



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

April 11, 2013

(Reminder - vacation is next week. No school tomorrow.)

APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

Facts from the Autism Society of Maine:

Autism is a brain disorder that affects a person's ability to communicate, to reason, and to interact with others. It is a spectrum disorder that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees of severity, and it is often found in combination with other disabilities. The three "autism spectrum disorders" are: Autistic Disorder, Asperger's Disorder, and Pervasive Developmental Disorder-Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS). The other Pervasive Developmental Disorders which are less common are: Childhood Disintegrative Disorder and Rett's Disorder.

Children and adults with autism typically have difficulties with verbal and nonverbal communication, social interactions and relationships, and leisure or play activities. The disorder interferes with the ability to communicate with others or become independent members of the community. Some individuals with autism may exhibit repeated body movements (hand flapping, rocking), unusual responses to people or attachments to objects, and resist any changes in routines. In some cases, aggressive and/or self-injurious behavior may be present.

The Verdict is In...

The Cookie Court was a HUGE success. Thank you, students, for performing and staging this play, and thank you, Shelley Latham, for writing and directing this delightful story of sibling rivalry. The premier performances were spectacular and in the end... they all lived happily ever after (until Charlie got a laptop at age 15!).

Kindergarten Screening

Kindergarten screening for the 2013-2014 school year will be held May 2nd and 3rd for children who will be 5 years of age before October 15th. Please call the office for an appointment at 374-2202.

This year's kindergarten classes will not have school on those days.

Music News

The BHCS Crazy Eight's Jazzband performs twice on Friday, April 12th. Come to the Blue Hill Public Library Student Art Show Opening from 4:30 to 5:30 PM where there will be excellent student artwork from the area schools and excellent entertainment by the Crazy Eight's jazzband. And, later that evening, the Crazy Eight's will perform at the Black Dinah's Chocolate Shop along with the Brooklin Combo from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Come out and support the student artists at the library and enjoy a fine evening of music and chocolate.

From the Sports Desk...

It has been terrific to see all the families at the Preseason Spring Sports meeting! 56 families and 72 athletes are all signed up for our spring sports: baseball, softball, and track! To accommodate busy schedules, evening sports meetings and individual appointments have been offered to meet the pre-season sports meeting requirement, but there are still a handful of parents who have not attended a sports meeting. If a player and his/her family have not attended a meeting by the end of this week 4/11, they may not participate in spring sports after the April vacation break until they attend a meeting. Families are still welcome to make an appointment as needed.

Baseball and Softball Clinic for students in grades 3-8 will begin after April vacation on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:45-3:45 PM on the BHCS field. The coach is Brian Lescord, a favorite ed. tech. with the kids and a lifelong baseball player! His positive energy will be contagious; prepare for a fun season!

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

Due to the overwhelming interest in track this spring, we will not be able to offer track for athletes in third and fourth grade. Safety and supervision are a top priority for our athletes. We have 40+ track athletes in grades 5-8 signed up for this spring. Track athletes must return a permission slip to the coach to participate in "off campus" practices. The track coaches sent home a newsletter with information about the next meet this week.

A big thank you to Harry Vinall who raked like a champion last Saturday to prepare our BHCS baseball/softball field!

If you have old baseball or softball gloves that don't fit anyone in your house, please send them to school. Our Clinic would love to collect a box of gloves for our younger players.

Free cleats and a couple of running shoes are available for those who can use them. Look in the red wagon outside Mrs. McKechnie's room and take a pair to try!

Swim Lessons During Spring Break

At the Downeast Family YMCA

April 15th - 19th

A lesson a day

9:30 – 10:00 AM for Preschool I and II

9:30 – 10:15 AM for Progressive I and II

Cost: \$25

Questions? Call Jaime at 207-667-3086

The Simmering Pot

Closed on April 15th for Patriot's Day and reopens April 22nd. The Simmering Pot provides a free, delicious meal on Mondays from 2:30 to 6:00 PM at the First Congregational Church of Blue Hill. Eat in or take out. No charge, donations accepted. For more information call 374-2891.

Dates to Remember

April 10-11 "The Cookie Court" at 7 PM
April 11 Project Citizen Showcase, 4 PM
April 8-11 Conferences
Fri., April 12 No School
Student Art Show Reception,
Blue Hill Public Library, 4:30
PM. The work is up all month.
Apr. 29-May 3 Screen Free Week
Thurs., May 2 5-2-1-0 Spring Fling – Think
Healthy!
Mon., May 6 BHCS Speech Contest (6/8),
4 PM, Café
Thurs., May 9 Union #93 Speech Contest –
Grades 6 - 8
Penobscot, 4:30 PM
Mon., June 3 5-8 Concert, 7 PM
Tues., June 4 K-4 Concert, 6:30 PM
June 5-7 8th Grade Class Trip
Thurs., June 13 Graduation, 7 PM
Fri., June 14 Last student day