



# EXPLORATIONS

*Blue Hill Consolidated School*

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

MAY 4, 2011

**“Teachers help us to learn from yesterday,  
live for today, and hope for tomorrow.”**

~Anonymous

### **Staff Appreciation Day**

Yesterday was Teacher Appreciation Day and our PTF went a step further and celebrated our entire staff. I have said it before, and will say again, that we are fortunate to have the highly qualified teachers and the exceptional staff that we have here at BHCS. It is because of them, and because of the incredible efforts of our parents and the PTF that we are the BEST school! It really takes a team. Thank you, PTF, for making us feel valued and honored.

### **Project Acceptance 2011 is here!**

This Friday, our 5th-8th graders will be joined by middle school students from Castine, Brooksville and Penobscot to explore the theme "The Friendship Puzzle." Nora Baskin, author of the award winning book Anything but Typical on this year's Maine Student Book Award list, will be with us to share her story of growing up and writing this and other books, and how writing builds empathy for others. Students will also enjoy rotations with trainers from the Kieve Leadership School, working through situations with Mrs. Granger and Mrs. Miner from the Public Library, creating a friendship puzzle, and a friendship slide show and music organized by Mrs. Means and Mr. Schubeck. It will be a full day featuring lots of fun and food for thought, organized by the Union 93 librarians and Mrs. Granger.

### **6-8 Study Hall**

Mr. and Mrs. Jezak will not be in on Thursday or Monday of this week, so there will not be after school study hall for grades 6-8.

### **Notes From the Music Department**

Congratulations to 8th graders David Reinke, who was selected for the GSA Varsity Combo on piano, and Jordon Soper, who was selected for the GSA Jazzband. We are all very proud of your efforts!

BHCS's 7th/ 8th Grade Combo will join the Brooklin Jazzband for a night of music and food on Friday, May 13th at the Brooklin Elementary School. This is a good opportunity to perform and make friends with soon-to-be high school classmates.

A special thank you to Nancy White for her donation of 2 clarinets, and to Bob McCormick for his donation of a flute to the BHCS band program. These generous gifts are very helpful in insuring that all kids have an opportunity to play an instrument.

GSA Jazz Camp starts on Monday, June 20 for next year's 7th - 9th graders. See me for an application. The University of Maine in Orono offers MSYM summer camp and U Maine, Farmington offers a Jazz Camp. All are quite worthwhile.

~~Mr. Schubeck

### **Spring Fling – A Magical Evening**

Our first ever Spring Fling was a big success with lots of dancing, hula hooping, “Recess Stories” and really great food. We are very grateful to the 5-2-1-0 Team for providing us with this night that gave us all kinds of ideas for healthy living!

### **PTF**

- The next PTF meeting will be Wednesday, May 11 at 6:30 in the library (or Mr. Baxter's room if the School Board meeting is still going on).
- Mark your calendar for the Playground Spruce-Up Session on Saturday morning, May 14. Help get the gardens, grounds and play areas in shape after the winter. Watch next week's newsletter

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

for more details. There will be projects for all skill levels!

### **Screen Time Awareness Week**

Return the forms included in last week's newsletter, listing things done instead of watching screens, by next Monday for a "good job" surprise. Be sure to include a parent signature!

### **Library**

- Thanks to Peyton Cole for donating The Winner Is... by Kathy Brodsky.
- Middle School Book Group: Students in grades 6-8 who have been reading The Unnameables by Brooklin author Ellen Booraem will meet in the library Friday, May 13 from 2:45-4 to discuss the book with each other *and the author!*

### **In the World of Sports...**

The schedule for all spring sports is available online. Check often at <http://www.bhcs.org> - as rain changes everything! Cancellations are noted right on the Athletics/Sports calendar.

The 3/4 baseball intramural program is too fun! Thank you to Brooke Clapp, Lori Dodge, and Alma Mote for donating old gloves, cleats, and baseball pants. We have a nice collection of gear to loan to starting ball players. Remember to send your child to intramural practice with a glove, if they have one. Soon kids will be going outside to practice throwing, catching a pop fly, and fielding a ground ball. They will need those gloves!

