



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

October 6, 2011

Character Education Through Active Learning!

Each year the 7th graders at BHCS attend Camp Kieve, a leadership camp in Nobleboro, Maine on Damariscotta Lake. This year they will go for the week of October 24th. It's a beautiful setting with comfortable lodgings and great, healthy food. Our 7th grade teachers accompany them and take part in activities, often discovering new things about each child that will help them through the year to make the educational programs optimal for the all the kids. It's a full week of team-building activities that remind students that they are an important part of any community and that their positive contributions are critical to the success of a group. Well-trained counselors guide students to address such topics as substance abuse, bullying and teasing, self-respect, teen issues of dating and body image, and so much more. Students write in logs and work cooperatively to address these issues with role-playing, brainstorming, and goal setting. There are quiet contemplative moments at the water's edge to reflect and write. There is an outdoor component that includes a ropes course that challenges kids to try what might seem impossible at first. I have seen students accomplish feats that they would never have imagined for themselves, but with the right support and tremendous attention to safety, they were able to succeed. This is often a life changing experience for the kids who go away that week as last year's 6th graders and come back as stronger, more confident and mature 7th graders. It is a good example of how important it is to educate the whole child. Have a great week, 7th graders!

~Mrs. Martin

To learn more about Camp Kieve, go to this website:
<http://www.kieve.org/leadership/index.htm>

e-Explorations Out This Week.....

Check your email for this edition. Next week, that's where you will get it if you selected to have your newsletter sent electronically.

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

We made pizza sauce. We picked flowers for the cafeteria for the Farm to School lunch on Friday. We picked tomatoes for the school kitchen. We made French Fries for snack, and we harvested wheat for pizza crust. We planted Swiss chard and parsley in the greenhouse. We got the garden and greenhouse ready for Open Greenhouse Day!

~Ava Tapley

Making Strides

We cannot express enough thanks for the time, effort, support, and donations that helped us have another successful Run/Walk this year at BHCS. From the fun music provided by the jazz combo, the filling lunch and snacks provided by the PTF, and numerous volunteers who helped in every aspect of the event, we are truly grateful. A portion of the monies raised will be donated to the Special Education departments at BHCS as a thank you for hosting the event.

--Katy Lacasse, for Making Strides

PTF News

*The next PTF meeting will be Wed., Oct. 12 at 6:30 PM in Mr. Baxter's 5th Grade room. We will vote on a set of bylaws for the PTF, and plan upcoming fall activities. Everyone is welcome, and there will be refreshments!

*Registrations forms for the annual PTF Holiday Craft Fair on Sat., Nov. 19 are available from Linsley Simmons (460-6411 or linsandrod@myfairpoint.net) or in the library. Reserve your table now -- \$25 for a 6-foot table or \$30 for an 8-foot table. It is the main PTF fundraiser, and always a great way to get ready for the holidays!

*The 2011-12 BHCS Family Directory will be coming home today with the youngest student in a family. If you need another copy, check in the office. Thanks to everyone who sent in their forms, and to Lesley Litwiller for all the word processing!

*Mark your calendar for Sat., Oct. 22 for a Playground Spruce-Up Day! There will be jobs for everyone, including helping put together a new piece of play equipment that has been donated to the school. Email Annie Rice for more info (annierice374@gmail.com).

*The PTF is providing healthy snacks for all students in Grades 3-8 on the days they are taking the NECAP tests, helping to ensure they will be able to do their best job. Helping students get a good night's sleep will also help!

Original Works order forms are coming home soon!

Students have been hard at work in their art classes creating beautiful images. This is the third year we have partnered with Original Works to offer the opportunity to create gifts featuring your children's artwork, and to help the arts program at the school at the same time. Order forms will be coming home in the next week or two, along with student artwork that could be used. Artwork created at home can also be used, but must follow specific size guidelines (see Mrs. Ricker for more information). Orders will be due Oct. 27th. You can check out the selections at originalworks.com.

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

From the Sports Desk
Changes on the schedule

**There are no games or practice on October 7, the teacher in-service day. The B1 game scheduled on October 7 was moved to October 12.

**The Conner's Emerson game that was canceled on October 4, due to the rain, was rescheduled for October 14. The game will be for the A-team only.

Are you wondering?

