



Boyertown Elementary School

A Monthly Publication For Parents

Greg Miller, Principal

December 2011

The BES Review

During the month of November, teachers and parents had the opportunity to meet and discuss students' successes and progress throughout the first third of the school year. Child Safety Net cards were also provided to parents, compliments of our school photo company, LifeTouch. A special thank you to everyone for helping to make the conferences a success.

Our very best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful holiday season.



Dismissals

There will be an early dismissal on **Friday, December 23, 2011.**

For Kindergarten Parents Only

We have a 12:30 PM early dismissal on December 23, 2011. As a reminder, please note the following modified kindergarten schedules on these early dismissal days:

Morning Kindergarten
8:45 – 10:25 AM

Afternoon Kindergarten
10:25 - 12:30 PM



District News

The following are the dates for the District Budget Meetings:

December 20, 2011 – Curriculum and Personnel, 6:30 p.m., Ed Center

January 3, 2012 – Technology and Special Education, 6:30 p.m. Ed Center

January 10, 2012 – Facilities and Transportation, 5:30 p.m., Ed Center

January 17, 2012 – Preliminary Budget Review, 6:30 p.m., Ed Center

January 24, 2012 – Adoption of Preliminary Budget, 7:00 p.m., JHW

Orchestra News



To all Junior Orchestra Members:

Wednesday, December 7th is our first Junior Orchestra rehearsal. Students should report **no later** than 7:15am in the BES gym. Parents may drop students off at the side doors where the larger parking lot is. Students will need their stands, books and folders, and of course, their instrument. After rehearsal students will be bused back to their home schools. Please be sure to mark your calendars as this first rehearsal is an essential one for their orchestra career.



Music News

The annual BES Holiday Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 7th at 7:00 PM in the school multi-purpose room. This year's concert will feature the 5th and 6th grade Chorus and BES Show Choir. The theme for this year's concert is "Santa's Frosty Follies". Come out and enjoy the sounds of the season!



Instrumental News

The District Elementary band will be having their annual Holiday Concert at BASH December 1, 2011



KEEPING TOUCHES SAFE & HEALTHY

Parents of **second grade students** are invited and encouraged to attend a parent preview of "Keeping Touches Safe & Healthy", which will be presented at the Junior High West Cafeteria on Wednesday, January 4, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. The program will be presented to our second grade students some time during the end of January. Once the exact date has been established a notice will be sent home.



Cold Weather Guidelines

When the wind chill factor is 18 degrees or below, we keep the children inside and they have "indoor recess". When the wind chill is between 18 and 20 degrees, the students have a shortened "outdoor recess". Please be sure to dress your child accordingly and to put their names in their hats, scarves, gloves, mittens and coats. Even when the wind chill factor is above 20 degrees, outdoor recess is also dependent on snow, ice, and wet conditions on the playground. Thank you for your cooperation.

Hazardous Conditions Developing During the Day

When weather conditions warrant doing so, a decision to close schools will be made as soon as possible. Junior high school students will be dismissed, followed by the senior high school students. Then elementary school students will be dismissed as soon as the buses arrive.

In some instances, the school district may reverse this procedure by allowing the elementary students to be dismissed first. In either case, a radio announcement will detail the plan as well as an announcement through the ConnectEd system.

Afternoon kindergarten classes will not meet on days when schools are dismissed on the above schedule.

If school is closed, all school and community activities are canceled.

Hazardous Conditions Developing During the Night

Heavy snowfall or other serious weather conditions may make it necessary to close schools, delay openings or dismiss early. In such cases, the following radio stations will broadcast the information:

Boyertown	WBYN-FM (107.5)
Pottstown	WPAZ (1370)
Reading	WEEU (830)
Reading	WRWA (1340)
Reading	WIOV (1240)
Reading	WIOV-FM (105.1)
Allentown	WFMZ-TV Channel 69
Philadelphia	KYW (1060) District #893
Philadelphia	WPVI Channel 6
Philadelphia	WCAU Channel 10
Philadelphia	CBS3 – TV

At times it may be possible to avoid canceling a day of school by opening one or two hours later than the regularly scheduled time. In the case of a delayed opening, pupils should arrive at the bus stop one or two hours later, accordingly. **When there is a one-hour delay, AM Kindergarten will arrive one hour late with regular dismissal time. PM Kindergarten will be on the regular schedule. If there is a two-hour delay, AM Kindergarten will be bused to school with grades 1 – 6 and remain at school until the afternoon kindergartners arrive. Transportation home of AM Kindergarten will be approximately one and one-half hours later than normal. PM Kindergarten will have a regular schedule with dismissal at school's closing time.**

The ConnectEd Service (telephone messaging system) will be used to compliment our emergency preparedness procedures to communicate emergency delay or closings to parents and guardians.

