



Boyertown Elementary School

A Monthly Publication For Parents

Greg Miller, Principal

October 2011

September has been a busy month trying to get all of the students back into the routine of school. I would like to thank all of the parent volunteers for their help over the first few days. They were a great help at school arrival and during first grade lunch.



Reminder

All schools in the Boyertown Area School District **will be closed Monday, October 10th, 2011.**

CONNECT-ED® TEST

A district-wide test message is planned for Oct. 3rd, at approximately 7:00 p.m. If you do not receive a call or email please contact Mrs. Smith at 610-369-7462.

School Wide Effective Behavior Support

Our **B.E.A.R.S.** rules are up and running and our **BEAR Bucks** prizes are flying off the shelves. I hope you're children are excited. Additionally, I hope they are talking about it at home. If your children are anything like mine they come home most days with very little to talk about. One suggestion might be to ask if

they earned any **BEAR Bucks**. If they did, a great follow-up question would be to ask what they earned the **BEAR Buck(s)** for.

For anyone who forgets our **B.E.A.R.S.** rules are:

- **B**e sure to follow staff directions the first time
- **E**veryone will walk quietly throughout the building
- **A**lways keep hands, feet and objects to yourself
- **R**emember to use kind words and actions
- **S**tudents will take ownership of their learning

We would appreciate it if you could:

- Review the school rules regularly
- Encourage them to do their best work every day
- Celebrate your child's success in both behavior and academics
- Discuss ways the rules in your home are similar to the rules at school

We hope this program will continue to promote our positive school climate, raise student engagement, and ultimately, increase academic achievement.

Boyertown is “Going Green”

As an effort to “Go Green”, Boyertown Elementary will be sending out notices, forms and newsletters via email. If you have provided us with an email address you are already signed up to receive the emails. If you did not provide us with an email address or if you have a different email that you would like these notices to go to, please do the following:

- Go to the District website at
- <http://www.boyertownasd.org>
- Roll over “Contact Information”
- Click on ListServe Sign Up
- Follow instructions from there

ANTI-BULLYING UPDATE

The Boyertown Area School District formed a task force last year who developed an action plan of steps we are implementing to work towards eliminating bullying from our schools. One of the identified steps is to help students, staff, parents/guardians and community members understand what bullying is and what we should do if we encounter bullying. With input from this task force and numerous sources, an anti-bullying “companion document” has been developed. All students and staff members will be working with this document in the next few weeks and it will be posted in all district classrooms and common areas. You can go to our district website to learn more about the work BASD is doing on this issue. Attached is a copy of this document.

Fire Prevention Week



As a part of this year’s Fire Prevention Week, the Friendship Hook & Ladder and Keystone Fire Company will be holding an informative and exciting session with the kindergarten, first and second grade classes on Friday, October 21st, 2011.

Market Day

Tuesday October 4, 2011
Pick up between 7 PM & 8 PM



Unity Walk

This year’s Unity Walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 9th, 2011, at Boyertown Junior High West. Free Pre-walk Activities are from 12-1:30 pm. The walk will begin at 1:30 PM. Hope to see you there!

Arrival and Dismissal



Students should not be at school prior to 8:25 AM unless they are working with a teacher on a special project or in a special program.

Just a reminder...

Cars should NOT enter the front driveway between 8:15 and 8:45 AM and 3:00 and 3:45 PM

Dog Walkers



If you walk your dog on the school grounds, please remember to clean up after your dog. This creates unsanitary conditions for our children when they use the grounds during gym class and recess.

Absences/Attendance

Regular school attendance is very important for several reasons. First, since many of the lessons are accompanied by hands-on activities and active student participation, it is impossible for a child who has missed class, to completely make-up the experience. Second, it's the law!

Please remember if you e-mail or phone your child's teacher about an absence, you must also call the office to report the absence.

All absences must be documented in one of three ways: a phone call to the office, a written note from the parent or doctor, or a completed excuse blank. We cannot accept e-mail messages. **We would prefer a phone call to the office as the first method of reporting your child's absence.** Our phone number is 610-369-7462. If you are reporting a child absent please leave the child's name, teacher and the reason for the absence on the school's voicemail.

