



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

First Day of School September 3, 2013

The Explorations newsletter will usually be published and sent home on Thursdays, but this week we want to give you news on the first day of school. You may request that your newsletter be "paperless" and sent by email. Let us know if you would prefer this.

Please help with child safety! If your child is not following the usual routine at the end of the day, it is VERY important that you send a note at the beginning of the day to avoid confusion. Calls to the office for end-of-the-day plans should only be made in an emergency situation.

Open House and Picnic on Thursday

Please join us at 5 PM to visit the school, at 5:30 for a quick gathering in the gym, and on the playground for a picnic and to hear the Jazz Band at 5:45 PM.

Introductions of New Staff

We are very pleased to welcome new staff to our BHCS faculty this year. In grade 1, Victoria George comes to us after teaching for two years in the Narragansett Schools in Rhode Island. She has taught kindergarten and grade 2, and comes to us with strong references and a great literacy background. Also, a new face in Grade 1 is that of Emily Herrick, a former BHCS student, who is doing her student teaching with Ms. Cole through the University of Maine in Farmington. She will be with us through December, and she is ready to delve into the world of early childhood education. Melissa Norwood has transferred to 4th grade, and she and Mrs. Clapp are gearing up for a great year. Melanie Cote, former grade 4 teacher, left to accept a job as principal in Washburn; we wish her well. After Kate Kennedy's departure, we were fortunate to hire Nell Herrmann who taught science at BHCS in the early 2000's. Nell has been teaching science and gifted and talented

students in State College, PA. She will return to her BHCS lab and teach 7/8 science classes. Anita Black is now teaching 7/8 social studies. Another transfer was made for Chelsea Robbins who got her special education certification this summer. Chelsea has been with us for two years as an outstanding ed tech, but now will be a full-time special education teacher. All of these people add to and complement the amazing staff at BHCS. Welcome, and thank you, new staff.

From Our School Counselor

If you have a child who would benefit from individual supportive or clinical counseling, a social skills group, or a focused support group at school, please contact our school counselor, Megan Granger at 374-2202, ext. 104.

First PTF Meeting of the Year

Please join us in the school library at 2:45 PM on Wednesday, September 11. We welcome all parents, teachers, and friends of BHCS. Childcare will be provided.

Library is looking for volunteers!

If you have some time during the week and would like to volunteer in the library, we'd love to hear from you. The library is a great place to be a part of the school, and help is need for book check in and out, shelving, copying, laminating and lots of other things. Let Beth Jackson know if you might be interested -- bjackson@bhcs.org; 374-2202 (Ext.106).

Summer Reading BINGO Sheets

Did you fill out a READO Bingo board over the summer? Was it a 4-corners Bingo? 3-way Bingo? Black-out Bingo? Bring your READO board to school this week and turn it in to your teacher or the office to be entered into a drawing!

School Theme Returns: Reach for the Stars!

Again this year, our K-8 school theme will be "Reach for the Stars." It encompasses so many far-reaching ideas and it reminds us of what we want for our students... to always work hard and to dream big!

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

Back to School Yard Sale & Bake Sale!

To benefit the BHCS Cheerleaders! We need new uniforms for our upcoming members!

Where: BHCS Cafeteria

When: Saturday, September 7th

Time: 8 AM to 3 PM

This sale is a great way to get rid of last year's school clothes that your children have outgrown, or it may be inspiration to clean out the garage and donate that old bike or lamp that no one uses...or maybe some books! If you would like to donate items to sell in the yard sale, or baked goods for the bake sale, please contact Coach Sara Brown at sbrown@bhcs.org (Ext. 142) or call the school at 374-2202. *All unsold items will be donated to **Goodwill** at end of sale.

CAMERA FOUND

Loretta has a camera in the office that belongs to one of our kindergarten parents. It was left here after the August visit.

Peanut/Nut and Other Food Allergies

Food allergies are a very serious concern for us at BHCS. We do not serve any nut products for our school lunch program. Additionally, in order to protect several students with these allergies, we ask students who have lunches with peanuts or other nuts to sit at the specified tables. Please know that as you pack lunches each day.

SPORTS NEWS

Mandatory Fall Sports Meeting

Tuesday, September 10th at 5:30 PM in Ms. Black's room. This is a mandatory meeting for all fall athletes; a parent, a guardian, or the athlete must attend this meeting before the student is allowed to participate in fall sports.

Coastal (Varsity) Soccer Tryouts

September 4th and 6th from 2:45 - 4:30 PM for grades 6-8. Athletes must bring a mouth guard, cleats and shin guards.

Clinic/JV Soccer (grades 3-5)

This team will practice on Mondays and Wednesdays starting next week, immediately after school, and the practice will go until 3:30 PM. These soccer players will all need shin guards, and cleats are recommended.

Afro Brazilian & Creative Dance

Ages 9-12 for beginners in Afro Brazilian, 3:30-4:45 PM

Ages 4-6 for Creative Dance and Song, 4:45-5:45 PM

Adult Afro Brazilian- 6:00-7:15 PM

Trowbridge Studio in Sedgwick, call 359-5562 to register.

September: Fri. 6th, Fri. 13th, Thurs. 19th, Fri. 27th /\$60

Taught by Afro Brazilian dancer, Kristi Williamson.

Japanese Music

Saturday September 7th, 7:00 PM, enjoy a concert of Japanese music at First Congregational Church of Blue Hill. Yoko & Hikaru Duo will perform Japanese and contemporary music on koto, shamisen, cello and voice. This is a benefit for the church's fuel assistance fund. Suggested donations for adults, children & students - free. Info, call Wendy at 374-2891 or email bhcongo@yahoo.com.

Dates to Remember

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| Th., Sept. 5 | Open House and Picnic, 5-7 PM (see article) |
| Sat., Sept. 7 | Cheerleaders Yard & Bake Sale, 8 AM-3 PM, BHCS Café |
| Tues., Sept. 10 | Mandatory Sport Meeting, 5:30 PM in Ms. Black's room (gr. 8) |
| Wed., Sept. 11 | PTF Meeting, 2:45 PM in the library
School Board Mtg., 5:00 PM |