You may also call the Boyertown Area School District information line at 610-369-SNOW (7669)

Or visit the Boyertown Area School District homepage at www.boyertownasd.org “Latest Announcements” for updates





Parental Responsibility

When weather conditions appear to warrant closing schools early, parents are urged to anticipate such action in order that they may be at home to receive the children when they arrive. In cases where this is not possible, provisions should be made with neighbors to take care of the children upon their arrival at home. **Kindergarten students will only be released at their bus stops to the adults listed on their green kindergarten transportation form. If no one is available to meet the kindergarten students, they will be returned to school.**

If a students' parents customarily meet a child when he/she gets off the bus or has a long distance to walk at the end of the bus route, it is very important that parents make adequate provisions for the child in case of bad weather. Parents are requested not to drive to school and create additional traffic problems for police and school officials.



Pop A TAB

Boyertown Elementary has been participating in a district wide project of collecting six million soda can tabs. Our collection barrel in the lobby is filling quickly. Help BES fill the barrel to the top! **Tolerance, Acceptance, Belonging** is a No Place For Hate project being conducted by Junior High West. Why six million? That is the number of Jewish people who were killed during the Holocaust. All tabs collected will be donated to Ronald McDonald House. Our collection barrel was decorated by Junior High students and is located in the lobby. Please have your child turn in the tabs to their teacher or in the main office.



PSSA Test Dates

PLEASE DO NOT PLAN TRIPS DURING THE STATE TESTING DAYS!

All 5th grade students will be administered the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests in writing from March 28 – April 1, 2012. **NO TRIPS**

WILL BE APPROVED FOR 5TH GRADE STUDENTS BETWEEN MARCH 28 – APRIL 1, 2012

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests in Reading and Mathematics will be administered to all 3rd, 4th, 5th, & 6th grade students from March 14 – 25, 2011. **NO TRIPS WILL BE APPROVED FOR 3RD, 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH GRADE STUDENTS BETWEEN MARCH 14 – 25, 2012**

All 4th grade students will be administered the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) test in science from April 4 – 8, 2011. **NO TRIPS WILL BE APPROVED FOR 4TH GRADE STUDENTS BETWEEN APRIL 4 – 8, 2012**



Attention 4th, 5th and 6th grade parents, save the date:

From the Nurse:

School Dentals: Attention Kindergarten and 3rd grade parents, if you have not returned your child's dental exam form, please return to the nurse as soon as possible. If you need a form you may contact the health room or visit the Boyertown area school district website at: www.boyertownasd.org. School dental exam will be offered on February 17, 2012, more information to follow.

Parents here are a few reminders for the winter:

- Please remind your children to dress appropriately for outdoor recess. They do go outside in cold weather, please have them bring a coat, hat and gloves to school to stay warm while outside.
- Please remind your children to wash their hands often to prevent the spread of colds/flu at home and in the classrooms.
- **Effective 2001, elementary students are not permitted to bring cough drops to school under any circumstances.** Please refer to the
- BASD policy in your Parent Handbook to review the policy.

Wednesday, January 11, 2012 will be the parent preview night for the Human Growth and Development Education program. The program will be held at **Junior High West**. Parents are invited to preview the material used for the presentation.

- 4th grade parents will meet in the auditorium at 6:00pm
- 5th grade parents will meet in the cafeteria at 6:30pm
- 6th grade parents will meet in the auditorium at 7:00pm

Letters will be sent home with all the details regarding this event.

Please notify the nurse if there are any changes in your child's health status. We would like to keep your child's health record current and up to date to ensure proper care while your child is attending school.

Please keep your Emergency Card information current: Anytime you have phone number changes, either at home, work, or for an alternate, please notify the health room so that we can keep your child's emergency card current.



A Message from Your School Counselors, Mrs. Nester and Mrs. Hummel

Newsletter articles this year have focused on the importance of a positive school climate. A positive school climate exists when students feel safe, comfortable, and valued at school. Bullying is one of the biggest problems schools face today. The Boyertown Area School District has developed an anti-bullying action plan. This past summer members of the Anti-Defamation League trained teams of counselors and teachers from every building in the district on bullying prevention. In August these teams began training their colleagues on that information and will continue with this effort throughout the rest of the year.

