



# EXPLORATIONS

## Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

September 26, 2013

**Picture day will be Friday, October 4th. Order forms will come home on Thursday and need to be returned with the money on Friday. Pre-schoolers are welcome at 8:00 AM.**

### **BHCS Pre-K Update**

The Blue Hill Consolidated School Pre-K Committee continues to meet to work out the plans for a quality program that will start in the fall of 2014. Here are some of the details that have been worked out so far.

- ***Our Goal: "All children will enter kindergarten socially and emotionally ready to learn and succeed."***
- A Pre-K program will be established at Blue Hill Consolidated School by September of 2014.
- The program will be accessible to ALL pre-K students in Blue Hill.
- The school will provide a full-day program, 5 days a week.
- Collaborative possibilities will be researched to connect with the YMCA after-school program and other child care services already provided in Blue Hill.

If you have any questions or input for us, please let me know. ~~Della

### **Early Childhood Screening Opportunity**

Together with CDS, Healthy Peninsula, and the Blue Hill Memorial Hospital, we are arranging FREE developmental screenings for children from 12 months to age 4 during our upcoming parent-teacher conferences. The conferences will be scheduled soon for all kids and will take place from October 21<sup>st</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>. If you have a child in these preschool years, please take advantage of this opportunity to know your child better and to assess school readiness. The screenings will be brief (15-20 minutes) and fun for the kids and parents. Please let me know if

you can attend. Call me at 374-2202 or email me at [dmartin@bhcs.org](mailto:dmartin@bhcs.org). Thanks! ~~Della

### **Late Sports Practices**

Students who have late practices (after 3:30 PM) are asked to NOT stay after school to wait for the practice. We have had some serious discipline issues because there is no adult supervision for them. Teachers are busy with meetings or planning their programs, and they cannot provide the supervision. Please support us as we try to make sure kids are safe.

### **Tardy Students and Sports Participation**

Students who do not arrive at school on time each day must have a reasonable excuse for being tardy. If there is an issue, please contact your child's teacher to explain why he/she is late. We know that occasionally a family runs into scheduling problems in the morning, and we try to be understanding of that, but please keep in mind the importance of being at school on time to ensure academic success. **Tardiness may mean that a student is not able to play in a sports event or extra-curricular activities that day.** The first bell rings at 7:50 AM; announcements are at 7:55; and classes start at 8:00. Students should be in their classrooms at 7:55 AM.

### **BHCS Middle School Kids Participate in Coastal Clean-up Week**

As part of International Coastal Clean-up Week, students in grades 6-8 spent two hours on Tuesday, 9/24, picking up garbage at local beaches with educators from the Marine Environmental Research Institute. Students recorded what types of items they collected on a data sheet, which was returned to MERI. The data will be entered into an international database and includes information about how many pounds of trash they collected and what categories it fell into including: plastic bottles, food wrappers, fishing gear, cigarette butts, plastic grocery bags and more. Students have been learning about major threats to the Earth's

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

oceans in science class and were excited to do their part to help clean up marine debris, one of the biggest threats. Eighth grader Brianna McNeil particularly enjoyed the activity and said, "I think our work helped the environment. I hope people will start taking action and responsibility to keep their local beaches clean."

### **PTF News**

Thanks to all the people who have volunteered to help with the many activities going on around BHCS.

If you want to provide refreshments in support of the ***Making Strides 5K Fitness Run / Walk*** on September 28 please e-mail me at [tlgandy@aol.com](mailto:tlgandy@aol.com). We still need some baked goods and single serving snacks.

Just a reminder that during **Hannaford Helps Schools** fundraising from September 1 to December 1, 2013, you can earn school dollar certificates for BHCS worth \$3 for every 4 participating products you buy at any Hannaford grocery store. There is a collection box in Tradewinds that includes a slot for BHCS. This is always a major source of money to help with important projects and activities at BHCS. Check out the poster in the BHCS lobby or the Hannaford website for more information.

### **GSA Alumni Art Show (September 28-29)**

This year's show is featuring the artwork of three of our BHCS teachers, Penny Ricker, Megan Granger, and Kathy Hally. Coffee and goodies will be served from 10 AM- noon on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> in the science wing. The entrance is across from the main office. Saturday hours are from 10 AM – noon, and Sunday from 1-4 PM.

### **Original Works is Coming!**

BHCS will once again be offering the opportunity to order items and gifts made with your children's artwork. This will also benefit the BHCS arts programs. Order forms will be coming home soon, and the orders will be due back October 21<sup>st</sup>, and the items should be delivered by Thanksgiving. Check out samples of possible items in the lobby display case; check with Penny Ricker or Beth Jackson if you have questions. Artwork made outside of art

class can also be used as long as it follows the size and material guidelines. You can check out Original Works at [originalworks.com](http://originalworks.com).

### **Meet the Author Series for Kids... at the Blue Hill Public Library!**

Check out our flyers throughout town. Saturdays from September 28 to October 26. Presenting authors Cherie Mason, Kim Ridley and Rebekah Raye, Ellen Potter, and Kelly Cunnane. For information go to [www.BHPL.net](http://www.BHPL.net).

**6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Movie-Pizza Night** with *Evan Almighty*, First Congregational Church, Blue Hill, Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM. All 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders in the area are invited; bring a friend! Church attendance and membership not required. Free! RSVP if possible, let us know your pizza preference. Call Tina Allen, 266-6336 or Wendy Ritger, 374-2891, [bhcongo@yahoo.com](mailto:bhcongo@yahoo.com)

**Benefit Yard Sale, Bake Sale & Raffle** this Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM at 1435 Pleasant Street in Blue Hill at Babson & Company. The funds raised will go towards Ellie Gellerson's Jr. National Leadership Conference tuition & Carly McHale's (Ellie's Cousin) Jr. National Cheerleading competition. Both events are in March of 2014.

### **Dates to Remember**

Sat., Sept 28	<b><i>Making Strides 5K Fitness Run / Walk</i></b>
Oct. 1-23	NECAP testing window, gr. 3-8
<b>Fri., Oct. 4</b>	<b>Picture Day</b>
Oct. 7-11	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade at Camp Kieve
Wed., Oct. 9	School Board, 5 PM
Thurs., Oct. 10	PTF Mtg., 2:45 PM
Fri., Oct. 11	Teacher In-service, no school
Mon., Oct. 14	Columbus Day, no school
Oct. 16-18	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade to Science Camp
Sat., Oct. 19	<b>Early Childhood Conference on Poverty at BHCS</b>
Oct. 21-24	Parent Teacher Conferences and FREE Early Childhood Screenings