



# EXPLORATIONS

## Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

**November 21, 2013**

**No Explorations Next Week**

*Note: BHCS Students will attend the GSA Winter Concert on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00-10:00 AM. Teachers and ed techs will walk them over around 8:45 AM.*

### **Thanksgiving Food Drive**

Thank you, thank you, and thank you!  
We gathered 1,115 items! Wow! The kids were so excited to go to the food pantry to give them each item, and those who helped receive the donations at the Tree of Life were very moved by the generous and loving attitudes of our children. BHCS kids are the BEST!  
For these children and the rest of our BHCS family, I am so thankful! Have a wonderful Thanksgiving. ~Della

### **Thank you, Kitchen Staff!**

It was a delicious and special Thanksgiving lunch on Tuesday! And, thanks to the Garden Club for the beautiful centerpieces of fresh rosemary.

### **Antarctica at BHCS**

In preparation for Antarctica Day on December 1<sup>st</sup>, Buzz Scott, Director of OceansWide, visited 7th and 8th grade science classes at BHCS today. Buzz has worked for the United States Antarctic Program on the Nathaniel B. Palmer, an icebreaker, and has traveled to Antarctica over 30 times. He has also worked for Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) in Moss Landing, California as an ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle) pilot. During his time with MBARI, Buzz helped discover over 350 species of marine animals off the coast of California, including one that was named for him, M. scotti, a galatheid crab- or squat lobster.  
\*\*Students were excited to see Buzz's photographs and asked him many thoughtful questions about his work as an ROV pilot. Several 7th and 8th graders will be constructing their own ROV with Ms. Herrmann, during after school meetings. Later in the year, Buzz will

return with ROVs from OceansWide, his non-profit organization based in Newcastle, Maine.

### **PTF News**

There is so much the PTF is thankful for here at BHCS. We have had amazing support as we launch new programs and revamp old ones. The meetings have been a great time to gather and share ideas. We are looking forward to the rest of the year and spending more time with the students, staff and families at BHCS.

\*\*The **Hannaford Card program** is up and running in the K-2 wing. Our first order has gone through and we have earned over \$100 in Hannaford Cards for the PTF. This month the cards will go to the Thanksgiving Boxes.

\*\*The **Helping Paws** that were on the library windows have been taken down and a master list created of the items that teachers still need for their classrooms. It is posted on the PTF section of the school website under "How You Can Help Now." Please consider purchasing or donating some of these items.

\*\*The **Craft Fair** is this Saturday, November 23, There is a sign up sheet in the lobby for food donations. The BHCS Cheerleaders will be manning the refreshment table but they could use our help in preparing food. After you do some shopping at the Craft Fair this Saturday, stick around for the clean up fun!

\*\*These chilly mornings are a reminder to clean out our winter clothes and make sure everything fits our growing kids. Drop outgrown winter clothes and athletic gear in the bin in the lobby. Then stop by the cafeteria during the Craft Fair for the **Used Gear and Winter Clothing exchange**.

\*\*As you are doing your holiday shopping, keep your eye out for the **Hannaford Helps Schools products**. The program runs through December 1<sup>st</sup>. A list of the products is on the bulletin board in the lobby and also on the Hannaford website.

\*\*Don't forget to keep clipping your **Boxtops for Education**. Collection sheets were sent home to grades K-4 this week and stay tuned for our collection contest.

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

**\*\*The annual Holiday Craft Workshop for kids** will be Saturday, December 14. You can volunteer to help with this amazing family event by completing the attached form. We will need bakers, craft supervisors, shoppers, and lots of helping hands. Please contact Heather Nelson if you have questions. [hnelson@bhcs.org](mailto:hnelson@bhcs.org).

**\*\*This year we are starting a new program here at BHCS. The PTF will be hosting winter clubs.** The clubs will be a chance for volunteers to share their talents and interests with the students. Please see the attached form for more information and to sign-up to share your skills. It is also a great opportunity for members of the community to get involved. If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Gandy at [ptf@bhcs.org](mailto:ptf@bhcs.org).

