



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

September 17, 2015

From the Principal - We're All in This Together

Most of you have probably heard by now that over Labor Day weekend I managed to break my arm. What you may not have known is that it required surgery and thus kept me from work in my brand new job as your principal for most of the second week of school. Not exactly how I envisioned it! If you were unaware of my absence... awesome! That's because at Blue Hill Consolidated the teachers and staff are, as one parent put it, "a well-oiled machine!" Even though it was the second week of school, the staff here took the duties off of my plate (like compiling this weekly newsletter) and literally told me to go home and get better. Some of my friends have gotten together to make sure I have meals for my family several nights a week for the next couple weeks. My husband has taken over pretty much all of our household duties, and my mother has literally been washing my hair in the kitchen sink! This has been an extremely helpless and humbling experience, but, it's at times like this that I remember how incredibly grateful I am to be a part of this community because we take care of one another.

We take care of each other because we care for one another! To that end, we are working as a staff to communicate better than ever before with each other, with students, and with parents. If there is a problem at school, we want to make sure you know about it. In 5-8 grades we've developed a "Learning From the Past" form that we are asking students to complete as a reflection on the choices they make that don't fit in with school rules. Each form requires four signatures to ensure communication: student,

teacher, parent, and principal. We also want families to know when things are going well! Our star card program is a great way to reinforce those positive behaviors. We love to hear from parents and students, too! When I got to school this Monday morning I found an anonymous letter with a few suggestions from a student; I loved that!

So, once again, thank you for all of your support, and thank you for sending your children to us. We all have bumps in the road as parents and just as humans in general, but the next time your family hits one, don't forget that we're all in this together!

Warmly,
Shelly

PTF News

Thank you to everyone who attended our first meeting yesterday afternoon. There were some wonderful ideas for new activities. One of our goals this year is to provide information in a variety of formats - online and here in the newsletter. If you are on Facebook, be sure to like our group <https://www.facebook.com/bhcs.ptf>

Take the PTF Survey!

Take 5 minutes to answer 10 questions and learn more about PTF. Yes, if you've already completed and returned the PTF form, even you can participate in this survey. We are asking a few extra questions that will help us shape things! Visit <http://bit.ly/bhcsptfsurvey2015>. Thanks!

School News

The newly-formed Communication Club is a group of 8th graders that meets twice a week and creates articles and displays for school related activities.

On Monday the Coastal team had a soccer game against Conners Emerson. Our school's team made many goals throughout the game, but Conners Emerson couldn't quite get past the goalie for a single score. The game ended with a score of 6-0. Bobcats win!!

Library News

There are still some openings for Library Volunteers! Please contact Tracy Gandy at tgandy@bhcs.org if you are interested.

Students in grades 5-8 have started to check-out books from the library. This week, students in K-4 will be bringing home a form for you to discuss and sign regarding safe handling of library books. Once the forms are returned, book bags and library books will be heading home next week. Students in PK check-out books that remain in the classroom.

Cruise-In at the Boatyard for BEEM

Come cool off after you run/walk for Making Strides by visiting BEEM at the Boatyard Grill on Saturday, September 26, from 12-4. BEEM (Blue Hill Educational Enrichment Monies) will be hosting a family-friendly Cruise-In featuring live music provided by BHCS bands and DJ Gary Milliken. The Cruise-In features Vintage Cars & Trucks, Touch-a-Truck, Face Painting, Pick-a-Prize and 50/50 raffle. Ice cream cone included with admission and a special event menu for purchase. Admission: \$10 per adult; children under 14 free. For more information: beem@bhcs.org.

Reminders...

Bus/pick-up notes need to go directly to homeroom teachers. Please do not leave them on Loretta's desk.

Please remember to keep the school informed of any address or phone changes.

Emergency contact forms need to be turned in ASAP so we can update our systems - thank you.

Our website is back up and running! www.bhcs.org

Picture Day September, 25th

Forms will be coming home this week. Please be sure to send your order and payment in on the 25th with your child.

Dates to Remember...

Fri., Sept. 18 Gr. 7-8 Coastal Clean-Up
8:00-11:30 AM
Fri., Sept. 18 Dance at Sedgwick -
Grades 6-8

Dates to Remember...

Mon., Sept. 21 5th Grade Instrumental
Rental Meeting
6:30 PM Cafeteria
Wed., Sept. 23 Gr. 8 to Woodlawn
Blackhouse
9:00-1:00 AM
Fri., Sept. 25 Picture Day
Fri., Sept. 25 Dance at Blue Hill -
Grades 6-8
Sat. Sept 26 *Making Strides* 5k run/walk
Registration 9:00 AM,
Run/walk 10:00
Sat., Sept 26 BEEM Cruise-In at the
Boatyard, 12:00 - 4:00 PM



The Simmering Pot—A Community Created Supper, will be closed Monday, September 21 for painting of the church dining hall. We'll reopen September 28, providing free meals on Mondays 2:30 to 6 pm at First Congregational Church, Blue Hill. Come and enjoy a delicious meal at the Simmering Pot. No charge, donations accepted. Info, call 374-2891

The Peninsula Youth Chorus is a chorus for students around the Blue Hill peninsula in grades 2-8. We meet on Tuesdays from 3:15-4:30 at the Bagaduce Music Lending Library at 49 South Street in Blue Hill. If the Fall Term doesn't work for your child due to sports, an additional sign-up will happen in January. You can find more details at www.peninsulayouthchorus.com or contact the director, Deborah Reinke (374-5545) at sing@peninsulayouthchorus.com.