



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

May 19, 2016

From the Principal— School is Still in Session!

It is that time of year again; the sun is shining; flowers are blooming; black flies are biting; and summer is near! However, we still have several weeks of prime learning time here at school. Teachers are still teaching and assessing curriculum. It is really important that we adults still take school seriously right up until the last day of school. That's something that we are trying to make clear with students, many of whom are asking, "Are we having extra recess during class today?"

Teachers recognize the internal shift that happens this time of year and we address that in a variety of ways. One way is by incorporating more field trips at the end of the year. Each field trip relates to or reinforces some part of the curriculum. They are also a great opportunity to expose our students to the resources our community provides. As a former third grade teacher, I loved our field trips to Acadia National Park. The park rangers that were our guides worked to tie the experiences to our curriculum standards, making clear connections to what students were learning about back at school. When I taught a unit on space to fifth and sixth graders, we went to the Challenger Space Center in Bangor for one of the best field trips I've ever been on. On this one, students had jobs as astronauts and/or as Mission Control and worked in a realistic simulation of a day in the life of a scientist at NASA. I'm excited that our sixth graders will have a chance to attend that field trip in the coming weeks as well. There are many other exciting field trips happening around the building, too.

Another way that we address this shift in anticipation of summer is to prepare them for continuing their academic learning when they aren't here in the building. "Summer slide" is a research proven occurrence for students. I will talk more about this in the coming weeks, but for now we are beginning to talk to kids about things they could do during the summer to keep their skills sharp. Many students have visited the Blue Hill Public Library as a resource for books throughout the summer, others have been introduced to math activities that they can access online.

I am really enjoying the longer days, warmth, and baseball games with my own children. I hope you and your family have opportunities to do the same! :)

Warmly,
Shelly

Kudos

Kudos to our favorite Physical Education teacher, Bob McCormick! Bob has been busy supporting our middle school students this year with an experiential education program through a partnership with Camp Beech Cliff. This idea started with Bob and was funded by a BEEM grant that he applied for. Owen Cassidy, the director of CBC, conducted four workshops for these students with a focus on teamwork, participation, communication skills, and group challenges. Next, 20 of our eighth graders worked with Bob in his other PE classes as mentors. Thank you, Bob, for providing your continued innovation in providing our students with opportunities to practice these important interpersonal skills!

Dates to Remember...

Fri., May 20	Dance in Surry Grades 6-9, 6-9 PM
Mon., May 23	Gr. 4 to Acadia
Tue., May 24	50s & 60s Rock Hop 6-8 PM
Fri., May 27	Yearbook Orders Due, see attached form
Fri., May 27	Author Day grades PK-2
Mon., May 30	Memorial Day, NO SCHOOL
Tue., May 31	Gr. 3 to Acadia
Tue., May 31	Gr. 8 to Camp Beech Cliff
Fri., Jun. 3	Gr. 3 to Acadia
Fri., Jun. 3	Gr. 6 to Challenger Center
Mon., Jun. 6	Spring Concert grades 5-8, 7 PM
Tue., Jun 7	Spring Concert grades PK-4, 6:30 PM
Mon., Jun 14	Gr. 3 to Acadia

Graduation June 14, 7:00 PM
Last day of school June 17

Notes From the Band Room

A really exciting concert is in the works for the 6th, 7th and 8th grade bands! A 50s & 60s Rock Hop will be held on Tuesday, May 24 from 6:00 to 8:00 at the BHCS Cafeteria/Concert Hall.

The 8th grade is still a bit short on fundraising for their class trip so we are having a 50s & 60s Rock Hop to support them. It will showcase their study of the Civil Rights era and the music of the 50s and 60s. Any extra funds will be donated to the 7th grade and the band department. It will also showcase the 6th, 7th and 8th grade bands playing music from that era.

To make this a successful fundraiser, I am asking all of the band members to participate. Admission is by donation so you may give whatever you can afford and enjoy great food, speeches, and terrific music presented by our talented students.

Please put Tuesday, May 24 from 6 to 8:00 on your calendar. Prizes, dancing, great music, and food will await you. Bring along a friend or relative and enjoy the fun. Costumes optional!

Thanks,

Mr. Schubeck, Ms. Hudson, Ms. Herrman



Transgender, Family and Friends Group May 19
Transgender, Family and Friends Group (TGFF) provides support for families, friends and transgender people of all ages. TGFF meets two Thursdays per month, next meeting May 19 at 7:00 pm at First Congregational Church, Blue Hill. Details, contact Susan Yaruta-Young, (207) 460.6155 or email: syyoung@myfairpoint.net. In case of stormy weather, please contact Susan to see if the session is on.

Peninsula Youth Chorus Concert
Next Wednesday, May 25th, the Peninsula Youth Chorus will perform a spring concert at the Bagaduce Music Lending Library Performance Hall (49 South Street in Blue Hill). The concert begins at 6:00; doors open at 5:15 for sale of refreshments and Raffle Tickets. No tickets necessary; donations welcomed at the door.

Blue Hill Heritage Trust (BHHT) and Cynthia Winings Gallery of Blue Hill announce the launch of the Open-Air Arts Initiative (OAAI) with a kickoff event on June 4th. The mission of the OAAI is to inspire creativity in the young people who live on the Blue Hill Peninsula by encouraging them to get outside and explore nature. OAAI will host *Young Artists Workshop on the Mountain*, from 10am-12pm. This workshop is free and open to all school aged youth on the peninsula. Join us for a morning of exploration and creative expression on Blue Hill Mountain, led by special guest artists from around the peninsula! For more information and to register for the event, please contact Chrissy Allen at the Blue Hill Heritage Trust 374-5118 or email chrissy@bluehillheritagetrust.org.

Peaceable Kingdom Day Camp:

Mornings, Monday-Friday June 20-24, for children ages 5-10 (kids older than 10 can be helpers), at First Congregational Church, Blue Hill. Indoor and outdoor art, music, and nature activities. No fee, donations welcome. Info, contact Wendy Ritger by June 15 at bhcongo@yahoo.com or 374-2891.

George Stevens Academy 2016 Soccer Camp

Camp Details: June 27th through July 1st

Grades: 5th through Freshman

Time: 830am to 12pm Daily

Where: GSA Varsity Soccer Field

(Behind the Fairgrounds)

Price: \$100 per student for the week

See attached flier for complete information.

A free summer dance bootcamp, "Thinking Through Dancing", is being offered through the auspices of New York University in Blue Hill from August 16-25. Charcy Ye, GSA alumni, along with other NYU students, will lead middle school students on a journey of movement exploration, choreography experience and analytical thinking. If interested and for information, please contact Charcy Ye at cy975@nyu.edu.

Summer Instrumental Music Lessons

Brass, percussion, beginning piano and recorder. Folk instruments: penny whistle, beginning guitar and ukulele. Private lessons available this summer. Degree in Music Education. Call Luki Hewitt at [413-313-5815](tel:413-313-5815).