



# EXPLORATIONS

## Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

October 20, 2010

### Picture Retakes – November 5

#### School Safety is Important

We are very fortunate to live in a community like Blue Hill where everyone seems to watch out for each other and lend a helping hand. Because of this we sometimes forget that we are not immune to the dangers that people in larger communities might see more often. With the charge of taking good care of the students at Blue Hill Consolidated School, we strive to be very diligent about keeping an eye on all the visitors to our school. We have a regular sign-up procedure at the office and we ask people to sign in and get a visitor badge so that all staff members will know that the office has a record of all visits. If you do not have a badge, the staff will be asking you to get one from the office. If this happens, please do not be offended; just be glad that we are keeping a good eye on things for your kids. Also, please do not go to classrooms without checking in at the office. There is important learning going on in the classrooms and interruptions are difficult for the kids, and at transition times things can get confusing and another visitor in the room may add to this. We can “buzz” the teachers to get your messages to the kids. The best solution, however, would be to take care of important communications with your child before school starts.

#### Third and Fourth Grade Homework Club

Homework Club has now begun! Mrs. Reuter and Mrs. Snyder will be helping third graders on Mondays and Wednesdays, and fourth graders on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students must have homework to work on from 2:45 to 3:30. A parent should pick them up at 3:30. Students attending Homework Club should have a note, and should report directly to Mrs. Nightengale's room after school.

#### From the School Nurse

Flu Vaccine Clinic - Thursday, November 4th, 2010. We will be offering the "Flu Mist" vaccination to students of Blue Hill Consolidated School. The Vaccine Information and Consent forms will be coming to you in the mail with the midterm progress reports. Please complete the request forms and send back to the school by November 2nd if you want to have your child vaccinated with the Flu Mist at school. If you prefer to have your child receive the "Shot" form of the flu vaccine, please contact your child's doctor to discuss this option.

There has been a case of Hand, Foot and Mouth disease seen here in the Blue Hill Consolidated School. It is a condition that is caused by a virus and is very contagious. The most common symptom is a rash on the hands, feet, and/or in the mouth on the tongue or lips. This rash starts as small red dots, and will develop into "blisters." Some people will have a low-grade fever, fatigue, and a sore throat. If you suspect your child has Hand, Foot and Mouth disease, please report this to your child's doctor, and to the school. Please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions or concerns regarding this information. Also, a great website to refer to for more information is [www.kidshealth.org](http://www.kidshealth.org).

Thank you,

*Debbie Candage, RN, BSN/Union 93 School Nurse*

#### School Bus Safety Week

The Governor has proclaimed this week as School Bus Safety Week, and Friday is School Bus Driver Appreciation Day. Twice a day we entrust our most precious cargoes to those who safely provide the transportation to and from our school. It is not an easy task. Not only do the bus drivers transport the children, they also watch out for their physical and emotional safety by coming back to school and providing discipline related to misbehaviors and bullying. Please let us know if there are issues that need their attention. In the meantime, remind your children that we have high expectations for their behavior on the bus, as it is not an easy job to drive the bus. Thank you, all bus drivers!

#### Original Works Fundraiser

Original Works ordering packets are coming home today. Most students have created at least one thing in art class that meets the criteria for being made into a gift or product with their art featured on it. Items created at home may also be used, as long as they meet the criteria outlined in the letter. Items start at \$4.75 for two pocket pads. Popular items last year were journals, note cards, mugs, t-shirts and tote bags. The **orders are due back by Thursday, Oct. 28**, and will be here in time for the holidays (last year they arrived in early December). The school's percentage (30%) will go toward arts related programs and activities here at BHCS. If you have questions, contact Penny Ricker at [rickerp@bhcs.org](mailto:rickerp@bhcs.org), 374-2202x114. You can also check [www.originalworks.com](http://www.originalworks.com).

*Della L. Martin, Principal • Loretta Smith, Secretary • Beth Jackson, Librarian • Matt Jurick, Technology Specialist*

### Library

Thanks to Elana Williamson for donating #5 and 6 in the Ivy and Bean series by Annie Barrows and Sophie Blackall.

### PTF

Thanks to everyone who donated to, helped with, and/or came to the Warm Hearts, Warm Homes events last weekend. While the weather didn't exactly cooperate, spirits were good and hearts and homes will be warmer this winter because of it! The Silent Auction and Chinese Raffle were extended through today (Wed.) at 3, so lucky winners and top bidders will be notified in the next day or so. The total contributions to the BHCS Family Assistance Fund and the Food Pantry will be announced next week.

### Hannaford Helps Schools shopping tip:

Prince pasta sells for \$.99 per box. Buy 4 boxes and you get a certificate for \$3 for our school. There are other fairly inexpensive products such as Bush's kidney, black, and pinto beans for \$1.19 per can. For a complete list of products, check out [www.hannaford.com](http://www.hannaford.com). This is a great time to purchase items for the Tree of Life Food Pantry food drive in November AND help our school! The HHS program runs through Dec. 5.

### Public Library News

•On Tuesdays between 3:30 and 5:30, children ages 6 and older may read for 15 minute periods with Bri, a trained Italian greyhound, and her sister Gracie. R.E.A.D. (Reading Education Assistance Dog) is a program designed to improve children's reading and communications skills by reading to a dog. Sign-up sheets are in the Larchwood Children's Room. For further information call Pat at 374-5515. This event is co-sponsored by R.E.A.D. and the Blue Hill Public Library.

•**Workshop for Parents on Assisting Young Children to Read:** On **Wednesday October 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM**, the Library will host a special program for parents of young children. The program is titled *The Education of a Reader: Ideas To Help Your Child Enjoy Reading*. Specialists Robin Jettinghoff and Jennifer Howard will speak to parents about helping their young children learn to read. Some of the topics that will be discussed are language development, learning styles, the process of reading, and practical tools to assist your child.

•The Library is bringing Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers to Blue Hill to do a performance of "The Headless Horseman of Sleepy Hollow," a comedic version of the classic Washington Irving tale, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow." The puppet show will take place on **Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at the Bay School's Emlen Hall.**

### Petanque: A French game of balls.

Come Out and Play! All grades are welcome after school on Thursdays, beginning October 28, at 2:45-3:45 PM. We'll meet outside the entrance doors. Instruction and balls provided. Call Kate Unkel with questions 266-1814.

### I-DID-A-RUN .....5K Family Fun

Saturday, Nov. 6  
Brooksville Elementary School  
run begins at 9:00  
registration 8:00 - 8:45  
students - \$5, adults - \$10, families - \$20  
benefit "Brooksville to Alaska"  
more info contact Nada Lepper, 326-8500 or  
[nadalepper@gmail.com](mailto:nadalepper@gmail.com)

### **Upcoming Events:**

Mon.-Fri., Oct. 25-29: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Camp Kieve

Tues., Oct. 26: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Abbe Museum

Thurs. and Fri., Oct. 28 & 29, Haunted Corn Maze at the Homewood Farm, 188 Ackley Farm Road, Rt. 15, Blue Hill. 6:00 – 10:00 PM. "Flash in the Pan" steel drum group will play on Thursday from 6:00 – 7:00. Hayrides and concessions. Bring your own flashlights! \$7 per person and \$25 per family. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Fundraiser!

November 4, Flu Clinic at 8:15 AM

Sat., Nov. 20: PTF Holiday Craft Fair