



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

January 16, 2014

No School Tomorrow – Teacher In-Service Day
No School Monday – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Correction:

Last week in the newsletter article about the Geography Bee, we listed the wrong Stewart brother for the third place winner. It should have read, “Congratulations to Cole Stewart in grade 5.”

~Mrs. M

Attention 8th Grade Parents! MOVIN’ ON UP: The Transition to High School and Beyond

A workshop for parents and guardians of 8th graders will be held at 6:00 PM in the BHCS cafeteria on Thursday, January 23rd. Join us to learn more about what’s ahead for your child who is embarking on this high school journey. *What will it be like, and when should you start thinking about your child’s college selections or a career after high school? What financial resources are out here and how can you get them?* Elena Bourakovsky, College Access Coordinator through FAME (Finance Authority of Maine) will lead the workshop and answer questions. Bring your 8th grader if you choose. There will be pizza for everyone.

Spelling Bee Champs

Congratulations to our 2014 spelling champions, Cameron Stewart (1st place); Erika Hipsky (runner-up); and Aidan Stearns (alternate) for their success today in the spelling bee. Cameron and Erika will attend the Hancock County Spelling Bee to be held on Wednesday, February 5th, at 6:30 PM at the Cave Hill School in Eastbrook. The snow date will be on February 6th. Great job, all spellers!

Chess News

The Chess Team scored a lot of wins at their first team tournament on Tuesday in Ellsworth. The kids had a good time and they show great potential. The next meet (which is optional) is on Monday, January 20 in Old Town. There will not be a bus for this event. If

you need financial assistance for the entry fee for this event, please contact the school.

PTF News

**A huge thank you to all our families that are helping support BHCS by participating in the Hannaford Card program. To date we have raised about \$600 for the school without it costing anybody a penny! Some of the money has been used to get snacks for the winter clubs and for teacher goodies during the week of conferences. If you are curious about the program but not sure where to begin, please contact Sarah King (374-9294) or Lesley Litwiller (374-5709) for more information.

**Grab your teddy bears and put on your PJ’s. It is time for the BHCS Bedtime Story Hour. Join us Friday, January 24th at 6:30 PM as we gather to hear stories from our “celebrity” guest readers. You never know who will be there to share a book! Please bring a dozen of your favorite cookies to share. We will provide the milk. Pajamas, pillows and stuffed animals are welcome! Contact Heather Nelson or Tracy Gandy if you have any questions.

Jump Rope for Heart Health

**Once again, Mr. McCormick and Mrs. Candage are celebrating Heart Health with BHCS. There is a month-long focus in physical and health education classes and throughout the school in which the kids learn about the importance of exercise and healthy nutritional choices... and get to do lots of jump roping in PE class. It’s a really fun month. We started off yesterday with a special visit from the Camden-Rockport Skippers Jump Rope Team. This was great fun!!!

**One of the goals of Jump Rope for Heart Health is to provide awareness about the special work that the American Heart Association (AHA) does to help children and adults with serious heart illness or conditions. We would like to help the AHA with these special services. As a community service project, we will be having a fundraising campaign for the AHA. Students will be bringing home an AHA collection envelope, and any size donation will be welcome. All the students who collect any amount of money will get a prize. But, the most important reward will be that they’ve been a part of a

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

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community wide campaign and will be helping many people to have healthier hearts and lives. Please look for these envelopes to come home next week with the newsletters. Contact Mrs. Candage with any questions or concerns. Thanks very much for your support and assistance with this worthwhile endeavor.

Health Alert Information: Strep Throat

There have been cases of strep throat reported in the school community. Please take your child to the doctor's office if you suspect he/she may have strep throat. The symptoms include a sore throat and sometimes a fever. Strep throat is caused by bacteria, which would need to be treated with an antibiotic. Your child would need to be seen by a health care provider, tested for strep throat, and then take an antibiotic if the test confirms the presence of strep throat. For more information, go to www.kidshealth.com. If you find that your child does have strep throat, they need to stay home for 24 hours after starting the antibiotic.

Health Alert Information: Head Lice

There are confirmed cases of head lice in the school community. Please check your children for any signs or symptoms. These would include itching, redness on the scalp, and/or tiny white dots on the hair. These tiny white dots are the eggs, or nits, that a louse will lay. They will be difficult to remove from the hair shaft, which indicates that they are eggs, and not just dry skin or dandruff. If you suspect your child has lice, please contact the school as soon as possible so we can provide instructions and assistance in helping to get rid of them. For more information, there is an attachment about lice in the email portion of the newsletter, or go to www.kidshealth.org. Call Mrs. Candage, the school nurse with any questions or concerns. Thank you.

****And as a general reminder, if your child is exhibiting symptoms of illness, please keep him/her home until the illness has passed. This helps to prevent many illnesses from spreading in the school community.**

“Internet Safety for Kids 10 and Older, and Their Parents” This is a workshop by Nina Milliken, Aroostook Mental Health Services, Sat. Jan. 25, 1:00 PM, Blue Hill Public Library.

The Simmering Pot—A Community Created Supper, is closed Monday Jan. 20 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Reopens January 27. The Simmering Pot provides a free delicious meal Mondays, 2:30 to 6 PM, eat in or take out, at the First Congregational Church in Blue Hill. No

charge, donations accepted. In case of winter storms, follow school closing schedule. For information call 374-2891. **Free Health Clinic offered at the same time at the Congregational Church.**

Dance Classes from the Sedgwick Dance Studio

**Sedgwick Dance Studio and Nina Poole will be offering beginning and beginner/intermediate ballet classes starting at the end of January. Class will begin at 3:30 PM after school. Monday beginner/intermediate class is for 9-12 yr. olds with a beginning dance background. Thursday is the beginner class for 5 - 9 year olds.

(Dance Classes... continued)

**On Saturday Feb 1st, Kristy Williamson will be offering a workshop for children exploring the Elements through Expressive Arts, Creative Movement and Afro Brazilian Dance! It will be at the Sedgwick Dance Studio from 11:30 AM-3:00 PM (bring your own lunch). Pre-registration for all classes is necessary.

**If you know a child who would like to study ballet or explore the Elements through Expressive Arts, Creative Movement and Afro Brazilian Dance, please contact Jennifer Trowbridge at 359-5562 or j.trowbridge@georgestevevns.info.

Dates to Remember

Fri., Jan 17	Teacher In-Service, No school
Mon., Jan. 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, no school
Fri., Jan 24	Bedtime Story Hour, Friday, 6:30 PM
Fri., Jan. 31	BHCS Variety Show PTF Potluck at 5:30 PM Show at 6:00 PM, café
Wed., Feb. 12	School Board, 5PM
Thurs., Feb. 13	PTF, 2:45 PM
Feb. 17-21	February Vacation
Wed., Feb. 26	District Jazz Fest, Orrington, afternoon and evening
Sat., March 22	State Jazz Fest, Westbrook, all day
Every Friday Attachments	Bobcat Spirit Day! *Boxtop Sheet *Story time info *2 Health Alerts