



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

September 12, 2013

Thank you, BHCS Families!

We served about 300 people at our Back-to-School Open House Picnic. Thanks for coming; it was a lot of fun! And, thanks to Mr. Schubeck and the Jazz Band kids for their premier performance – it was terrific.

Our first 8 days have been very productive and positive; students seem to be beaming with excitement and anticipation of a great year ahead. Again, I must comment that the children of Blue Hill are like magic. They have an amazing spirit for education, and a sincere respect and commitment to family and friends, as well as to the staff at BHCS. They have a rather sophisticated, yet innocent, vision of the world around them. This village celebrates its kids. What a great place to be!

Please keep in close touch with us so that there is clear communication throughout the year. If you have questions, please contact your child's teacher right away to avoid any confusion. For upcoming dates, always check the end of this newsletter and the BHCS website.

Library News

We are looking for a few library volunteers. If you could spare several hours in the morning or afternoon, stop by the library and see Beth Jackson.

PTF News

A huge thanks goes to all parents who have turned in their information for the family directory.

Twenty enthusiastic parents and teachers were at the first meeting and we are busy planning the year. There is always room for new people and new ideas.

We are really excited about the response to the volunteer forms. However, there are a few areas that need coordinators. If you are willing to take charge of the fall playground clean-up or the holiday craft workshop for kids, please let us know.

The following classrooms still need a volunteer to be the room parent - KN, KH, 1G, 2L, 3M, 3S, 4N, 5N, and 7D.

Finally, the PTF will again be providing refreshments in support of the ***Making Strides 5K Fitness Run / Walk*** on September 28. Stay tuned for more information. Contact Tracy Gandy if you can help with any of these things (tlgandy@aol.com or 812-6171).

Making Strides 5K Fitness Run / Walk

Please be sure to look at the information that was sent home earlier this week about the 5th annual Making Strides Run/Walk that helps raise awareness of autism and often provides supplies, materials, and support for our school's special education programs. It's really a fun and important day.

Sports News

Because of busy schedules, we had a difficult time finding an athletic director this year. Anita Black had offered in the summer to ***assist*** a director to learn how the AD job goes, and then was called upon to take the fall season herself. I am extremely grateful. So, at the last minute she has been trying to learn the many tricks of this assignment. Please be patient with our AD, your coaches, and our school as we make efforts to provide these important sports for our kids. We are still looking for a winter and spring AD. It is a demanding job, but there is a stipend of \$2,500 for both (\$1,500 for winter and \$1,000 for spring). If you are interested, please let me know.

In the meantime, please refer to the website for schedules and ask for paper schedules from the coaches. As far as the kids go, they are having a promising start to the sports year. Thanks.

Health News

We've given the "Peanut/Nut ONLY" table in the cafeteria a reasonable amount of time to be able to determine the effectiveness and the degree of safety it provides to students with food allergies that include peanuts/nuts. The long and

short of it is that it is not the safest way to protect the allergic students. For that reason, the decision has been made to go back to the "Peanut/Nut FREE" table again. Anyone with nut/peanut allergies will have the choice to sit at this table and invite any friends who have HOT lunch to sit with them. Our cooks do not serve any foods with nut/peanut ingredients. Students with cold lunch will be able to sit at all the other tables. Classroom and field-trip precautions will remain in effect for the individual classrooms that have a student with peanut/nut allergies. For the safety and well-being of all people who attend and/or visit our school, we will always encourage awareness and careful consideration when choosing snacks and foods to send to the school. A caring and respectful attitude for the health and well-being of all our students is also encouraged and appreciated. Thank you for your attention and consideration to this announcement. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.
 ~Debbie Candage, RN, BSN/School Nurse

YMCA ZUMBATHON

There will be a ZUMBATHON at the Blue Hill YMCA, Tuesday, September 17th from 5:30-7:00 PM (with a break in the middle). There is a minimum donation of \$5/person. All proceeds go to the Tradewinds Oncology Fund (a program set up to help local families with the financial burdens of cancer). We will be OUTSIDE, so dress accordingly. Get GREAT exercise for a GREAT cause! All participants will be entered in a raffle for a 6-month Blue Hill YMCA membership. We will also waive the \$25 joiners fee to the Blue Hill YMCA for anyone who participates in the ZUMBATHON and signs up for a Blue Hill YMCA membership that day (September 17th). Rain Date will be September 19th. Please feel free to call or check Facebook for updates. See you at the ZUMBATHON!!!! For more information call Crystal Follette at 374-2248 or email at cfollette@defymca.org.

STEEL DRUM BAND - "Rhythm Rockets"

Beginning Steelband lessons for kids ages 8-12 are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4

PM. \$90 for 8 weeks Classes begin Sept. 17th
 Call Nigel Chase at 326-8684 for more information.

Dates to Remember

- Mon., Sept. 23 Pre-K Committee Mtg, 5 PM
- Tue., Sept. 24 Gr. 6-8, Coastal Clean-Up, 10:30 AM
- Sat., Sept 28 ***Making Strides 5K Fitness Run / Walk***
- Oct. 1-23 NECAP testing window, gr. 3-8
- Oct. 7-11 7th Grade at Camp Kieve
- Fri., Oct. 11 Teacher In-service, no school
- Mon., Oct. 14 Columbus Day, no school
- Oct. 16-18 6th Grade to Science Camp
- Sat., Oct. 19 ***Early Childhood Conference on Poverty at BHCS***

Sports Schedule for Games and Meets

- Cross Country (G/B girls first; B/G boys first)**
- *Thurs, Sept 12 at Bay School @ 4:15 (B/G)
- *Thurs, Sept 19 at BHCS (only Home meet) @4:15 (G/B)
- *Mon, Sept 23 at Sumner (Parker Pruett Invitational) @ 4:15 (G/B)
- *Thurs, Sept 26 at Cave Hill @ 4:15 (B/G)
- *Thurs, Oct 3 at Bucksport @ 4:15 (G/B)
- *Thurs, Oct 10 Small School Championships at Airline @4:15 (B/G)
- *Wed, Oct 17 Coastal Championships

Soccer

Peninsula:

- 9/12 Sedgwick @ Blue Hill: 3:30 PM
- 9/13 Blue Hill @ Brooklin: 4:00 PM
- 9/30 Bay School @ Blue Hill: 3:30 PM
- 10/7 Blue Hill @ Brooksville: 4:00 PM
- 10/8 Bay School @ Blue Hill: 3:30 PM
- 10/16 Castine @ Blue Hill: 4:00 PM
- 10/21 Brooklin @ Blue Hill: 4:00 PM
- 10/23 Brooksville @ Blue Hill: 4:00 PM

Coastal:

- 9/18 Emerson @ Blue Hill: 4:00 PM
- 9/19 Deer Isle @ Blue Hill: 3:30 PM
- 9/20 Mount Desert @ Blue Hill: 4:00 PM
- 9/24 Blue Hill @ Emerson: 4:00 PM
- 10/1 Blue Hill @ Pemetic: 4:00 PM
- 10/3 Blue Hill @ Deer Isle: 3:30 PM
- 10/10 Blue Hill @ Tremont: 4:00 PM
- 10/4 Blue Hill @ Trenton: 4:00 PM