



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

December 12, 2013

A Message...from the Earth Savers Kids' Club

Dear Parents and Kids,

We are excited because teachers and kids in our school are using our plastic bag recycling boxes! We have already emptied them once since we started last month. Here are some new tips...

You can reuse your plastic sandwich bags for putting new food into them. It is OK to wash them out, let them dry, and then reuse them.

You can also reuse the plastic sandwich bags to store other things in like math materials, crayons, and magic markers but probably they should not be used for storing scissors in.

Sincerely,

Earth Savers Kids' Club

(Mrs. Hally's Second Graders)

Please Drive Safely on School Grounds

Our parking lots and driveways are busy places, and although kids have been told about being safe, they can also be unpredictable as they walk home or to the playground. It is imperative that you drive slowly on school grounds at all times. Thank you.

Computer Science Education Week - Learn an Hour of Code With Students Around the World

Sometimes we pass on some fun learning opportunities for kids to do at home. Some kids in tech classes tried out this one as an introduction to programming, and to “learn the basic concepts of Computer Science with drag and drop programming. This is a game-like, self-directed tutorial starring video lectures by Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg, Angry Birds and Plants vs. Zombies. Learn repeat-loops, conditionals, and basic algorithms. It’s for ages 6-106 | Modern browsers, smartphones, tablets.” Visit this website for how to get involved...

<http://hourofcode.com/co> or visit

<http://csedweek.org/learn> to find out more about Computer Science Education Week. There are hours of fun activities for many ages. Check it out!

PTF News

Glitter, glue and gingerbread! The **Craft Workshop is this Saturday, December 14th, from 10 AM -12 PM. Join us for this wonderful day as we gather to make some wonderful holiday gifts. Please remember to bring a snack to share for the snack table.

Keep clipping your **BoxTops and Labels for Education. Send them to school any time with your student’s name and grade on the baggie.

You can also use the Box Tops for Education portal for your online shopping at <https://www.boxtops4education.com/marketplace>.

The **Hannaford Card program is up and running. Please remember to turn in your December order by Friday, December 13th.

The PTF is excited to be offering six **winter clubs after break. Please see the attached sign up sheet for more information. A huge thanks goes out to all the people volunteering their time and talents to make this new program work.

The **December PTF meeting is today after school. Stop by to learn more about all the programs we have up and running or go to the PTF section of school website to stay up to date.

Helping Hands and Holiday Hams

This project is a little different this year because room parents have been contacting families for contributions to these meal boxes. If you have not heard from your child’s room parent, please get in touch with he/she if you would like to donate food items. And, if you would like to contribute to the project in any other way, please call Sharon Scheff, project coordinator, at 374-3584. Thanks so much for your generosity again this season.

Pee Wee Basketball

Pee Wee Basketball for grades 1-4 will be held December 14th at the BHCS gym, from 9-10:30 AM. For information call Denny Rackliffe at 374-2297.

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

The Simmering Pot

Simmering Pot is a community created supper that provides a free delicious meal on Mondays, 2:30 to 6 PM, eat in or take out, at the First Congregational Church in Blue Hill. No charge, donations accepted. In case of winter storms, follow school closing schedule. For more information call 374-2891.

Repeat Announcements:

2014 Pre-K and Kindergarten Students

If you have a child who will be **4 years old -OR- 5 years old before October 15th of 2014**, please make sure you let us know. Loretta has been calling all families that she thinks have children that age who will be in our Pre-K or Kindergarten classes next year. We need these enrollment figures to make plans for the fall of 2014. Call us at 374-2202 and let Loretta know, or email me at dmartin@bhcs.org. Thanks!

Reminder of Morning Drop Off Procedure

The expectation at BHCS for morning drop off is to say goodbye to students in the lobby and send them to the cafeteria to wait for the duty teacher. While it is comforting to walk them to the classrooms, that often causes problems with supervision. For those children who have difficulties with separating in the morning, please let us know and we will work with you to make this transition to independence smoother.

FREE HEALTH SERVICES

Peninsula Free Health Services provides free medical care for adults and children who have no medical insurance, assistance with low cost prescriptions, and help with navigating people to sign up for insurance through the Affordable Care Act. PFHS is located at the **First Congregational Church of Blue Hill every Monday 3:00 to 6:00 PM** (excluding holidays). This is at the same time as the Simmering Pot free meal. In addition to offering basic health services such as diabetes and other tests, referrals to the hospital system can be made when appropriate and requested. For more info, call 266-3239, www.peninsulafreehealth.org.

Dates to Remember

Fri., Dec. 13	Hannaford Card Orders Due
Sat., Dec. 14	PTF Holiday Workshop for Kids, 10 AM - noon
Sun., Dec. 15	2 nd Grade to Nutcracker
Mon., Dec. 16	5-8 Winter Concert , 7:00 PM
Tues., Dec. 17	K-4 Winter Concert , 6:30 PM
Fri., Dec. 20	Last student day before Christmas break (returning Thurs., January 2)
Every Friday	Bobcat Spirit Day!
Attachments	Hannaford Gift Card Program Information and Order Form
	Winter Clubs Form