



# EXPLORATIONS

## Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

April 10, 2014

### **Please Note: Calendar Change!**

Because of the many storm days used this winter, the expected last day of school for students would be Monday, June 23. **The school board, however, voted last night to allow us to make that day up on April 18 – next Friday.** We understand that some families have made arrangements for vacations, and those would be excused absences if you let us know, but for the rest of us, next week will be a full 5-day week, including Friday. Please call the office if you have more questions.

### **A Town Meeting THANK YOU!**

Thank you, parents and community members who attended town meeting. As you know, there was a considerable show of support at Saturday's meeting, and the school budget passed with a 130 to 54 vote. Pre-K will be a reality next year at BHCS because of your support. That being said, please know that we do as much as possible to spend wisely for the town's sake, and generally we put back into the town funds any money that remains at the end of the school year. The Board is also looking at how well school programs work to ensure that we are getting the most out of our resources. **\*\*The following students really went above and beyond on town meeting day, providing some very important babysitting services:**

- Isla Brownlow
- Ellie Gellerson
- Nellie Haldane
- Tillie Marsh
- Mary Richardson
- Katie Schweizer
- Mazie Smallidge
- Doug Veazie

Thank you, 8<sup>th</sup> graders, for providing this service so that our parents could attend the meeting. **\*\*And, as always, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade turkey dinner was spectacular, thanks to all students and parents and the cooks and homeroom teachers.**

### **Student Art Show at the Library**

The student Art Show Reception is Friday, April 11 from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. There will be music and refreshments for everyone. Please come to the Blue Hill Public Library and support the art program. There is work from BHCS, GSA, the Bay School, Brooklin, Sedgwick, Surry, Brooksville and Castine. The work is upstairs and down and will be on display for the entire month of April. If there are any questions please contact Mrs. Ricker.

### **Notes From the Band Room**

Come hear the award winning BHCS Eights Jazz Band who will be playing at the opening of the Union 93 Student Art Show at the Blue Hill Library on Friday, April 11 at 4:30 PM. **\*\*After the library show, at 6:30 on Friday, the BHCS Eights Jazz Band will join the Brooklin Jazz Band at Black Dinahs/ Fairwinds Florist for a joint performance by both bands! This should prove to be a wonderful day of art and music!**  
~Mr. Schubeck

### **A Person's a Person, No Matter How Small!**

It's always a pleasure to watch our talented students in their spring performances, and this year's **Seussical Jr.** was no exception! We hope you enjoyed the show this week!

**\*\*This year's production is dedicated to Beth Jackson, who will be retiring in June, and who has brought us years and years of reading enjoyment in the library and around school everyday, and especially on Dr. Seuss Days! Thank you, Beth! We will surely miss you!**

**\*\*Thank you, Audrey Means, Penny Ricker, Laura Maier, Tara McKechnie, Clayton Wheelden, Fritz Knoll, Karen and Brian Larkin, Kenton Jakub, Shelley Latham, Elsa Marsh, Carrie Clifford, Raquel Dorr, Sara Brown, Dawn Stewart, Loretta Smith, Jerin Smith, Matt Jurick, Bill Schubeck, Erin and Steve Williamson, Franklin Burke, Debbie Ames, Foster Smith, Kat Hudson, and Kyle Snow. It's a huge undertaking to make the production a success!**

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

### **April is Autism Awareness Month**

Every year we honor the work that is being done to study autism. We greatly appreciate the efforts of Making Strides, as they continue to inform us and support us at school with our programs for students with special needs. This year, Making Strides is presenting Deborah Lipski, and the following is an excerpt from her website (<http://www.autistic-raccoonlady.com/>):  
*“Deb travels the nation and Canada doing various presentations including seminars, inspirational and keynote addresses. She is also an international author [see Jessica Kingsley Publisher's....Managing meltdowns, using the SCARED model...]. She is known as the autistic comedian doing presentations that are full of laughs yet serious and poignant at the same time. Being autistic she can voice what many autistic individuals can't...why we do the things we do, and why we need to live in a world full of absolutes. Her comedic style leave audiences craving more. As a former wildlife rehabilitator specializing in raccoons Deb has spent the last 24 years studying them in the wild and learning social skills from them. Her view is one of looking at autism as a cultural difference rather than a disease or disorder. For those already diagnosed on the spectrum being continually reminded that we are "disabled" and in need of a "cure" only promotes low self esteem and a sense of never fitting in with society.”*

**\*\*Please join us for Deborah's presentation on Wednesday night, April 16, at 6:30 PM in the gym. She will also be presenting to the BHCS students at 9 AM the next day.**

### **Conferences Next Week**

Be sure to sign up with your child's teacher for a conference next week to talk about midterm progress. We hope to have 100% participation, with the exception of grade 8 students who just met with their teachers and the GSA registration team. If 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents do want a conference, however, please call or email your child's teacher, and they are happy to see you again.

