

FALCON FLASH

In It Together: Meaningful Learning That Lasts

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

March 31, 2017

Monday 4/03	Tuesday 4/04	Wednesday 4/05	Thursday 4/06	Friday 4/07
Chicken Nuggets Mini Corn Dogs Chick Peas	Sloppy Joe on a Bun Chicken Salad Sandwich Brussel Sprouts	Pancakes & ham Egg Salad Sandwich Hash Browns	Pork & Gravy/Mash Potatoes Turkey Sandwich Green Beans	Bosco Sticks w Sauce Tuna Salad Sandwich Fr. Veggie & dip

Upcoming Events:

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

Congratulations to our Third Graders for working so hard to show all they know on MEA testing this week. We are proud of you! Fourth and Fifth Graders are up next week and will make us just as proud. Thanks to our parents who make sure our kids are in school on time every day, ready to do their best work and show the world what they can do.

HOT TOPIC: PRIORITIES

This Wednesday morning our faculty gathered to check in on our two school wide priorities: 1) Increasing **student autonomy** in their learning, and 2) Using more **teaching strategies** across all our classrooms that have a **high impact on student achievement**. It came out in our conversation that the more we bring students into the process of understanding what our priorities are as a school, the more engaged and invested they are in helping us get to where we want to be. In fact, our students are getting used to looking at their performance data, and setting goals for higher achievement.

Want to help? You can say these things to your child around the dinner table:

“What are you working on as a reader/writer/mathematician?”

“Tell me about a learning goal you’re working on.”

“How are you doing on that goal? How do you know?”

We aim to make the learning in our classrooms open and visible to everyone – no mysteries or secrets, as was common in the traditional classroom. When kids know clearly what they are to learn, and we provide them the clear path to get there, as well as some choice and autonomy, we know more kids will be learning better at Bowdoinham Community School. Have a great weekend!

Yours in meaningful learning that lasts,

Mr. Lajoie ☺



IT'S SHOWTIME! Come one, come all to the world premiere of the original **Bowdoinham Community School play**, “The Strange and Terrifying, Delightful, Heartwarming, Dramatic and Epic, Mad-Cap, Hilarious Tale of the ~~Witch’s~~ Sorceress’ Curse Upon the Silent Prince and the Zombie Boys Whose Mystery is Pondered by Four Brilliant Doctors and Spellbound by the Fairy Queen then the Quest of the Servant Girls (with Magical Cat, Pony, Parrot and SuperGirl) Leads them over Mountains, Defeating Storms, Dragons and Mimes to Learn the Wisdom of the Wisest Wise Man and Save the Kingdom! (Part One).” Featuring a talented, animated cast and crew of almost 50 kids grades K through 5, this play offers something for everyone. The show was created and designed by the students; written/directed by parent volunteer Dana Legawiec with Music Direction by Diana Mosher. In school performance: Friday, April 7th at 1:45pm. Two Public Performances: Saturday, April 8th at 3pm and 6pm. Seating is first come, first serve to capacity. Admission is free; donations gratefully accepted to support arts programming at Bowdoinham Community School.



BHM SPRING K-5 Music Concert – Come join your student on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 6:00pm in the BHM gym. Students will be singing, playing instruments and having a lot of fun making music. See you there!



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 russellv@link75.org or 666-5546. Thank you.



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 May 5 & May 6. 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.



"We have a fresh order of **Bowdoinham's premium coffee blend, Meaningful Brewing**, from our friends at Wicked Joe Coffee. Stock up this week and help make our School Play and Spring Art Show happen. \$10 a bag; ground or whole beans. \$4 from every bag stays in our school to support The Arts."



"Our School Board has officially made Friday, June 23rd, the last school day for this year. Even in the event of a Patriots day Nor'easter, we will still dismiss students for the year on the 23rd at 12:05pm. Go ahead and start making those summer plans!"



