

October 5, 2017

FALCON FLASH

| Monday 10/09 | Tuesday 10/10 | Wednesday 10/11 | Thursday 10/12 | Friday 10/13 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Columbus Day No School | Bosco Sticks w/Sauce BBQ Sandwich Apple Sauce Cups | Hot Dog Turkey Sandwich Cole Slaw/Bk Beans | Macaroni & Cheese Sun butter & Jelly Teamed Peas | Deep /Dish Pizza Egg Salad Sandwich Fun Chips |

Upcoming Events:

- 10-3-Fall Pictures
- 10-5-Harvest Supper & open house
- 10-6-No School – Professional Development
- 10-9-No School-Columbus Holiday
- 10-20-4/5Corcoran to Maine Maritime Museum
- 10-23-4/5 McNally to Maine Maritime Museum
- 10-25-School Author-Illustrator Anne Sibley O'Brien-Students
- 10-26-Teacher/Parent Workshop w/Anne Sibley 4pm-5pm
- 10-27-17-Halloween Parade-after school – 4:00pm
- 10-30-4/5 Marc-Aurele to Maine Maritime Museum

(Reminder- The FLASH will be going bi weekly beginning tomorrow – next edition October 20th)



THE PRINCIPAL CONNECTION

@mrlajoiebham With sadness I must report on another beloved BHM staff member moving on. Carolyn Melcher, one of our nurses, has been transferred to the Health Aide position at Bowdoin Central School. You know Mrs. Melcher as one of the most caring school adults we have, with an infectious laugh. She is the coordinator of our backpack program. She is also a highly-skilled nurse, and her talents are very much needed at her new school. Mrs. Melcher will still substitute here occasionally, so it is not goodbye – just see you soon. Thank you, Mrs. Melcher, for helping make our school the caring place it is.

HOT TOPIC: GOAL – MATH ACHIEVEMENT

Schools don't have goals. People have goals, or they don't.

- adapted from education guru, Richard Dufour

This third installment in my series on our school goals focuses on Math achievement. While you saw last week that our Literacy achievement is strong, we are not quite there with Math. Over the last three years, our Math achievement has been only about 4% above the school district average, and 10% above the state average. Not bad, especially considering the rigorous standards we have adopted in Math. However, about half of our fifth graders, on average, are going on to the Middle School with gaps in their Math understanding. Something has to change.

As a whole staff we are undertaking a Math Action Research project, which will last throughout the year. Teams of teachers are studying where gaps in our students' Math knowledge might exist. As a proficiency-based school, we believe that gaps in student understanding must be addressed before moving on; we can't just skip over them and expect things to get better. We are exploring the learning progressions for Math skills, and then trying out some different ways to help our kids get to mastery. We will check in periodically as a whole school to explore trends and insights, and share some breakthroughs teams might have made. Already we are finding that our students need more practice creating concrete and visual models of Math knowledge, as well as how to approach real-world and complex Math problems.

While Literacy achievement will remain a top priority for our school, we are devoting more energy than ever to growing our students as Mathematicians. One way you can help is by encouraging your child to persist through challenges, Math-related or otherwise. Kids who have a growth mindset and perseverance are more likely to attack challenging problems of all kinds. And math is a challenge we are taking on together.

Yours in meaningful learning that lasts,

Mr. Lajoie ☺



Bowdoinham welcomes... Maine Author-Illustrator Anne Sibley O'Brien

School Author Visit, Wednesday October 25, 2017, Bowdoinham Community School

O'Brien will visit the Bowdoinham Community School to explore the subject of "inclusion and welcoming." Using her own personal stories, books, and art O'Brien will invite students to take a look at the wider world and discover what we all have in common as humans. **Teacher/Parent Workshop:** Books as Bridges: Children's Literature & Racial Diversity in the Classroom, Thursday October 26, 2017, 4-5pm, Bowdoinham Community School. O'Brien will provide an overview of the latest findings on how children develop ideas about race. She'll share recent research about why diverse books are so important, and how they can be used to spark natural conversations about human differences. The workshop will include a list of recommended books for sparking positive, inclusive discussions and resources for further exploration. This workshop is open to everyone. Parents and teachers throughout the SAD 75 school district are welcome. Please RSVP to caringkids04008@gmail.com or just show up!