5/6 baseball and softball intramural programs are underway. If you have not attended feel free to join! Players may show up to play on any day: once a week, twice a week, every practice, once in a while. When there are fewer players, the practices run like a coaching clinic with lots of individual attention for the players on catching, throwing, and batting skills. When there are a greater number of players, the players practice skills and scrimmage. All you need is your glove!

Last Thursday, our Baseball and Softball A teams played their first game in Bar Harbor with the Connor's Emerson School. The weather was crazy windy and the other teams were tough.

BHCS boys lost by one run after a tight game. BHCS girls showed excellent sportsmanship and played a strong first game. On the home fields our coaches and sporting families have been working hard to make needed improvements. Thank you to Coach Rod Simmons for all his work at the AA field. Thank you to Coach Christie Snow and her entire family. They have worked hard to remove the weeds from the outfield. Thank you also to Blake Eaton who built new benches for our softball field and to EBS who donated the materials. They look terrific!  
~Tara McKechnie, Athletic Director

### **Mighty Marvels Spring Soccer K-3**

May 16 - June 20

Location: Blue Hill Consolidated

Practice on Mondays 5:45-6:30 PM. Games on Saturdays (times and location will vary).

We have joined the YMCA league for games. Transporting your child for away games is required. Official schedule to come.

Shin Guards are REQUIRED. Cleats are recommended.

Cost: \$20. This will cover equipment, referees, T-shirt if needed. Please make checks payable to Katye Lacasse.

First Practice is Monday May 16th at 5:45 PM.

Any questions call Katye @ 266-5434.

### **T-Ball Club**

Every Thursday from 3:30-4:30 PM at the AA Field starting May 12th.

For questions please call Brooke 374-3520.

### **Calling all young writers!** Be creative! Be inspired!

The Blue Hill Public Library is pleased to announce the formation of a new young writers' group on Saturday, May 21, for ages 9-12. The group will meet monthly from 12:30-1:30 PM and writers should bring their lunch. If you have any questions, please call Pat at 374-5515.

**Children's Theater Camp:** in preparation for the production of "The Wizard of Oz," July 11-15, 9AM to 3PM, for ages 8 & up, at the Blue Hill Town Hall Theatre. For info email: [info@NewSurryTheatre.org](mailto:info@NewSurryTheatre.org) or pick up a registration form from Loretta.

### **PMAL Announces Upcoming Children's Programming**

Peninsula Metamorphic Arts & Learning Center announces two opportunities for young people:

**Music to Grow On** - Led by Deborah Reinke. This is a preschool music class for infants and children up to four years of age. Thursdays, May 12<sup>th</sup> – June 16<sup>th</sup> (6 classes) 9:30-10:00 AM. - \$7 per class drop-in fee.

Pre-registration is required.

**Gnome Gardens** - Enjoy a spring story and create your own gnome garden to take home and tend. Planting and decorating our gardens with nature's treasures and wet felted eggs will fill our time together. Led by Jennifer McCall for children ages 2 to 4. \$12 per child.

**Pre-registration is required.** To register for either of these programs, contact Chris at [chris.pmal@gmail.com](mailto:chris.pmal@gmail.com) or 374-5255.

**George Stevens Academy and 40/15 Tennis Summer Tennis Clinics**

Who: students going into grades 5 – 9

Where: at the GSA tennis courts

When: 8:30 – 11:00 AM, Monday – Friday

June 27–July 1 is for kids entering grades 5, 6, 7

July 5 to July 8 is for kids entering grades 7 & 8

Cost: \$20 per week.

The clinics will be taught by Coach Messer, the GSA Boys' Varsity Tennis coach, and are generously supported by 40/15.

For more information see the BHCS bulletin board and there are fliers in the office.

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

May 5&6 (TH/F) Kindergarten Registration (no school for current kindergarten students)

May 6 (F) Project Acceptance Day, Grades 5-8

May 11 (W) School Board, 5:00 PM

PTF Meeting, 6:00 PM

May 13(F) Middle School Book Club, 2:45-4 PM

May 14 (Sa) Playground Spruce Up (time TBA)

May 30 (M) Memorial Day – no school

June 7 (TU) K-4 Spring Concert

June 9 (TH) 5-8 Spring Concert

June 16 (TH) Graduation, 7:00 PM

June 21 (TU) Last Day of School