


**EDMUNDS**  
 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

## From the Principal's Desk

This fall has certainly been eventful and the stresses that were felt by students were palpable here at school. Things have calmed down here as they always do the week after the time change/post election/post Halloween. We know that for the next six weeks we all will be faced with countless advertisements and ideas for things we, our children, or our friends apparently can't be without. As much as corporations would have us believe that life would only be so much better if we only had x, y or z, I think we'd all be happier by simply turning off the television or the radio. Then you won't know what you can't be without!

The ability to appreciate that which we have is greatly enhanced when we have some quiet time to enjoy it. Or some time to think about it. Thinking about what we have and where our fortunes lie is something that we need to share with our children. We can model reflecting about what we are grateful for and give them an opportunity to share what they are grateful for with us. They will be pretty quick to identify their family, but what else can they see? Do they recognize their health, a safe place to live, their brothers or sisters, or the time you take to bring them to their sports games or to their friends? What about their friends? How about the fact that they can go to school? Do they recognize that they live in a beautiful place or value the sunsets on the lake or the bike path they can ride on any time?

Sometimes the value of something isn't readily apparent to children. They may not know that an education isn't something everyone in the world can access. They may be unaware that we live in a place that people travel to from all over the world. They may take their siblings for granted.

Perhaps starting a thought process that may lead to gratitude focuses on what makes us feel content or happy. Contentment is an optimal condition in that it is quieter and positive. It's what I used to feel on a Sunday afternoon, especially in the fall. It was a time when I would be outside in cool weather, Dad would be watching football, my mom reading a book, and I didn't have a care in the world. Life was GOOD! At the time, I didn't think about what it was that I could be grateful for - the fact that I had caring parents who provided a warm, safe home for me. We were a family that was able to spend time together, play games together, and we always had dinner together.

My good fortune was more in the people around me. Helping our children to understand that good fortune is not necessarily tied to money, can help them to keep a better sense of perspective when making decisions later on. The peer pressure they will face as they grow older will include the desire to have similar possessions, and experiences as their peers - and their dissatisfaction in their own life can easily be impacted by a

November 18, 2016

### Up Coming Events:

Nov. 18 - Report Cards Go Home Today!

Nov. 21 & 22 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (No school)

Nov. 23-25 - Thanksgiving Recess (No school)

Dec. 14 - EES Chorus to COTS event on Church St.

Dec. 23 - Jan. 2 - Holiday Break (No school)

**Whole School Assembly**  
**No Assembly on November 30<sup>th</sup> - (Red Clover)**  
**Next Assembly - December 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**Traditional Morning Meeting**  
**Misses Flaherty/Goldsmith Class Leading**

### (CONT)

perception of worth or value that they measure in possessions. Possessions can quickly lose their attractiveness. The true happiness is found in caring and sharing.

There is much to be thankful for as Thanksgiving approaches. Every day, when I go to work, I'm thankful that I get to work with a great staff, beautiful children, generous volunteers and fabulous families. I am able to fill my heart every day with the sight of all of your children. I am able to laugh with the adults around me and work to make this a safe place. It may not be Disney Land, but it's one of the happiest places I know. I hope that all of you have a happy and peaceful Thanksgiving and break.

### REPORT CARDS:

We discovered yesterday morning that our report cards are including a lot of white space that was not intended. Unfortunately, it was too late to correct the programming in time to release the report cards. We will be working to resolve the problem before the next report card is issued.

### SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR WRAP UP

Our annual book fair was once again a huge success due to the many students and families who took time to visit and make purchases from the large selection of books from Scholastic. It is always exciting to get books into children's hands! The profits from sales are used to purchase books and videos for the library, help pay for author visits and purchase equipment to be used for technology enrichment classes. Thank you especially to all of our volunteers who helped keep our fair running smoothly throughout the week. We couldn't possibly do it without you! Enjoy those books and, again, thank you for your support! Kathy Neil, Librarian