I had some good questions this week, so I thought I would share the answers in case other families are wondering. The B game with Surry on October 20 is for both B teams. Surry could only play us once more; the first game they played was with our A team. So B team players will all go as one B team and share the playing time. There is a game labeled 6/8 A+B on the schedule on October 26. The game is for all available 6th and 8th grade soccer players. The 7th grade will be at Camp Kieve that week, but we need to play MDES once before the tournament. We should have enough 6th grade players to field a team. 6th grade B players should let your B coaches know if they will be able to make that game, so the coach can plan ahead. The practices during that week are labeled A + B because we are welcoming all soccer players available to participate. Mark Baxter and Mike Astbury will both be there to coach these practices. Kyle Snow will not be here that week because he will be at Camp Kieve with the 7th grade class.

Game/Meet Stats

Our girls cross country team won another meet at Lamoine last Thursday. The boys' team placed 2nd! The team ran a long race of 1.87 miles. Also, last Thursday the A soccer team won another game against Penobscot and our B1 team won another game against Conner's Emerson. This week the B teams played another Palooza at MDES, winning all of their games.

Notice about after school sports study hall: If students choose to stay after school for a practice or a game, they need to report to study hall in Mrs. McKechnie's room. Otherwise, they should go home.

Blue Hill Public Library

"Reading with the Big Kids" is an after-school program that frees parents up to use the library while their kids are being read to on Monday afternoons, starting October 17 in the Larchwood Children's Room. Parents can browse the library, use a computer or chat with a friend, knowing that their children are having fun. No sign-up is necessary; families may just drop in. Children can choose books from the collection or bring their favorites to share. For more information, call Pat at 374-5515.

Girl Scouts: There will be a meeting for all K-1 girls interested in joining Girl Scouts on Wed., Oct. 12 after school in Mrs. Norwood's 1st Grade room.

Blue Hill Mighty Marvels Soccer Club

Both teams (grades 1-2 and grades 3-5) have away games this Saturday, October 8.

The 1-2 team plays at the Demeyer Field in Ellsworth at 11:30 AM. The field is on the right-hand side of Rte. 1A going toward Bangor, across from the State Police barracks and past the baseball fields.

At 1:30 PM the 3-5 team plays at Mountain View School located in Sullivan off Rte. 200. The address is 542 Beroute Gray Rd, Sullivan, ME, 04664.

Mighty Marvels soccer practice is Tuesday 10/11, not Columbus Day! If you have any questions, call Katy or Jim at 374-5813.

Visit the Homewood Farm Corn Maze!
10 Amazing Acres of Fun!

118 Ackley Farm Road, Off Rt. 15 in North Blue Hill,
374-9903.

Hours of Operation:

September 17 – October 30

Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 9 AM – 5 PM

Full Moon Walk on October 8, 7-9 PM

Columbus Day Walk, 9 AM – 5 PM

Haunted Maze, October 28 & 29, 6-9 PM

Hay Rides and Farm Stand

Worcester's Takeout is there with lobster rolls, crab rolls, hotdogs, hamburgers, drinks, and more.

TREBUCHET (pumpkin throw) for \$3.00

Fees: \$7/person; \$25 family of 4; children under 3 free.

Free Community Meal –

The Simmering Pot: A Community Created Supper

Every Monday from 2:30 to 6:00 PM at the First Congregational Church. Eat in or take out. No charge, donations accepted. For information, please email thesimmeringpot@gmail.com or call 374-2891.

Dates to Remember:

October 3-25: NECAP testing needs to be completed in this time span.

Fri., Oct. 7: Teacher In-Service Day – no school

Mon., Oct. 10: Columbus Day Observed – no school

Tues., Oct. 11: *Grades 3&4 field trip to Acadia National Park

**8th Grade Parent Meeting, Mrs.

Davis' room, 5:30 PM, to discuss the Halloween Fundraiser

Wed., Oct. 12: School Board Meeting, 5 PM
PTF Meeting, 6:30 PM

Thurs., Oct. 13: GSA Fire Drill, destination-BHCS

Wed., Oct. 19: School-wide Writing Prompt

Sat., Oct. 22: Playground Spruce Up

Oct. 24-28: Grade 7 at Camp Kieve

Sat., Oct. 29: Sculpture Dedication at Emerson Park, Blue Hill, 11:00 AM