Security Reminder

Please remember if you need to pick up your child unexpectedly, you must come to the office and sign him or her out. You should be prepared to show some identification. Please do not take it upon yourself to wait near the busses or in the lobby of the building to try to catch your child. This practice is in place for the safety of everyone. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Pop A TAB



Boyertown Elementary School is participating in a district wide project of collecting six million soda can tabs. **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.

Parent Visitation Day



Please join us for this year's Parent Visitation Day scheduled for Friday, October 14, 2011. Each teacher sent home information to allow parents or guardians to pre-schedule a time that they would like to observe a portion of their child's school day. Unfortunately, this visit is only available for parents or guardians. Siblings cannot accompany parents. Please keep in mind you will be coming to observe your child. Anything you see in reference to someone else's child should not be discussed. We need to try to honor each student's right for confidentiality. School passes will arrive home prior to Parent Visitation Day. The pass enables you to enter the school through the main lobby where you will be greeted by our PTO volunteers. **If you do not have the pass, you will be required to sign in at the office. Please be prepared to show identification at the office.**

3rd Grade Music Program



The Third Grade Program will be presented on Thursday, November 3, 2011 at 7:00pm. Come on out and enjoy their Fall Festival of Songs!!



P.A.R.P. News

It is that time of year again! PARP (Parents Are Reading Partners) is back! PARP will begin in October and will run through March. We are looking for your child to read 20 minutes a day at least 20 days a month. Completed charts with parent signatures will earn your child one free personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut. Please look for your child's PARP calendar to be coming home soon! Thank you in advance for your continued support in this program!

Mrs. Julianna Graff & Mrs. Kristi Medvetz
Reading Specialists



From the Health Room

All kindergarten and 3rd grade private dental exam forms are now due. All kindergarten and 6th grade private physical exam forms are also now due.

PA School Health Act #535 requires these examinations for all students in these grades and for any student with incomplete health records. If you need a new form, contact the health room. Please schedule an appointment for your child for these exams as soon as possible if they are still needed.

School dental exams will be scheduled later this school year and the health room will be in contact with the parents of students who have not handed in a completed form to offer the school exam.

Cold weather will be arriving soon. Please remind your children to dress appropriately for outdoor recess. If the weather warms up by recess, students can always remove layers if

necessary. Also, October is the official start of the cold and flu season.

Here are a few reminders:

- Please remind your children to dress appropriately for outdoor recess.
- Please remind your children to wash their hands often to prevent the spread of colds/flu at home and in our 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.

Medication Policy: Please see the BASD medication policy in the BASD handbook to review the policy. Do not send medications to school with your child. A written doctor's order for over-the-counter and prescribed medicines is required. All medications must be brought to school by an adult and in the properly marked container. The nurse **CANNOT** administer any medication to students if the proper procedures are not followed. The policy is in place for the safety of all students. The proper medication authorization forms must be on file. We need to have a physician and parent note in order for your child to receive medication at school. The form can be obtained from the health room or on-line at www.boyertownasd.org, by clicking on the services tab and student services. Please remember the policy includes all prescription medication and over the counter medication such as pain relievers and cold remedies. Contact the nurse with any questions.

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



Planetarium News

OCTOBER

A Star watch is slated for October 7th at 8 PM at the Boyertown Planetarium. The program looks at the different sky events for October including how to use a star map. If the weather is clear, participants will go outside to view the wonders of the night sky. If it is cloudy there will be an extended planetarium program.

The Boyertown Planetarium presents its star program, Halloween Magic, on October 28th at 7 PM. The program is a haunting look at the mysteries of Halloween and how they relate to the night sky. It is an evening for the whole family (suitable for all ages) complete with skits, stories and the special effects of the planetarium.

Admission to the planetarium is \$4 for adults and \$2.50 for students and children. The planetarium is located in the back of the building at the Junior High East Center on route 73. For more information call director Peter Detterline at 610-473-3906.