**BSD AUTOMATED ALERT SYSTEM - CONNECT  
5 TEST PHONE CALL/EMAIL/TEXT**

Please note that we will be sending a TEST phone call/email/text to parents/guardians on **Monday, November 28th at 6:30 p.m.** If you receive the call/email/text at the numbers/email you wish used for such things as school announcements, attendance calls and weather delays/closings, no action is needed. If you do NOT receive the call/email/text or receive the call/email/text at a number/email that you do not wish contacted in these instances, contact your school administrative assistant with this information. **Also note that you will only receive an email and/or text if you have provided us with this information.** Thank you for your participation

**PTO Leaders:** Leigh Fisher, Hollie Foley and Rachel Shelley

**PTO Contact:** [pto@eespto.org](mailto:pto@eespto.org)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP THE NURSE 11/30:**

The Nurse needs parent volunteers to help out with vision and hearing screening on 11/30. The nurse will be doing the vision screening and speech students from UVM will do the hearing. Parent facilitators will escort students from classrooms and wait with them in the 2nd floor motor room (to the right of the office) while testing is in progress. We plan to screen from 9-12. Please contact [jcharlso@bsdvt.org](mailto:jcharlso@bsdvt.org) if you can help out.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN AND  
ATTENDED MULTICULTURAL NIGHT:**

The evening was a great success, and a joyful way to end the week. A special thanks goes out to the following: All who set up a cultural table to share with the community; all who cooked food from near and far; Betsy Nolan and the EES chorus; Stratton and Jon from UVM Competitive Ballroom Dance Team; Perky and Henry Gogo for (our favorite) Filipino dance; Peggy O'Neil, Emily Merrill and Maria Mutar for helping to coordinate the event. We have 2 yellow-orange salad bowls and a pair of clear salad servers that were left at the dinner. Contact Peggy [peggyov5@gmail.com](mailto:peggyov5@gmail.com) if they are yours.

**EES COMMUNITY HOLIDAY GIFTS PROJECT:**

During this holiday season, if you are looking for an opportunity to give to a family, consider purchasing a gift card for an EES family. (Amazon, book store, grocery store, department store, etc.) to donate anonymously. This year, Ms. Hathaway (EES School Counselor) and Tyler Sessions (P.E. Teacher) are working to connect EES families in need of some extra financial support with gifts and gift cards for the holidays. The gift cards can be sent to school in an envelope where they will be collected by the class teachers, and given to Ms. Hathaway. In order to reach families before the December break, please send in gift cards no later than Monday the 19th of December. Thank you EES community for your generosity during this holiday season.

**LEFT BEHIND DISHES!**

There are several bowls, dishes and miscellaneous items left over from our first Thankful Thursday. If you are missing something please look on top of Trish's filing cabinets in the office!! They will be donated on December 2nd if still there.

**LOST AND FOUND CLEAN OUT!!**

Now is the time to check the Lost and Found for that missing Lunch box, Jacket, Sweat shirt, Thermos or missing pair of boots. We will clear it out on **December 2nd.**

**EDMUNDS MERCHANDISE SALE**

Flyers are going home this week and the sale goes through **Monday, December 5th**

**SPRING PLAY INFORMATION!!!!****Monday DECEMBER 5 FROM 5:45-6:15PM: KICK-OFF  
PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION MEETING**

**FOR EES SCHOOL PLAY - All parents of students interested in participating in this year's school musical should attend this meeting!**

- Open to all students in grades 1-5: chorus (grades 1-2); many roles for grades 3-5 in cast and stage crew.
- Auditions for grades 3-5: Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday, January 3rd, 4th & 5th during lunch/recess.
- Grades 1-2 chorus meets one day per week (**WILL NOT BE RUN BY BURLINGTON KIDS AFTER SCHOOL MORE INFO TO COME**) starting week of January 16th.
- Tuesday, January 10th Cast read through followed by Cast & Crew Parent meeting at 5:00.
- Wednesday, January 11th regular rehearsals on a Monday-Thursday cycle begin
- Full run through Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>
- Show will be Thurs-Saturday March 16-th-18<sup>th</sup>
- *Looking for Parent Volunteers for the many roles that make the annual school musical possible. Volunteer opportunities will be discussed at meeting.*
- Contact: Andrea Juneau ([andreamaryjuneau@gmail.com](mailto:andreamaryjuneau@gmail.com)) if you are interested in helping