

## FALCON FLASH

*In It Together: Meaningful Learning That Lasts*

*Care for each other, take Responsibility, and Focus on learning*

**March 16, 2017**

Monday 3/20	Tuesday 3/21	Wednesday 3/22	Thursday 3/23	Friday 3/24
Hot Dog Veggie Sandwich Cole Slaw/Beans	Shepherd's Pie Cheese Sandwich Peas/Funchip	Chicken Nuggets Teriyaki Chicken Potatoes	Early Release Bagged Lunch	No School Professional Development Day

**Upcoming Events:**

3/17-No School –Professional Day

3/20-Elective #2

3/24-Coding Club

3/30-MSAD74 Budget Hearing -6:30pm

3/31-Coding club

4/7-4/8-BHM School Play

4/12-Fivers vs Staff Basketball – 6pm

4/13-BHM K-5 Music Concert

4/14-Professional Day-No school for students

4/18-4/22-Spring Vacation – No School



THE PRINCIPAL CONNECTION

@mrlajoiebham

Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we reschedule conferences impacted by this week's storm. Please work with your child's teacher to reschedule for next week, if you haven't already. Our goal is 100% of students get a parent-teacher conference ... because each child deserves it!

**HOT TOPIC: testing**

Today is the day for my annual message that comes just before Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) testing. Third through fifth graders especially will be taking part in several sessions of state testing beginning the last week of March. While the information we get from state testing is helpful, our perspective on testing is, ... well, kept in perspective. Please read on for a classic Principal Connection on the topic of testing.

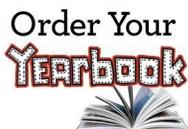
You see how small that word is? Yes, it is important that students do their best and show what they know and can do. That information helps us teach better and organize our school resources to make the best impact on our students. But is testing something to get riled up about? In my opinion, no. Is it something our school has spent a lot of time preparing for? Again, no. We've been focusing on the day-to-day learning in our classrooms. Will that emphasis on improving our practice lead to higher test scores? Maybe, but there's no way to be sure. One thing we are sure about is the priorities of our school community, reflected in our shared vision. We want meaningful learning every day. We want learning that will last. We want to build significant relationships as part the learning process, and develop grit and the growth mindset in our kids and ourselves. We want to work to understand and value the whole child. We are in it together. This is our focus – today and every day – even during testing.

Yours in meaningful learning that lasts,

*Mr. Lajoie ☺*

## Kindergarten

**CALLING ALL INCOMING 2017-18 KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS** – If you have or know of anyone who has a child who will be turning 5 on or before October 15, 2017 please ask them to contact Mrs. Russell in the school office in order to have their child's name put on the registration list. Email is [russelly@link75.org](mailto:russelly@link75.org) or 666-5546. Thank you.



**Reminder** – Yearbooks can be ordered for \$12.00. This yearbook will have every child's picture in it with candid shots also. It will have a dedication page to a very special person (first time ever)! Send a note and payment to Mrs. Russell with your child's name and teacher marked on it and she will put your child on the purchase list. Books will be available the last week of school.



**ANNUAL Rummage Sale** - Please begin setting aside your gently used items for our rummage sale this year. This fundraiser has raised from \$900-\$1200 for our school's enrichment programs each year. This sale will take place April 28th & April 29th. We will start collecting items at the town hall

when we return from Spring break the week of April 24th. Happy Spring Cleaning with your school in mind! FMI - Jess Sullivan 504.7103 text or call.

# MARCH

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## COMMUNITY NEWS



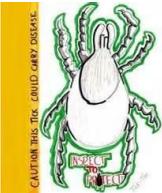
**Clothes Closet**-The Clothes Closet will be open every Wednesday from 3pm-6pm at the Bowdoinham Church of the Nazarene at 7 School St. FMI contact Christine Couch at 351-0289.



Pack 699 cordially invites you to our annual Pinewood Derby. Racing begins at 9:45 on Saturday March 18 in the school gym. Come see scouts racecars they have made on a timed aluminum track with video highlights. This is a great opportunity to come check out Bowdoinham's Cub Scout program and talk with leaders. Cub Scouts is open to boys in first grade through fifth grade and can be joined at any time. There are great camp opportunities in the summer and many activities throughout the year including service projects, hikes, and field trips. Contact Athena Mann: [amannpack699@yahoo.com](mailto:amannpack699@yahoo.com) or Cathy Curtis: [curtisc@link75.org](mailto:curtisc@link75.org) 666-8434



**Orion Performing Arts Center** – Is holding a fundraiser for stage improvements. Eat at Gelato fiasco, 49 Maine St., Brunswick on April 4 (All Day); give them a voucher (available on line at [www.orionperformingartscenter.org](http://www.orionperformingartscenter.org) The Orion gets 100% of your bill. Thank you.



**May is Lyme Disease Awareness** month in Maine, and Maine CDC is planning events throughout the month to raise awareness of the disease and increase knowledge about prevention. This year will be our 8th annual statewide poster contest in schools for students K-8. Children at this age have high rates of Lyme disease, which is why increasing their knowledge of prevention is important. The topic of this year's contest is "Be Tick Smart" to emphasize awareness prevention of ticks. Posters should be creative, colorful, and express the importance of being informed about ticks and mindful of good prevention habits. This year we will also accept graphic designs and photography entries. Along with this theme, students should try to illustrate at least one specific preventative method on the poster, such as: use an EPA approved repellent, wear protective clothing, perform daily tick checks, or use caution in tick infested areas. Examples of last year's winning designs and general Lyme disease information are available at: <http://www.maine.gov/lyme>. Maine CDC tick curriculum materials can be found under resources for educators at: <http://www.maine.gov/lyme>. These are available for use by any classroom and include an educator's guide, PowerPoint presentations, and classroom activities to help educate your class on ticks in Maine. Maine CDC would appreciate if you support this contest by passing this information and the contest rule sheets to any interested teacher(s) or staff member(s) that might participate. A few suggested areas are: sciences, health, art, or the student's primary teachers. Entries must be received by the Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program by April 28, 2017. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss the contest or curriculum materials in more depth, please contact the Public Health Corps at [PHC.DHHS@maine.gov](mailto:PHC.DHHS@maine.gov).

