

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

October 16, 2015

## From the Principal's Desk

I wonder what it must be like to come to the United States and learn that, while most Americans speak English, it can be spoken with so many different accents. Just within New England, the differences in speech are heard between Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Vermont. How surprising it might be to hear someone from Boston right next to a Southerner.

It's not just the many accents. Regions are known for their music, much of which evolved from other cultures. Cajun, Blues, Jazz, Blue Grass, Rock, Folk, Spirituals, and Country are all forms that are distinct and while they have all spread through the country, began regionally. Food is another reflection of regional traditions. We all know of many examples such as New England Clam Bakes, Philly Cheese steaks, Maryland Soft Shell Crabs, Beignets from New Orleans, New York Cheese Cakes, Gumbo from Louisiana, Wisconsin Cheeses, all things Cherry from Michigan, Sourdough from San Francisco, King Crab from Alaska, New Mexican Sopapilla's, TexMex in Texas, Salmon from Washington and much more. Some regions even have their own pizza - thin crust - thick crust, and how it's eaten - folded, flat, with a fork, with your hands.

The customs and traditions within a region are not the only ones we experience. Many, continue traditions that are associated with our families, and where our families came from in addition to those from the regions we've called home.

We are hosting Multi-Cultural Night on October 23 and we are inviting all to come and share. Share just yourself, some food, or a piece of your culture and traditions. Introduce yourself to someone you don't know and share with them. If you find yourself nervous about reaching out to others do something simple and look to the children. They will show you the way.

Our students provide a great lesson for all of us as they play together, finding ways to enjoy each other, regardless of language, and background. They model for us just how easy it is to reach out and make friends. They know that friendship starts with a smile and learning each other's names. The younger the children are, the fewer the barriers to friendship.

Children at Edmunds have a unique opportunity to gain a global perspective through their classmates. The younger they are, the fewer inhibitions they have in connecting with each other. As adults, we can reinforce their growth as global citizens by embracing opportunities to become global citizens ourselves. Each of us has something to offer, and something to share. There are new friends just waiting to be made.

## Up Coming Events

- Oct. 23 Coat (Winter Clothing) Swap
- Oct. 23 Multi-Cultural Night
- Oct. 30 Halloween Parade

**Whole School Assembly  
Wednesday, Oct. 21**

**Mrs. Bonanni's Class Is Taking The Lead!**

Scholastic Book Fair Volunteers Needed!

The annual Edmunds Elementary School Book Fair will be held this year on **November 2 - 6 in the Edmunds Middle School Library**. In order to have a successful fair, we are looking for adult volunteers to help out during the day. Volunteers will run the cash register, restock the book carts and help students with selections. **Volunteers are needed throughout the day from 7:45 - 3:30 on Monday, Thursday, and Friday of that week.** If you are able to help us out for any amount of time during those days, please contact Kathy Neil, EES Librarian, at [kneil@bsdvt.org](mailto:kneil@bsdvt.org). Thank you!

Outgrown Halloween Costumes?

We collect costumes for students who do not have them for our annual Halloween Parade. For many, the tradition of Halloween is new so being able to select their own costumes from those that are donated is a real treat. If you have some costumes that no longer fit your children, please consider bringing them to the EES office.

Any Carpenters in the House?

The space behind the elevator on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### EES Recognized as PBIS School of Merit

Edmunds Elementary and Champlain Elementary Schools were both recognized as schools of Merit by the state of Vermont. The Certificate of Merit is for Increased staff collaboration; increased consistency in staff response to positive and problem behaviors; decrease in behavior problems; increased student time in class and on task; increased recognition of positive behaviors throughout the school and increased ability to make decisions based upon data.

### **Social Stories for Social Emotional Skill Development**

Our First Grade teachers are excited to announce that their request for support to get the Social Stories on donorschoose.org resulted in success thanks to the generosity of friends both far and wide.

Melissa Nutting, Lindsay Goldsmith, Kara Quinn, and Jamie O'Brien

### PTO News for the Friday Flash

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

**PTO Contact:** pto@eespto.org

### DAN'S CHOCOLATES FUNDRAISER OCTOBER 5-21<sup>st</sup>

Help your children sell Dan's chocolates to support our school! Proceeds support student and teacher enrichment including field trips, classroom supplies, and community events.

### MULTICULTURAL NIGHT FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 FROM 6-8PM

EES' Multicultural Night is Friday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6-8 p.m. in the cafeteria. We are planning a fun evening of sharing food, music, dance and games from the many cultures represented at Edmunds.

This year, I want to spread the message that we ALL have a culture to share and encourage, across the board, participation from our students and families. The United States has Jazz & Bluegrass, regional food specialties, etc. In the coming week, please do what you can to help students reflect on their cultural heritage and how to share that with their classmates. For older students, we can also talk about the importance and appeal of becoming a citizen of the world--and that starts right here by reaching out and learning from each other.

Thanks and hope you can join us!

### VERMONT COFFEE COMPANY ORDERS DUE TUESDAY OCTOBER 20<sup>th</sup>

EES makes \$6/bag! Orders will be collected the third Tuesday of every month. Orders will be delivered that Friday. 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.

### EES ANNUAL WINTER COAT SWAP FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Collecting gently used coats, snowpants and winter boots. If possible, please bring hangers for items. Take what you need. You don't need to give to get. Questions email Susie Moakley at smoakley@burlingtontelecom.net.

### PTO MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

More details to come.

### HELP WANTED

Ms. Sessions is looking for a volunteer to help assemble a 4 foot basketball hoop. All of the pieces are in the equipment room. Please email holliesfoley@yahoo.com if you are able to help.

Any packing peanuts that you want to get rid of? Mrs. Bonanni will take them off of your hands! Please bring any donations to Room 314.

### Are you Crafty?

The positive reinforcement committee would like help making a whole school 100's chart. We are thinking this could be made from old Bridges calendars (we need 4 total that we can tape together to create a 10x10 grid. An email has been sent to teachers to track them down) overlapped and stapled together. Every time a class gets 100 bees they will get a "100 bee golden ticket" to add to the whole school chart. This should be put in the cafeteria. We are hoping that there may be someone in the PTO who would help make a huge bee hive or decorative boarder around the large 100's chart in order to make it attractive and to have it stand out to students. Also if they could help make the "100 bee golden ticket" we would really appreciate it. If someone is willing to do this, they can talk to me, Lindsey Z, or Meghan F for more details. Thanks, Amanda Bonanni

**ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY FRIDAY FLASH**

If you would like to help us reduce paper waste and reduce the amount of recycling need in your home, and you have the ability to receive the Friday Flash through email, we will be happy to send it to you that way. Any other materials that would be sent home would continue to be sent home on hard copy. We do post the Friday Flash on line as well. If you would prefer an electronic copy, please indicate below and return to school:

\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer my copy via email          \_\_\_\_\_ I prefer to go the website ([ees.bsdt.org](http://ees.bsdt.org))

Parent Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Students: \_\_\_\_\_  
                  \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_