



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

February 16, 2012

WONKA!

This year we chose "Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory" as the spring musical, which has already generated considerable excitement from the students and teachers at BHCS, and with 43 student actors it's one of the bigger shows we've done in years past. We are very pleased with the selection and the turnout of interest from the students. As the name implies, the play largely takes place inside a candy factory where there are fantastical, brightly-colored confectionary inventions galore. Needless to say, candy plays a fundamental role in the show as a recurring theme and the overall concept of the production.

To better create a fuller, richer, and more enveloping experience for the audience, we very much wanted to have candy for sale during intermission. We realize the dilemma this caused, as our school and 5-2-1-0 Committee have made great strides toward ensuring healthy snack options are provided to the students. We've spoken with Mrs. Martin, the school board, and several key members from the 5-2-1-0 Committee to come up with a compromise, and we feel we've found one. We will offer a *choice* of snacks for sale during intermission, including both candy and healthier alternatives, though we will still not sell soda.

All parties involved agree that this is a special circumstance that warrants an exception to the standing food policy of the school, and that this will *not* become a norm in any way.

~~Mr. Jurick and Mrs. Means

BHCS Drama Announcement

There will be no drama practices over vacation.

BHCS and Union #93 Email Not Available During February Break

BHCS, along with the other four schools in Union 93, will be shutting down all teacher and student email for the week of February vacation, starting Friday the 17th at 6:00 PM. Teachers and students will not be receiving or sending mail for the duration of the break. This is to allow for the implementation of a more feature-rich and collaborative email system to serve all of Union 93. We thank you for your patience! ~~Mr. Jurick

PTF News

***BEAR Night (Be Enthusiastic About Reading)**

When: Friday, March 2nd, 6:30 PM

Where: School Cafeteria and Library

Who: students who want to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday by reading

What to bring: an adult and a book-ish snack to share
We will read, play games and eat special snacks. The sign-up sheet will be sent home right after vacation.

*Send in your Boxtops for Education so we can send them in! We will be mailing in a batch on March 1st, and will include any that come in by then. Remember to mark the bags with the name of the homeroom teacher so we can give credit.

Library Updates

We will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday all week long, starting Monday, Feb. 27th. Classes are being challenged to do something Seuss-ish during the week and post it on the bulletin board by the cafeteria. Our Reading is Fundamental Book Distribution will be Thursday, March 1st, when all students get a new and an already been loved book. The sixth graders will be rewriting one of his books as *The Cats in the Hats Give Back*, helping in the classroom and around the school and creating their own big book of their experiences! And our annual Dr. Seuss Lunch will be on Friday, March 2nd, to mark his actual birthday. Pull out your Dr. Seuss books and get ready to read!

Visit Grade Five Displays in the Lobby!

Congratulations to the students in the fifth grade who have worked so hard to create models of their recent learning. Mrs. Nightingale's science classes produced creative vertebrates and Mr. Baxter's social studies classes have made impressive models of ships and villages representing colonial times in America. Good Work!

Gymnastics for Grades 3 - 8

Mondays and Tuesdays, starting on Monday, February 27th through April 3rd. Please sign and return Mr. McCormick's permission slip. Practice is from 2:45 - 3:30 PM for all students. Individual practices after these times are set up by appointment.

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

Telephone: (207) 374-2202 • Fax: (207) 374-2919 • www.bhcs.org

Peninsula Metamorphic Arts & Learning

March/April Lineup for Arts Playhouse

Mondays

Signs of Spring: An Adventure in Nature Journaling

It may feel cold out, but things are waking up outside. We'll look for and record all the re-emerging life from the swelling buds to salamanders on their way to their home pond. A great session for anyone who loves observing and wants to learn more about the natural world. \$10/month materials fee.

Tuesdays

The Enchanted Forest

Lions, tigers, and bears? Or gnomes, fairies, and leprechauns? Let's look for them all! We can search for the entries to Faerie, build homes for its people, or find tales of their escapades.

Wednesdays

Treasure Hunt!

Maps! Compasses! Coded messages! Shovels! We'll hide and seek treasures of all kinds in this imagination-fueled adventure. Not for the faint of heart.

Thursdays

Kids Build!

Don't buy it; build it! With the tools and pieces at the ready, design and build your own creations. Experienced hands will be there to teach skills and help your imaginings take shape. \$20/month materials fee.