**\*\*Specialists' hours are listed below:**

#### **Mrs. Means - Music**

Monday-Thursday: 3-4 PM

*Or by appointment*

#### **Beth Jackson - Library**

Monday-Thursday: 3-5 PM

#### **Mr. Schubeck - Band**

Monday: 3-4 PM

Tuesday: 3-6 PM

Thursday: 3-6 PM

#### **Mrs. Ricker - Art**

Monday: 3-5 PM

Tuesday: 3-5 PM

Wednesday: 3-6 PM

#### **Matt Jurick - Technology**

Monday-Thursday: 3-5 PM

#### **Mrs. Granger - School Counselor**

Megan is happy to join parent teacher conferences if invited by teachers or parents. She is also happy to schedule separate appointments with parents throughout the conference week as requested, or at any time during the school year.

#### **Mud season is here!**

Please consider packing a convenient change of clothes for your child this spring. We have some items here, but we are running short. The kids enjoy playing outside, and we do the best we can to keep them out of the puddles and mud, but “things happen.” A lightweight pair of sweat pants and some old sneakers and socks would be good to have on hand in a backpack.

#### **PTF News**

Thank you to everyone who donated food for the town meeting. The people who came by for breakfast were delighted with the variety and commented on how delicious everything was. A huge thanks goes to Megan Granger and Linsley Simmons for organizing the sale. Not only did it raise money for the PTF, but it also was a wonderful way for the community to see how much our families support the school.

**\*\*Our next PTF meeting is Thursday, April 10 at 2:45 PM. We are going to be working on Teacher & Staff Appreciation week and looking toward our activities for the end of the year. \*\*Please keep clipping your Box Tops for Education. The last submission brought in over \$400 to support activities around the school. Thank you! Attached is the spring collection sheet.**

\*\* Hannaford Card Orders Due Back Friday, April 11.

### **Screen Free Week**

BHCS will be celebrating Screen Free Awareness after vacation during the week of April 28th - May 2nd, our first week back to school after April vacation. The 5-2-1-0 Committee, our dedicated staff, and the PTF have planned some great after-school activities for kids and their families. These are all activities that provide an opportunity for kids and families to reconsider and reconnect with alternative forms of enjoyment other than media entertainment. This is an opportunity for everyone to explore some new or familiar well-loved and healthy activities that can become life-long forms of enjoyment. Please consider supporting your child in a commitment to refrain from the "screen" forms of entertainment, such as TV, video games, computer socializing, etc., for this week. A sign up sheet will be available on the website, and with the newsletter. It's coming home early so everyone has ample opportunity to review and choose the activities, and then return the form as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly for the participants.

### **5-2-1-0 Spring Fling Potluck Luau Dinner Dance & Health Fair**

This fun, tasty and healthy event will be held on Wednesday, April 30, during Screen Free Week, from 5:30 - 7:00 PM. Dress up in your favorite Hawaiian outfit, bring a healthy dish to share in the cafeteria, and then enjoy the fun!! The Rhythm Rockets and Planet Pan Steel Drum bands will provide music. There will be fun activities and samplings of healthy foods, as well as great displays and information from many of our local organizations that promote and support healthy choices for our kids and families in the community. Browse the information, try the healthy food, and engage in some fun activities, all while enjoying the fun music. You might even feel like dancing!!!  
~Deborah L. Candage, RN, BSN  
[dcandage@bhcs.org](mailto:dcandage@bhcs.org)

### **Author Events Next Week**

\*Tuesday, April 15 will be our K-5 Author Day featuring Maine marine author, Mary Cerullo, from

Portland. She will talk about researching and writing her nonfiction books, and students will enjoy other workshops related to sea life, science and writing. Students in 7-8 will get to see her as well, and get a sneak preview of her four books coming out this July about sharks.

\*Wednesday, April 16, 5th and 6th graders will be joining other students in Union 93 at MMA for the annual Maine Student Book Award Celebration. This year's featured MSBA book is The Giant Squid by Mary Cerullo. Lots of exciting workshops are being planned, in addition to presentations by Mary. It is sure to be a great day!

### **Summer Camp Info**

Nichols Day Camp is now accepting applications for summer 2014. Parents can apply and pay for camp online by going to the website below: [www.nicholsdaycamps.org](http://www.nicholsdaycamps.org).

### **6-8 Dance in Sedgwick, April 11, 6-9 PM**

#### **Dates to Remember**

Thurs., April 10	PTF meeting, 2:45 PM in the library
Fri., April 11	Student Artist Reception, BH Public Library, 4:30-6:00 PM, Everyone welcome!
Tues., April 15	K-4 Author Day with Mary Cerullo
Wed., April 16	MSBA Celebration for grades 5-6 at MMA **Deborah Lipsky, Autism Awareness Speaker, 6:30 PM
Thurs., April 16	Autism Assembly, 9 AM, gym
Thurs., May 1	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Dessert Theater, 6 PM
May 15 and 16	Pre-K & Kindergarten Registration
Mon., June 2	5-8 Spring Concert, 7 PM, gym
Tues., June 3	K-4 Spring Concert, 6:30 PM, gym
Tues., June 17	Graduation, 7 PM
Every Friday Attachments	Bobcat Day *Hannaford Gift Card Order Form *Boxtop Sheet