GET ACTIVE IN APRIL - Better weather is on the way - it has to be. This is a great time of year to recommit to being active. To encourage more movement, we are doing a month long push to get students up and going. We call it Active April. Students are receiving an activity log where they can keep track of when they do some activity outside of school time. This could be something they do on their own, a team practice, a lesson in martial arts or dance - anything that gets them moving at a moderate intensity. Examples of moderately intense activity would be walking briskly, playing badminton or bicycling at 10 mph or less. Simply record the information each day and return the sheet to Mr. Jones at school by May 5. Sheets returned with at least 24 days of activity will be placed in a drawing for prizes like jump ropes, soccer balls and playground balls. So find a fun way to be active in April.



Bowdoinham Community School has once again, purchased 100 General Admission tickets to the Friday, May 5, 2017. Sea Dogs vs Reading Fightin Phils Game Time is 6:00pm (Gates open at 4:30pm) Cost of Tickets: \$5.00 each (First Come First Serve) Tickets are now available for sale in the school office. Your child(ren)s name will be entered in the drawing to throw out a ceremonial pitch before the game.



COMMUNITY NEWS



Come one, come all to the Bowdoinham Family Contra dance on April 15th, from 6:15 to 7:15 at the Bowdoinham Town Hall. Music will be provided by an All-Comers band. As the name implies, musicians of all ages and levels are encouraged to participate and all instruments are welcome. Musicians may include beginner and accomplished players. Just show up to play! The All Comers band will be anchored by Ellen Gawler and her students in the Pineland Fiddlers. The goal is to play tunes at dance speed and to have FUN! If you would like to attend a rehearsal you are warmly invited to a rehearsal on April 3rd at the Berry-Gaviria home in Bowdoinham. Please email danapratt@hotmail.com if you are interested in attending the rehearsal for the All Comers Band and we will put you on the email list. Or just show up to play on April 15th! **Admission to the dance is free for everyone.** You can support the dance by purchasing refreshments or making a donation. The family portion of the dance is followed by a regular contra dance at 8pm part of the Bowdoinham 3rd Saturday Dance Series. Admission: \$10 adults, \$7 students and seniors.



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.



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 The Orion gets 100% of your bill. Thank you.



Umpire Bill Costello, Cal Ripken League, Richmond, Maine will be with us **Monday April 3rd from 7-8:30pm** in the Bowdoinham Community Gym. Please consider coming to this session if you are interested in becoming more comfortable with umpiring. He will go over Base Umpire Tips, Tips at the home Plate and Local Rules



YOUNG ARTISTS CELEBRATE SKUNK CABBAGE - The Merrymeeting Arts Center (MAC) in Bowdoinham announces the opening of its annual art exhibit for emerging artists under the age of 18. "Skunk Cabbage and other Stinky-Helpful Plants" will begin with a reception on Friday April 7 from 5-7 p.m. at MAC's gallery, 9 Main Street, Bowdoinham. The show will continue on Saturdays from 10 a.m.- 12 p.m. from April 8 through May 20. On Saturday, April 15 from 10-12, there will be a drop-in art activity for all ages focused on skunk cabbage. Each April MAC's show celebrates an aspect of vernal pools, the distinctive woods water feature of Maine in spring. In the past, show themes have included fairy shrimp, ferns, and turtles. Young artists throughout the area produce both realistic and abstract works in all media from sculpture to prints, paint, pastels and crayons. Some art teachers make

the annual vernal pools show a center of their spring curriculum and collaborate with science teachers for a cross-discipline learning experience. Skunk cabbage is a colorful early sign of spring, peeping out of marshes. They are also one of many plants that help humans by either attracting or repelling insects and other animals. This year's theme was widened to include the many plants that help humans, from nasturtiums to bee balm. There will be participation from the Bowdoinham Historical Society and the Bowdoinham Community School garden project, as well as the annual Bowdoinham Public Library Plant Sale. Betsy Steen will create an information wall at the art gallery. "Skunk Cabbage and other Stinky-Helpful Plants" will be a colorful and informative show that once again celebrates the Maine spring. For more information, see www.merrymeetingartscenter.org. Follow us on Facebook, or call 207-504-1132 and leave a message.