



# EXPLORATIONS

## Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

May 1, 2014

### Chess Team Trophy at Nationals!

Blue Hill Consolidated School's Chess Team came home victorious from the National Junior High Scholastic Chess Championships held on April 25-27 in Atlanta, Georgia. The first year team took home the 18th place trophy, with 56 teams competing from across the country, in the K-8 Under 750 Division. BHCS recently formed the team in November 2013, and on March 8, 2014, the team became the Maine State Scholastic Chess Champions in the K-6 Championship Division.

The 11-member BHCS team endured 7 rounds at Nationals, each lasting up to 4 hours, over a 3-day tournament that began on Friday and ended Sunday evening. Sixth graders led the way, with Sam Parrott garnering 4.5 points and Parker Allen and Cameron Stewart each with 4 points. Fifth grader Evan Chapman and sixth grader Grayson Eaton each had 3.5 points. Eighth graders Alec Cole and Kara Morrison had 3 points each, as well as sixth grader Aidan Stearns and fifth graders Cole Stewart and Ross Stewart. Fifth grader Kai Diel boosted the team with an additional 2 points. The strong team effort ensured the 18th place award, and the team brought home a wonderful trophy for the school.

Coach Cameron Wendell led the team to victory, with intense preparation before the tournament and diligent review with each player after every round at Nationals. Coach Wendell is a high school student at Blue Hill's Harbor School and former national chess champion. Maryanne Lewandowski ("Mrs. Lew"), faculty advisor and BHCS 6th grade teacher, was instrumental in the team formation and organization and chaperoned the BHCS students traveling to and from Atlanta and while at the tournament. A total group of 19 students and adults traveled to the event from Blue Hill.

Coach Wendell reported, "I am overwhelmingly proud of the team and all of their hard work. Going from barely knowing how to move the pieces to placing at the national

championship is unbelievable. I can hardly imagine what such an amazing group of students could accomplish in the upcoming school year."

Mrs. Lew observed, "The students faced the challenges of national-level competition with courage and poise. They each enjoyed success and learned from their mistakes. They also experienced the sights and sounds of Atlanta, including a ride in the SkyView ferris wheel and visits to Coca-Cola World and the Georgia Aquarium."

**The BHCS chess team would like to thank everyone in the community who donated money and their time to help get this group of motivated students to Atlanta.** In particular the team acknowledges its current sponsors, Tradewinds Marketplace, Lambert Coffin and Stewart Management Company (Entity Managers - Delaware), whose level of contribution enabled the team to realize their national dream on such short notice.

### Pre-K and K Registrations

Kindergarten and pre-kindergarten registration will be on May 15 and 16. **The current kindergarten class will not have school those days.** If you have, or know of anyone who has, a child who will be 5 years old (for K) or 4 years old (for Pre-K) before October 15th, please call the office for an appointment at 374-2202.

### Thanks for the Spring Fling and the Screen Awareness!

The Spring Fling potluck supper was delicious and healthy! Thank you, everyone, who contributed. And, thank you to Planet Pan and the Rhythm Rockets for the Pan Dance and to all those who provided information tables related to the healthy choices around our area. It was a fun and informative night.

We have also had a successful week of screen free activities including on the hour/one minute action breaks all day Tuesday, a mountain hike with Mrs. Granger and Mrs. Ricker, a walk at the fairgrounds with Mrs. Candage, healthy cooking with Ms. Brown, making Keifer water

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

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with Shannon Grant, book club with Mrs. Lewandowski and Ms. Jackson, chess with our National Champions, yoga with Ms. Hudson, and nature journal making with Mrs. Ricker.

Thank you, Debbie Candage, school nurse, Tracy Gandy and Heather Nelson for the PTF, and all those on the 5-2-1-0 Committee for these plans and for your interest in keeping the kids and families at BHCS healthy and active.

### **Photo Return**

If anyone has, or still wants to purchase, the photos that were taken in March, please return them to the office.

### **International Scratch Day**

BHCS will participate in International Scratch Day on Friday, May 16 by offering a Scratch Workshop from 2:45-4:30 for students in grades 4-8. No, this isn't related to the unfortunate effects of black flies! Scratch is an object oriented programming language where anyone can create games, interactive cards and loads of other fun things. Mr. Jurick, Ms. Kim and Ms. Jackson will provide activity options and instruction, and students in the Digital Discovery class will be helpers. This workshop will be open to 20 students in 4th-8th grade, and pre-registration is required. Watch for the registration form coming home very soon!

### **PTF News**

It is hard to believe that it is the first of May already. There are a few projects that the PTF will be working on as we wind down the school year.

Next week is Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week. Sarah King and Jessi Torrey have been hard at work planning some wonderful thank you activities and gifts for everyone at BHCS. Please contact them if you would like to help out. One of the most treasured items for any teacher or staff member is a handwritten note from a student or family. Please consider taking some time out of your weekend to write a thank you note.

We are still looking for someone to head up spring spruce-up of the outdoor areas. Please contact Tracy Gandy at [ptf@bhcs.org](mailto:ptf@bhcs.org) if you would like to take on this task.

Our next PTF meeting is May 8. We will be starting the planning for next year - yikes!

### **Sailing Classes**

The Rusty Duym Community Sailing Week, at Kollegewidwok Yacht Club in Blue Hill will run from 6/23 – 6/27. A week of FREE sailing instruction is made possible by generous donations to the Rusty Duym Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Registration is open for summer sailing and rowing classes at Kollegewidwok Yacht Club in Blue Hill. There are a variety of opportunities for both children and adults, starting on Monday, June 30 through Friday, August 15. Please go to [www.kollegewidwokyc.org](http://www.kollegewidwokyc.org) to register or call Prudy Heilner at 374-5485.

### **Summer Camp Info**

**Nichols Day Camp** is now accepting applications for summer 2014, but the spots are filling up quickly. Camperships are available for local children. Parents can apply and pay for camp online by going to the website below: [www.nicholsdaycamps.org](http://www.nicholsdaycamps.org).

### **Peaceable Kingdom Day Camp**

This camp will take place mornings, Monday-Friday, June 23-27, for children ages 5-10 (kids older than 10 can be helpers), at the First Congregational Church, Blue Hill. Indoor and outdoor art, music, and nature activities. No fee, donations welcome. Info, contact Wendy Ritger by June 10 at [bhcongo@yahoo.com](mailto:bhcongo@yahoo.com) or 374-2891.

### **Dates to Remember**

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
Fri., June 20	Last day of school
Every Friday	Bobcat Day
Attachments	May Menu

**Dance in Penobscot, Friday, May 2nd from 6-9 PM, grades 6-8**