The cost is \$15/day (10% sibling discount). An additional fee for materials applies to some classes as noted. To register, contact Chris at 374-5255 or chris@pmlcenter.com.

The Simmering Pot will be closed for President's Day February 20 and will open again February 27. The Simmering Pot provides a free meal on Mondays 2:30 to 6:00 PM at the First Congregational Church of Blue Hill. Eat in or take out. No charge, donation accepted. In case of winter storms, follow school closing schedule. For more information, call 374-2891.

MERI Ocean Creations - February Break

Tuesday, Feb. 21 – *Marine Sculpting and Drawing with Rebekah Rye*. 10 AM – Noon.

Thurs., Feb. 23 – *Ocean Artistry: The Wonderful World of Shells*, 10 AM – Noon.

Family Dance and Ice Cream Social

Saturday, February 18, 6-8:30 PM.

Beech Hill School, Rt. 180, Otis, Maine

\$6 per person, or \$20 per family (includes ice cream). 50% of the proceeds will support the Therapeutic

Riding Program for Special Needs Children and 50% will be donated to establish the Beech Hill School Middle School Outdoor Adventure Program in memory of Matthew DiVello. For more information or to donate a delicious pie, contact Jen at 359-2169.

The Moscow String Quartet to Perform

The Blue Hill Concert Association is sponsoring this event at 3:00 PM at the First Congregational Church of Blue Hill on **Sunday, February 26, 2012**. *The Denver Post* reports. "These musicians are players of the highest caliber, intonation, strength, ensemble, dynamics, tonal sheen-the ladies from Moscow possess all the things a world-class string quartet should have." For details about the concert and musicians, please check out the website: www.bluehillconcerts.org. The suggested donation for adults is \$30. Children and high school students enjoy free admission. For more information, call 374-5196.

Peewee Basketball

February 18, 10:00 AM to Noon.

Health Update

There has been a case of "Hand, foot and mouth disease" reported in the school. I have attached some information about HFMD that will answer any questions you may have and also inform you about the symptoms, treatment and ways to prevent the spread of this virus. Please contact me with any questions or concerns. ~~ Debbie Candage

Jump Rope For Heart Health

On a happier note, the "Jump Rope Extravaganza" on Tuesday was a huge success. All the students had opportunities to participate in a variety of jump-roping and fun physical activities in the gym with Mr. McCormick. The 8th grade students assisted the younger students with these fun activities and did a wonderful job, while having fun themselves!! If your child came home exhausted on Valentine's Day, this may be one of the reasons. Look for some fun pictures on the BHCS website to see for yourselves what they did and how much fun they were having. What a great way to incorporate healthy activities into the day that traditionally serves lots of sugary sweets and candies. They had the best of both these choices. Thanks to Mr. McCormick for this fantastic day!!!

5-2-1-0 Spring Fling

It's official: The 5-2-1-0 Spring Fling will take place on Tuesday, May 1st from 5:30 PM, starting with a potluck dinner, and running until 7:30 PM with a

variety of displays from local health organizations and healthy activities to participate in. Mark this on your calendar. You and your children will not want to miss this evening of yummy food choices and fun activities.

Have a wonderful vacation next week.

~~~*Debbie Candage*

**Blue Hill Heritage Trust**

As part of the Great Maine Outdoor Weekend, Blue Hill Heritage Trust is hosting a snowshoe scavenger hunt on March 3 from 10 AM – Noon at the Blue Hill Mountain field (Hayes Trail). Snowshoes and snacks will be provided. The scavenger hunt will take place regardless of snow conditions. For more information, call 374-5118 or visit [www.bluehillheritagetrust.org](http://www.bluehillheritagetrust.org).

**The Peninsula Skating Association** is hosting a **community skating party** on Sunday, February 26 from 1:00-4:00 PM at the PSA rink at 210 Union Street in Blue Hill. Come join us for snacks, games, kids' lessons, and lots of fun! Free event; donations welcome to support rink maintenance. For more information about the PSA, visit [www.psarink.org](http://www.psarink.org).

**Dates to Remember**

|               |                                                                            |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Feb. 20-24    | February Vacation                                                          |
| Fri., Mar. 2  | Dr. Seuss's Birthday!<br>BEAR Night (Be<br>Enthusiastic About<br>Reading!) |
| Tues., Mar. 6 | Jazz band to Orrington                                                     |
|               | PTF Meeting, 6:30 PM                                                       |
| Wed., Mar. 14 | School Board Mtg., 5 PM                                                    |