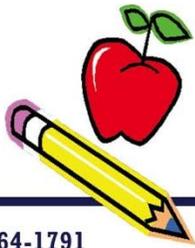


FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

October 30, 2015

From the Principal's Desk

Of all the stories told to children, there is one that is timeless in its importance. It is a story about personal integrity or honesty. It's the story of the little boy who cried wolf. If you don't know the story, here it is in a nutshell. A boy was supposed to be guarding the villager's sheep. He got bored and thought it would be fun to call out that there was a wolf. The villagers came running to help and found there was no wolf. The boy thought it was a big joke. A few days later, he did the same thing. Again, the villagers ran to his aid but there was no wolf. The villagers were pretty angry that the boy was taking them for fools. The day came when there really was a wolf. When the boy called for help, no one came. No matter how hard he pleaded, they refused to believe him. The wolf killed the villager's sheep.

Today's children understand that the boy lied, and that the villagers were angry. They understand that the boy created the situation and caused the loss of the sheep, but the part of the story that they really don't internalize is the damage that the boy did to himself within his own community.

A child whose family depended upon sheep to eat and be clothed would better understand Aesop's story. A child whose culture depends on 10 and 12 year olds to care for a village's stock would understand the important role they served and the honor of the trust placed in them. They would better understand the desperation that boy would have felt when he was not believed by his neighbors and relatives. The boy had lost the one thing that only he could give away - his integrity. He cost himself the trust of his community.

Aesop's simple story was enough for children of his era and many beyond to relate to and understand. Our children don't experience the same level of responsibility for their family and their community. If we are to tell the story today, we need to help the children understand the full weight of what the boy did to himself.

Over the years, I've been faced with a child and teens in tears, begging to be believed. They, like the boy who cried wolf, had lied too many times. It is heartbreaking to see them desperate to be believed; to be trusted and yet, difficult to know whether they are telling the truth or have become experts at lying. Children will lie to get out of a consequence for some infraction. The hope is, that they grow out of that tactic, as we help them to learn the importance of honesty and trust.

I've included a page about tactics to help children learn to tell the truth. It targets educators but the information will be just as effective for parents. Trusting your children is fine, but it's more important to teach them to be trustworthy.

Up Coming Events

Oct. 30	Halloween Parade
Oct. 31	Halloween and turn your clocks back!
Nov. 2 - 6	Scholastic Bookfair
Nov. 13	End of Marking Period
Nov. 10	PTO Meeting
Nov. 20	Report Cards go home.
Nov. 25-27	Thanksgiving break

Whole School Assembly
Wednesday, Nov. 4

Winter Coat Swap is happening now, through November 6 - Coats and clothing are on the coat rack in the front lobby.

Collecting gently used coats, snowpants and winter boots. Please hang your coats on the coat racks in the front building lobby anytime between these two dates. We would appreciate any hangers too. Any family that chooses a coat(s), please leave the hangers on the rack. All leftover items will be donated to the Salvation Army on 11/6. A special thank you to Outdoor Gear Exchange for letting us borrow their racks. Questions email Susie Moakley at smoakley@burlingtontelecom.net.

Scholastic Book Fair Edmunds Middle School Library:
November 2 -6, 7:45 am - 3:30 pm
Thursday evening 5:00 - 6:30

ANNOUNCING THE EES BLOG

We are excited to bring you a better system of communication in our new EES BLOG. You will find it on our website at www.ees.bsdt.org on the Announcements page. We're working on the alignment right now, but just scroll down on the page and you'll see it. The purpose of the blog is to improve communication for our community. You can enter your email address and it will automatically send you an email when there is a new post to the Blog. We'll be posting the Friday Flash on it as well as classroom activities, and pieces from our Whole School Assembly which many are not able to attend. We're hoping to provide all with a better

[PTO News for the Friday Flash](#)

PTO Leaders: Marni Slavik, Hollie Foley, and Clare Wool

PTO Contact: pto@eespto.org

THANK YOU: MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

Thank you to all who joined us in this great event. A special thanks to our performers Perky and Henry Gogo, Julie Binkhorst and the Korean drummers, and the UVM dance team. Thank you to Lisa Canon and Melanie Needle for coordinating the event.

BURLINGTON SCHOOL

DISTRICT BUDGET CONSULTATIONS

It is that time of the year when we look at efficiencies within our District and how we can improve the organization as a whole. This year we are at the beginning of developing an interactive budget process that cycles a bit differently from previous years. We will need to prioritize our needs first, while meeting all mandated requirements before exploring the wants.

This is your opportunity to contribute your thoughts and ideas - help us make it better. Get in on the ground floor, before we elevate the final recommendations to the Board.

HOW DO YOU GET ENGAGED? ATTEND
A BUDGET CONSULTATION.

Wednesday, November 4, 6:30PM, BHS Cafeteria

Thursday, November 5, 6:30PM, SA Cafeteria

Any Carpenters in the House?

The space behind the elevator on the 2nd and 3rd floors will provided us with much needed storage space on both floors. The spaces are wonderful, however they lack shelves. I do not have the budget to pay to build shelves, but I do have enough to purchase the materials, if there were some people with the skills to build the shelves. If anyone is willing and able to consider helping with this, please call Shelley Mathias or Trish Palmer at 802-864-1791.

