



# EXPLORATIONS

## Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

November 17, 2011

### **The Giving Spirit...**

It was alive and well on Wednesday when the multiage Theme Teams visited the Food Pantry to deliver their food donations....can by can and box by box every student at BHCS was a delivery person. Our students are so well behaved and so very thoughtful of others. Memories of days like this are enduring, staying with them through their lives. Thank you for your generous donations, especially this year when our small town is feeling the effects of the poor economy so strongly.

While half the school was making deliveries at the Food Pantry, the other half was demonstrating their knowledge of Blue Hill's facts and features. It was a thrilling game of Go Local Jeopardy!

Thanksgiving break starts on Wednesday; there will be no school that day. Drive safely if you are going "over the river and through the woods."

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you.

~Mrs. Martin

*Note: There will also be no newsletter next week since it is only a two-day week.*

### **Coming Soon... During the week of December 5. Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences!**

Your child's teacher will send home a notice to sign up for conferences. We aim to meet with 100% of our students' parents, as this is the time to ensure that success can be met. Our annual **Book Fair** also takes place during that week. It provides a large selection of books and materials that the students love.

### **Sports News**

**BASKETBALL HAS STARTED...**

Try-outs have been great and our coaches are excited for a great season. On Monday students will be given a practice/game schedule for their respective team and all games and practices will be posted on the school's website. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call Vicki Davis at 374-2202, ext 129 before or after school hours.

### **Silent Auction for BHCS Family Assistance Fund going on NOW!**

Stop in the lobby to put in a bid for some of the great offerings that will benefit families at BHCS who quietly need a little help, and/or sign up to buy Thanksgiving baked goods to be picked up on Tuesday. The auction will run through the Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday.

### **First-Ever Winter Village Carnival!**

The Peninsula Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce its first Winter Village Carnival on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and they want to invite everyone.

**4-4:45 PM**- Free children's activities at Fairwinds Florist

-Cookie decorating with the folks from We Bake!

-Lantern making with Peninsula Metamorphic Arts and Learning

**4:45 PM** - Santa-led children's procession over to the Town Hall lawn

**5PM** - Musical entertainment from the BHCS & Brooklin school jazz bands, and Ellacapella.

**5-6 PM** -Photo-op with Santa

-Vendors, including Black Dinah Chocolatiers, 44 North, Blue Hill Co-Op, Bianco Provisions, Blue Hill Hearth.

**6 PM**- Lighting of the community tree, decorated with a special garland created by school children from all over the peninsula.

### **Lost and Found is Overflowing!**

Please come in and inspect the bins in each wing for your child's things.

### **PEE-WEE Basketball**

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10-11:30 AM at GSA.

Grades 1-4. \$10.00 per child.

Contact: Dennis Rackliffe, 374-2297.

### **PTF News**

\*The Holiday Craft Fair and Winter Clothing and Gear Exchange is THIS Saturday! Come between 10 AM and 2 PM to do some holiday shopping in the gym, and take time for a snack or lunch at the PTF food table. Between 10 and noon you can stop by the cafeteria to swap winter clothing and gear that your family has outgrown for some new things for your fast growing children! Help is still needed for clean up on Saturday at 2 PM -- help put away tables, and eat leftover food!! Cookies and single pies are also needed for the food table.

\*There will be a planning meeting for the Kid's Holiday Workshop (taking place on Dec.17) on Monday, Nov. 28 at 3 PM in Miss Nelson's room. Everyone is welcome to help organize for this fun, hands-on event! An information sheet on how you

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

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can help is coming home with this newsletter.

\*Bobcat gear and discount cards are coming -- watch for news soon!!

\*Wed., Dec. 7 will be the next PTF meeting at 6:30 PM.

### **Project Acceptance - Another HUGE Success!**

Last Thursday marked the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Project Acceptance Program for middle school kids in our union. The keynote speaker was Carrie Jones, editor of *Dear Bully*, a collection of 70 short stories from writers who had experienced or taken part in bullying in the past. Students were enthralled with her engaging presentation including many real-life experiences. Workshops through the day included art activities, team building exercises, a video demonstrating practical skills for being an UPSTANDER who speaks out against bullying, and a message from a real life author. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders from Blue Hill and middle schoolers from Penobscot, Surry, Brooksville, and the Bay School had glowing reports about this program and were eager to get back to their schools to practice these new skills.

On Friday, December 16 at 8:05 AM, Mrs. Granger will be providing a morning coffee in the library for parents to view the *Dateline* program entitled "My Child Would Never Bully." The students viewed this presentation on Project Acceptance Day. All parents are welcome to attend.

### **Christmas Angels Program**

The Christmas Angels Program of the First Congregational Church of Blue Hill provides gifts of clothing for children in need on Blue Hill Peninsula and Deer Isle/Stonington. To be a Christmas Angel or to donate to the program call Kim Williamson at [peony13@me.com](mailto:peony13@me.com) or 374-2092. For help from the program call Wendy Ritger 374-2891 by Monday, Nov. 21.

### **Free Community Meal**

The Simmering Pot—A Community Created Supper, Mondays 2:30 to 6:00 PM at First Congregational Church of Blue Hill. Eat in or take out. No charge, donation accepted. Info, or call 374-2891.

**Update:** YMCA Recreational Basketball League for grades 3 & 4. My Assistant Coach John Mullen will be holding an informal sign up/open gym this Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 PM at BHCS for all interested students grades 3 and 4. I spoke with the YMCA Sports Director Dan Larry on Wednesday and the latest information I was given is that the game schedule will begin in January and all games will be

played on Saturdays. The cost per player will be approximately \$15.00 based on the cost for an end of the season party and \$5.00 each for T-shirts. If we get a large number(12+) of players from the sign up, I will hold a tryout following the Thanksgiving Day break and regular practices will begin on that Friday December 2<sup>nd</sup>. I currently have 11 students who want to participate on my list. Please feel free to contact me with questions and concerns @ (207) 266-9242. I am looking forward to a fun and successful season.

Best Regards,

Jeffrey Allen, Coach

### **Dates to Remember:**

Fri., Nov. 18	BHCS Thanksgiving Meal
Sat., Nov. 19	PTF Holiday Craft Fair 10 AM-2 PM Winter Clothing & Gear Exchange, 10 AM to Noon
Mon., Nov. 21	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade to Margaret Chase Smith Museum
Tues., Nov. 22	Grade 1 to Abbe Museum
Nov. 23 - 25	No School, Thanksgiving Holiday
Mon., Dec. 5	Grade 5 visits the Holt House
Dec. 5-9	Parent Conferences and Book Fair
Wed., Dec. 7	PTF Meeting, 6:30 PM
Sat., Dec. 10	Lego Robotics Team in Augusta
Sun., Dec. 11	Grade 2 to the Grand
Mon., Dec. 12	Grade 6 to Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Tues., Dec. 13	Winter Concert – Gr. 5-8, 7 PM
Wed., Dec. 14	School Board Meeting, 5 PM
Thurs., Dec. 15	Winter Concert - Gr. K-4, 6:30 PM
Sat., Dec. 17	Kids' Holiday Workshop, 10 AM- Noon