Community Celebration & Shared Read, Thursday October 26, 2017, 6:30-7:30pm, Bowdoinham Community School Students will share ideas and posters created with O'Brien at school. Local diversity experts will enlarge the conversation by sharing their expertise and personal experiences relating to inclusion/exclusion. Community members and families will brainstorm ways to take action on welcoming diversity. The Community Celebration will lead to the selection of a relevant title for a Community Shared Read. Please join us!



From the Learning Commons: Digital Citizenship

During the month of October, we spend time talking about what it means to be a good digital citizen. In grades K-2, the focus is on safety: always ask a trusted adult if you can go online; only go to sites that a trusted adult has okayed; if you do go somewhere that does not feel safe, tell a trusted adult. In grade 2, we begin to talk about what information is okay to share and what information is not okay to share. Grades 3-5 go more deeply into how to communicate respectfully online while keeping safe. We also spend time talking about cyberbullying. We use resources from Common Sense Media when teaching these lessons. Common Sense Media is more than just lessons for students, though. They have great resources for families, too. From knowing how to talk with your children about what is happening in the news to knowing what would be a good app, book or movie for your child. Here are so many great resources available on this site. We encourage you to check out this helpful resource.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>



MSAD# 75 Flu Clinics at Mt Ararat Middle School - Saturday October 21, 9am-12pm, and Tuesday November 28, 4pm- 6pm in the cafeteria. Nasal mist will not be offered this year. This clinic is sponsored by CHANS, open to the public, ages 6 months and up, and free. Donations are accepted.



Bowdoinham Recreation: All Below Forms Are [Available in Town Office, School Office & at](#)

<http://www.bowdoinham.com/recreation> -Community Swim @ Bowdoin College pool. Free for SAD 75 community members. Sundays 4:30-5:30pm. Oct 8,15,22,29. Nov & Dec dates to come.

-Recreation Basketball 3-6th grade: Forms are now available also available in the Middle School Office Forms WILL COME HOME in 3-5th grade backpacks after the 4 day weekend. Deadline is Nov 2nd as we create teams and appoint coaches the following week.

-Travel Basketball Tryout information came with 5th & 6th graders. Also available in all locations including Middle School office. Tryouts are Oct 16th & 18th.

-LL Bean's Outdoor Discovery School will continue Canoe Classes here at Maily Waterfront through Sept and Oct. See Bowdoinham.com/recreation for more information or contact Lisa at LWest@Bowdoinham.com

-Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine. Come sign out your free pass which will allow up to 6 people on the date you choose and we write on your pass.



Bowdoinham Food Pantry has new hours of operation. Beginning Wednesday, September 6, the pantry will be open from 3pm – 5pm every Wednesday. For more information please call 751-7779



The Clothes Closet is open the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 3pm-6pm at the Church of the Nazarene at 7 School St. Come to the house behind the church. A donation of \$1 a bag is welcome but not required. brown_531@myfairpoint.net or the Merrymeeting Art Studio



FHC's 10th and Final Halloween Extravaganza –Will be held on Saturday, October 14th from 6pm-8pm. All age groups are welcome. All proceeds go to the Bowdoin and Bowdoinham Fire Department. \$5 per person - \$15 families 4 or more. There will be a food sale, face painting, bonfire, haunted trail walks, piñata, Halloween games and pumpkin decorating. 1201 Main St., Bowdoin. For more info call 666-5651 x 2240



We are so pleased to have the **Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans** back this year for a show of their recent work. The Opening Reception will be on Friday, Oct. 20 from 5:30-8:00 at the Gallery, 9 Main Street, Bowdoinham. There will be live music and food along with all the artists who will be happy to answer any questions you may have. The show continues on Sat. and Sun. from 1-4 p.m. until Nov. 5. Come join us to see what our talented neighbors have been creating in recent months.



Autumn paints
in colors
that summer
has never seen.