### **Bobcat Gear is here!**

Order forms were sent home last week and are due December 4. There are some exciting new products this year. Extra forms are on the PTF section of the school website and in the lobby. If you have any questions, please contact Jerin Smith at [jsmith@bhcs.org](mailto:jsmith@bhcs.org).

### **Looking for Digital Camera donations...**

To meet the great interest in the Photography offering for the 7th and 8th grade choice specials in Trimester 2, we are looking for donations of digital cameras. If you have upgraded your camera, or have one you aren't using any longer, we would love to put it to good use! Contact Lori Wessel or Beth Jackson if you can help.

### **Be Thankful for Books**

Everyone shared the bounty of books this week as they were able to choose several books from a plentiful supply of ABL ("already been loved") books to add to their personal libraries.

Donations and books that were weeded from the library over the summer found new homes, and everyone should have something to read over the Thanksgiving break. We welcome book donations to share with students, classrooms and the library! Happy reading and Thanksgiving!

### **Blue Hill Tree Decorating**

Don't miss the annual tree lighting at the Town Hall on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM.

Many kids have contributed written messages on the ribbons that represent our school to be placed on the tree.

### **Christmas Angels**

The First Congregational Church of Blue Hill provides holiday gifts of clothing for children in need living on the Blue Hill Peninsula & Deer Isle/Stonington. To help, contact Kim Williamson, [peony13@me.com](mailto:peony13@me.com), or at 374-2092 by December 1<sup>st</sup>. To receive assistance, call Wendy Ritger 374-2891 or email [bhcongo@yahoo.com](mailto:bhcongo@yahoo.com) by December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **PMAL Programs**

**After school enrichment for the holidays at PMAL!** The darkness of winter is brightened in the cozy warmth of our holiday after-school workshops! It's an old-fashioned, homemade season with paper dolls and paper planes, chemistry sets and afternoon play, homemade gifts and a little bit of baking! We welcome you to join us for this festive holiday-making! If you want your child to experience a little winter tradition, join us for:

- Mondays: beautiful and fun things we can make with paper
- Tuesdays: a do-it-yourself imagination station – make and design your own fun with lots of adult help
- Wednesdays: science experiments – like the good old days with baking soda and vinegar and other fizzy wonders
- Thursdays: making our own holiday gifts – it's like an Elf Workshop!

PMAL's after school programs include 'Arts Playhouse' for students in grades K – 3 and "The Clubhouse" for students in grades 4 – 6. Students are in a very warm environment where they share a healthy snack, get their homework done, and enjoy the beautiful indoors and outdoors! Each afternoon at 4:00 PM, students join in the scheduled enrichment workshops. Come on up the hill and check it out!

We can be reached at 374-5255 or at [chris@pmalcenter.com](mailto:chris@pmalcenter.com)  
Details are also at [www.pmalcenter.com](http://www.pmalcenter.com)

**Thanksgiving Day Zumba**

8:00 – 9:00 AM at The Bay School

Minimum donation \$5/person

Non-Perishable food is also being collected!

You can come get a great workout in for a great cause before your Thanksgiving meal!

All proceeds go to the local Food Pantry!

Questions please call The Blue Hill Y 374-2248 or email [agrindal@defymca.org](mailto:agrindal@defymca.org).

**Dates to Remember**

Thurs., Nov. 21

Jazz Night with 6th, 7th, and 8th Jazz Bands, 4 PM

Sat., Nov. 23

PTF Craft Fair, BHCS Gym, 10 AM – 2 PM  
Winter Clothing & Gear Exchange, Cafeteria

Tues., Nov. 26

Last day of school before Thanksgiving  
End of Trimester 1  
**THANKSGIVING BREAK**

Nov. 27-29

Tues., Dec. 3

GSA Concert  
Rehearsal, 9-10 AM

Every Friday

Bobcat Spirit Day!

Attachments

- 1) Holiday Craft Workshop Volunteer Form
- 2) Time & Talents for Winter Clubs Form
- 3) Boxtop Organizer Sheets
- 4) MENU**