



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

November 12, 2015

From the Principal - Leadership School

Many of you may know that BHCS has the outstanding tradition of sending our seventh graders to the Camp Kieve Leadership School each fall. The seventh graders attended Camp Kieve last week and had a fantastic time! I went down to spend the day with them on Thursday to check it out, as I had never been. What amazing facilities! I had the opportunity to see many of our students climbing the ropes and walls at their indoor climbing center. Students had a lot of success during this time. They worked together and cheered each other on. I even got to see one group achieve a Team Challenge that is reserved for high school groups called DaVinci's Bridge. They were given shaped wooden boards and dowels and asked to create a bridge that needed no suspension nor nails/connectors. It was truly incredible to watch this group of twelve students figure out such a difficult task.

Some of you may be wondering why we value this week, essentially a week away from our core classes, so I wanted to share with you some of the pieces of the curriculum students are getting there. There are seven pillars of instruction that take place both inside classrooms at Kieve as well as on their indoor and outdoor facilities. These are: communication skills, relationships, solo time, decision making, adventure, team building, and environmental stewardship; all part of the Guiding Principles of the Maine Learning Results. There are many more aspects of this experience than I can write about in this brief column, but one of the highlights for me is the idea that students are talking about the risky behavior that they see or anticipate seeing in high school and not only how they can avoid that behavior, but also what alternative positive risks might be. This is one of the purposes of the extensive adventure program utilizing both the outdoor ropes course and the indoor climbing center.

Camp Kieve is one of the best ways that BHCS fosters both mental and physical wellness. Our students are extremely fortunate to have dedicated teachers that spend the entire school week away from their families to facilitate this experience for them. Thank you Mrs. Davis and Mr. Snow!

Warmly,
Shelly

Kudos

Kudos this week go to Sherry Holbrook, Heather Nelson, Cate Reuter, and Laura Gatcomb for providing a wonderful experience for our Kindergarten class to honor our veterans. On Tuesday the class walked to the cemetery carrying small flags to lay a wreath on the Monument to the Soldier and sing the Star Spangled Banner. Thank you!

Sixth Grade Giving Back

'Tis the season to be thankful, and our BHCS 6th Grade is hoping to lend a hand and give back to our beautiful community. If you or someone you know could use some help stacking wood or raking leaves next week, please contact Anita Black or Rachel Nightingale.

ablack@bhcs.org rnightingale@bhcs.org

Tree of Life Food Collection

We have an annual tradition of collecting nonperishable food items for the Tree of Life Food Pantry in town during the month of November. We are getting a late start, but we would love to have a week of collecting these items, so please send in what you can to your child's homeroom. Thank you!

Turkey Dinner Donations

Once again the PTF is coordinating providing Thanksgiving dinners for four BHCS families. All items are due at school by 11/23, except the turkeys. The turkey needs to be defrosted and delivered the morning of 11/24. Each family will need:

- 12-14 lb. turkey (defrosted & delivered 11/24)
- 10 lb. bag of potatoes
- 2 packages dinner rolls
- 4 cans of vegetables
- 2 cans cranberry sauce
- 2 packages of stuffing
- 2 cans of gravy
- 9" pie

You can sign up at the following link:
www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E094CADAF22A3FA7-thanksgiving or email us at PTF@bhcs.org

Thank you so much for your generosity.

PTF News

Our Next PTF Meeting will be Thursday, November 19th. We meet right after school in the library and try to finish in about one hour. This month we will begin planning for the winter clubs and some of the holiday activities that the PTF hosts. Everyone is welcome.

The BHCS PTF Holiday Craft Fair will be Saturday, November 21st from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Join us and start your holiday shopping. There will be handmade crafts from area vendors including quilts, jewelry, wreaths, and more. Also, there will be live music from the BHCS band, a raffle, and refreshments to benefit the BHCS Chess Team. Hope to see you there!

School News from the Communication Club

This week the 7th and 8th graders made 3D plant and animal cell models. They got to choose which type of cell they wanted, then used their creativity to build it. Now most of the models are displayed in the lobby for public admiration.

Notes From the Band Room

Don't forget to come hear all the jazz bands at the 8th Grade's "Roaring 20s Night" on November 19th where we will have a battle of the bands.

P. S. The band is looking for any keyboards that are not being used. Thanks!

-Mr. Schubeck

Dates to Remember...

- Thu., Nov. 12 Gr. 2 to Sedgwick Historical Society, 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- Thu., Nov. 12 Fall Sports Potluck, 5:30 PM
- Fri., Nov. 13 Picture Retake Day
- Fri., Nov. 13 Mandatory Winter Sports Meeting in the gym, 5:00 PM
- Fri., Nov. 13 Gr. 6-8 Dance at Brooklin, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Mon., Nov. 16 School Board, 5:00 PM
- Thu., Nov. 19 PTF Meeting, 2:45 PM BHCS Library
- Thu., Nov. 19 8th Grade Dessert Theater, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- Sat., Nov. 21 Craft Fair

Save the Date

- Mon., Dec. 14 5-8 Holiday Concert*
- Tue., Dec. 15 K - 4 Holiday Concert*
- *Not PK this time!*



Christmas Angels Program provides gifts of warm clothing to children in need living on Blue Hill Peninsula and Deer Isle/ Stonington. The program is also collecting books and stuffed animals in 'new' condition. To learn how you can help the program, contact Kim Williamson at peony13@me.com, 374-2092 by December 1. To receive assistance from the program, contact Wendy Ritger, bhcongo@yahoo.com, 374-2891.