

FRIDAY



FLASH


EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

From the Principal's Desk

It's wonderful to be back with your children. The work that teachers do with students is something that sets a foundation and has a ripple effect that goes far beyond anything any teacher will ever know; whether that teacher was a parent, or a school teacher. While a parent teaches their children out of love and concern for their children, it was worth exploring why each of us at EES is here. The EES faculty cited some of their reasons on Tuesday at our In-Service which included: Love of children, instilling the idea of global citizenship, making a difference one child at a time, allowing children to be creative and curious, helping to insure mental and physical wellness, working with perpetual change which is exciting and fun, helping children to reach their full potential, and love of the craft.

As an educator, I think there is nothing as rewarding as "seeing the light bulb go on". When a student is struggling and they finally get a concept or a skill it's very exciting and rewarding. The harder it was for the student to grasp, the greater the excitement and joy for both the student and the teacher. There are times when classmates get excited for their peers, as well as they can also see their classmates struggle. At the end of the year, teachers will come in to tell me about the student who caught up to their peers, making two years of gains in one year or the student who met their goals which might appear small to some, but are monumental to the student. They see the students who mature in their ability to think and articulate deep thoughts and have insights that are profound. The joy in learning comes from the struggle and reaching the goal - no matter what that goal is.

As the EES faculty and staff worked together this week, we took some time to consider what we wanted students to gain from us by the end of this year. While the academic expectations might seem the obvious outcome, it was the characteristics that will support a child throughout their lifetime that was the focus. Characteristics such as confidence, independence, patience, learning from mistakes, perseverance, attunement, love of learning, sense of belonging, curiosity, feeling valued, and seeing school as a safe place were the goals. Helping the children develop as with these characteristics will aid in their life regardless of our presence, and will help them throughout their lives.

The faculty and staff at EES are excited to work with your children. It is a wonderful journey that we take with them this year.

September 2, 2016

Up Coming Events:

- Sept. 5** - Labor Day, No School
- Sept. 11** - Eid-al-Adha Begins
- Sept. 13** - School Picture Day!
- Sept. 14** - Eid-al-Adha Ends
- Sept. 16** - EES BBQ 5:30 - 7:00
- Sept. 29** - Open House 5:30 - 7:00

Whole School Assembly
September 7, 2016
"Be Safe"
Mr. Gillard's Class Leading

A WARM WELCOME FROM THE TOOTH TUTOR:

Welcome back! I am your school's tooth tutor; your ally for a healthy smile! This year will be better than ever! IAA has a new dental chair at the School-Based Dental Center! I can't wait for you to see! Contact me anytime email or phone! jbordeau@bsdvt.org (802) 355-2275. I may not always be in the school, but I am always available to help! Interesting fact: Unlike bones or other parts of the body, teeth are incapable of self-repair! This is why fillings and other dental work are necessary to protect teeth from further damage.

A MUSICAL WELCOME!

I am looking forward to another great year of music at EES! The EES Music Curriculum as well as student resources and upcoming events can be found on the [EES Music Web Page](#) easily found on the "Our Classrooms" link of the Edmunds Elementary home page.

The 4th and 5th grade chorus will meet on Thursdays this year from 2:45-3:30. Parent's can register their children [here](#) or by getting a paper registration form from the music room. Our first rehearsal will be Thursday, October 22.

Fall is a great time to look into community based performance enrichment for your young musician. The Flynn Theater provides a variety of performance opportunities for kids. Auditions for the youth theater troupe, show choir and jazz dance ensemble are coming up quickly. For more information click [here](#) or check out their offerings at www.flynncenter.org.

Best wishes for a musical autumn, Betsy Nolan - EES Music Teacher

PTO Leaders: Leigh Fisher, Hollie Foley & Rachel Shelley

PTO Contact: pto@eespto.org

There are many opportunities to volunteer and participate in school activities through the PTO, as highlighted weekly in this section of the Friday Flash. The PTO also sends weekly emails. If you would like to be added to the email list, please email Rachel at pto@eespto.org.