One of the first pieces of information that was taught was the importance of having a common language when talking about bullying. When a bullying situation occurs there are often a number of people involved. Listed below are the terms the school district will use to define the role each person takes in a bullying situation:

- Aggressor- Someone who says or does something harmful or malicious to another person intentionally and unprovoked.
- Target- Someone against whom mistreatment is directed.
- Ally- Someone who speaks out on behalf of someone else or takes actions that is supportive of someone else.
- Bystander- Someone who sees something happening and does not say or do anything.
- Confronter- Someone who speaks out when an incident of bias takes place. The role of confronter can be filled by other people (allies) or by targets themselves.

FROM THE THERAPIST'S CORNER

With the holidays quickly approaching, many parents are wondering what to give their children that is fun, practical, and helps facilitate communication, sensory-motor, fine and visual perceptual skills. Below is a list of toys that help children learn these skills while having fun!

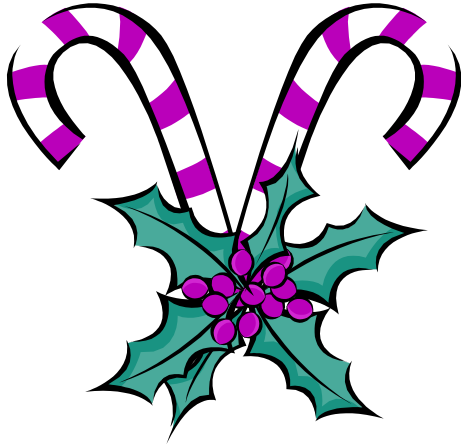
Communication Skills

Headbanz
Don't Say It
Catch Phrase Junior
Story Book Game Cards
Mastermind
Simon
Zingo!
Respond
Guess What I Am?
Outburst

Sensory/Perceptual/Fine Motor Skills

I SPY-Read Set Silhouette
Puzzles (24-48 piece) K to 1st grade
Puzzles (63-75 piece) 2nd to 3rd grade
HISS
Mancala
Legos
Pick-Up-Sticks
Yatzee
Twister
What's In Ned's Head?
Tangles, ball pits, bean bag chairs

Pictionary Bend A Clue Game



PTO NEWSLETTER



December

- 1st – 22nd Teacher and Staff Wish Trees – BES – during school hours
Please visit the trees placed at each teacher's door and pick an apple with an item that the teachers are in need of for the classroom. There are also trees in the main hallway with apples for the special's teachers, and support staff. Don't forget to pick an apple to assist the support staffs who help our students' every day.
- 2nd Multi-Service Festival of Trees – The Center at Spring Street – 3-9pm
The PTO will be sponsoring a tree in the Festival of Trees. This year's theme for the PTO tree is school with letter ornaments. Please come out and enjoy a fun, holiday filled night.
- 9th Holiday Shoppe and Winter Festival – 4:00pm - 9:00 pm – BES Gym
The PTO will be trying something new this year with Holiday Shoppe being held in conjunction with a Winter Festival. Students will have the opportunity to shop for family and friends while enjoying holiday themed crafts, activities, and music. The Winter Festival is a free event for the whole family to come out and enjoy together!

Open PTO Positions for next year: We are still in need of a Treasure for next year. If you or someone you know is interested please contact me. We are hoping to find someone soon so Karen can involve you in the duties of the Treasure.

We appreciate any help you can give us. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Without the help of our parent volunteers the PTO would not be the success it is.

Meghan Burnell – BES President
610-473-9413
Pinkpoodlecatering@hotmail.com

Remember to turn in your Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Labels, every box top/label helps!! Box Tops for Education and Campbell's labels are like getting "free money" for BES. By cutting out your box tops and labels, you can support BES at no cost! Don't forget to ask relatives and friends to clip box tops and labels! Each box top is worth 10 cents and Campbell's Labels for Education earn items for the school. All proceeds will go towards the general PTO fund-which supports all of the great PTO programs and events throughout the year. **When turning in Box Tops/Campbell's Labels all that is needed is the square that says Box tops for Education or Campbell's labels for Education see example below. Please separate Box Tops for Education and Campbell's labels into separate bags**