MORNING DROP OFF HORSESHOE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Become a volunteer for the drop off horseshoe to help other families with morning drop off. Choose one day a week that works for you. Email traffic circle coordinator Dave Jenemann (david.jenemann@uvm.edu) if you can help.

SEEKING ROOM PARENTS: NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

Being a room parent is a great way to get more connected to your child's classroom community and support his/her education! A room parent's basic responsibility is to assist her/his classroom teacher in promoting family involvement in the classroom and school wide activities, such as teacher appreciation and classroom party planning. Being available during school hours is helpful, but not necessary. If you are interested in being a room parent or have questions about what a room parent does, contact Hollie Foley (holliesfoley@yahoo.com or 802-318-2596). Please include your name, classroom teacher, and the best way to contact you.

WELCOME BBQ SEPTEMBER 16TH: 5:30-7PM.

Join us for a BBQ on the field at Edmunds. The event is free and open to all Edmunds families. More information to come.

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR MORNING DROP-OFF VOLUNTEERS

We are lucky to have a lot of amazing resources at Edmunds, but one thing we're not blessed with is an abundance of parking for visitors and for drop-off and pick-up time. We're the group of parent volunteers you see wearing brightly colored vests in the morning if you drop your child off on the horseshoe in front of the school. We're out every morning from now through the winter and into the warming days of spring to help make the morning drop-off go smoothly. We love being out there, seeing your kids, and saying hello to you, and we see ourselves as trying to achieve two primary goals:

- 1) To keep your child--and all Edmunds children--safe
- 2) To keep traffic flowing in an orderly fashion.

You can do a lot help us reach these aims by observing the following guidelines for morning drop-off:

When you pull into the horseshoe:

- Please pull up to the parent volunteer (in the brightly colored vest), watching for children in the crosswalk and surrounding area.
- Let the volunteer open your doors to let your child out. Please stay in your vehicle.
- Once your child is safely out of your vehicle, please exit the horseshoe by taking a right turn onto Main Street.
- Do not pass vehicles (including buses) waiting to discharge children.**
- To help the parent volunteer, consider moving the infant and toddler seats of younger siblings to the driver side of the vehicle to facilitate easier drop-off.

If you need to park:

- There are two visitor's parking spot and one handicapped spot on the inside of the horseshoe. DO NOT park in the handicapped spot unless you have an approved license plate or tag.
- If the visitor spots are full, you may park for free for 15 minutes on the south side of Main St. There are long-term meters on the north side of Main St.

If your child is meeting an Education Specialist:

- Please pull all the way over in the fire lane toward the fence out of the flow of traffic.
- Wait with your vehicle. Do not enter the school.
- Once the Education Specialist has greeted your child, carefully merge into the flow of traffic and exit the horseshoe by turning right onto Main Street.

Maple St. Entrance: It is best to drop students off along Maple St. above the Edmunds Driveway. Entering the driveway can create safety issues for students. The sidewalk has a fence along side to keep students safe. Walkers from the neighborhood use this route on a daily basis and drop offs can as well. Please identify a safe spot for students to wait for you at.

Do not park your car adjacent to the South End of the School. It creates a safety hazard.

If we all follow these simple rules, drop-off should be a smooth and pleasant transition for your child. Thank you for helping us keep your kids safe and sending them off on a positive note.

Many Thanks! *The Horseshoe Team*

FOUR WINDS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Consider volunteering for the Four Winds program! Parents/Guardians/Grandparents are needed to help lead fun, interactive workshops for all interested EES classrooms K-5th grade. Four Winds is a hands-on natural science program that promotes children's curiosity about the world just outside their door. It is an extra program funded by our PTO to enhance learning and get parents involved in the process of learning with their children. Every classroom needs at least two parent volunteers in order to participate in the program. NO science background is needed to volunteer, just your own willingness to learn and to help kids explore and interact with the natural world. Volunteers attend instructional (and fun!) workshops led by a trained naturalist on seven Friday mornings throughout the year from 8:30-10am. The first training will be held on September 16 at Mater Christi school (50 Mansfield Ave). Curious to learn more? Check out the Four Winds website, www.fwni.org, or contact parent coordinator Carolyn Hanson at carolynhanson21@gmail.com.

