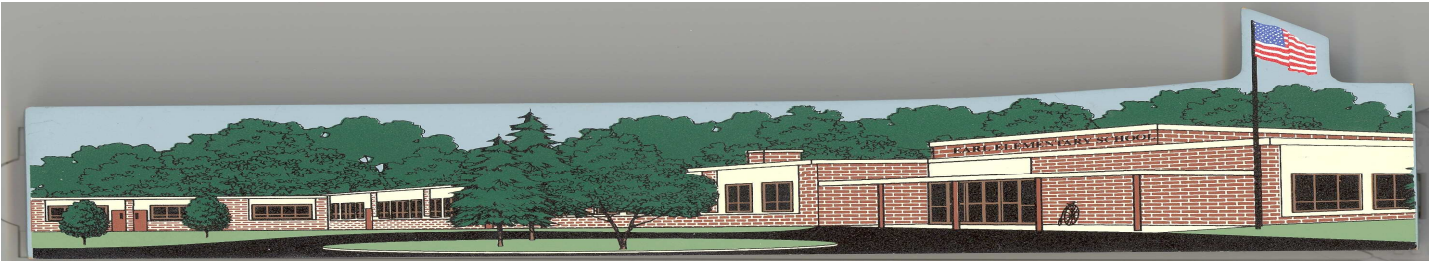


EARL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



NOVEMBER 2009

Dr. Craig K. Zerr, Principal

Mrs. Helen M. Thomas, Secretary

PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

THANK YOU EARL PARENTS AND STUDENTS!

I would like to extend a very heartfelt thanks to all Earl parents and students who participated in the PTO Walkathon. We exceeded our goal of \$10,000 again this year! This was made possible thanks to your enthusiasm and support! Your efforts will allow the PTO to support all of our academic programs at Earl School this school year. It is just this kind of teamwork that helps to make Earl the 'best little school anywhere!'

THANKS AGAIN! WAY TO GO EARL!

H1N1 UPDATE

Our schools are experiencing a high rate of student absence this week. While this is not attributed to the H1N1 virus, we will continue to work closely with the parents/guardians of children who are ill.

BASD continues to follow the practices identified through the information on our district website and letters previously sent to parents/guardians to minimize the impact of the H1N1 virus. These measures include: monitoring student enrollment, reinforcing hand washing at school, and working closely with parents/guardians of children that may be ill.

We encourage all parents/guardians to consult with your family physician related to any medical concerns you may have and/or possible treatment/prevention options. It is also recommended from The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that children stay home at least 24 hours after a fever is gone. BASD also

recommends this practice to avoid infecting other students and employees. More detailed information can be accessed from the H1N1 link on the Boyertown Area School District's website @ <http://www.boyertownasd.org/> or directly from the Pennsylvania Department of Health @ <http://www.h1n1inpa.com/>

EARL SPIRIT WEAR

Earl School Spirit Wear is available for sale in the school office. Items for sale are a t-shirt, crew sweatshirt, hooded sweatshirt and sweatpants. Spirit Wear is available in youth and adult sizes. Sizing samples and order forms are located in the office. We will be placing several orders in time for holiday giving.

END OF DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour. Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, November 1st.

EARLY DISMISSALS

On November 13, 23, 24, and 25, we have a 12:30 p.m. early dismissal.

The Kindergarten schedule is as follows on early dismissal days:

AM Kindergarten—8:45 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.

PM Kindergarten—10:25 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

ACCESS TO SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL HOURS

Occasionally we have a child who forgets his/her homework, textbooks, etc. and wishes to retrieve them after school hours. A parent must accompany the student into the building. Please note that due to our security system you will not be able to utilize the camera and buzz-in system after the office closes at 4:15 p.m. After office hours, please ring the night bell on the brick wall to the left of the doors. Please allow ample time for the custodian to answer the bell as he may be working at the other end of the building. There is a sign-in sheet for you to log your visit.

REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCE (610-369-7504)

Whenever your child is absent from school, please call the office before 9:00 a.m. Please give your child's name, teacher's name, and reason for absence. Our answering system will record your message at all hours of the day or night. If your child is not in attendance and you have not called the school to report the absence, we will attempt to contact you. This procedure ensures that your child has arrived safely at school. If you receive a doctor's excuse for an absence, please send the excuse to school. Your cooperation is appreciated.

TESTING INFORMATION

Please mark your calendars with the following:

PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) Reading and Math will be given to students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 during the week of April 12-16. **PSSA** Writing will be given to students in grade 5 during the week of April 19-23. **PSSA** Science will be given to students in grade 4 during the week of April 26-30. **Parents should make sure appointments are NOT scheduled during these time periods. Students will NOT be excused for "educational trips" during these testing periods.**

EARL TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT THANK YOU

We are grateful to Fire Chief Michael Marburger and the volunteers from the Earl Township Fire Department for sharing an excellent educational fire safety message with us during Fire Prevention Week.

CAMP THANK YOU

The fourth grade staff would like to thank all the parents and staff members who assisted with the 25th annual Camp Innabah experience on October 7th, 8th and 9th. The children learned a great deal and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

PARENT VISITATION

Friday, October 23rd, was another special day at Earl. Parents visited throughout the day in their child's class and also in the special area classes. Parental support has always been extraordinary at Earl, and this support was definitely displayed by the amount of parents visiting on October 23rd.

SCHOOL PICTURE RETAKES

Picture retake day will be Monday, November 9th, between 1 and 2 p.m. Children who were absent on picture day may have their pictures taken on this day. Picture envelopes are available in the school office. In addition, if you are not satisfied with your child's package of pictures, your child may have his/her picture taken again. Please return the original package to the photographer on re-take day. Parents of AM Kindergarten students, you will need to transport your child back to school to have their picture taken/re-taken.



POP-A-TAB

From an idea that started with the Boyertown Area School District Diversity committee, community members have gathered together to collect 6 million pop tabs as a way to see what 6 million looks like. Why 6 million? Because there were 6 million Jews killed during the Holocaust due to racial and ethnic intolerance. The idea was spawned after several area leaders viewed the movie, Paper Clips, the true story of a Tennessee school that set out to collect 6 million paper clips. In Boyertown, it was decided to collect pop tabs because many local organizations and school groups already collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. When the goal of 6 million is met, all tabs will be donated to the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House. In order to complete this monumental task, every household is encouraged to start a container for collecting pop tabs. A container with the "Pop a Tab" label is in the school lobby.

MATH HOTLINE NOW OPEN

The district is once again providing a Math Hotline for students. The Hotline is manned by math teachers and students assistants who have access to many of the math materials your child may be assigned for homework. Hotline hours are Monday through Thursday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in Room 19 at Junior High West. Students may also call the Hotline at 610-473-3720, 610-473-3721, or 610-473-3722. Take advantage of this free service to help your child experience success in math.

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. LORENZ, ART TEACHER

I am collecting the following items for the Art Room: Styrofoam egg cartons, yogurt cups, and plastic butter dishes that have been washed.

The first quarter is almost finished. We have been learning about many of the elements and principles of design. First grade is working with line (diagonal, vertical and horizontal) and shape (geometric and free-form). Second grade is learning to mix secondary colors (green, orange and purple), painting with intense color and expression, and weaving patterns. Third grade is working with warm and cool colors, symmetry and using a running stitch in needlework. Fourth grade is learning to mix and use intermediate colors. Fifth grade is learning about

positive and negative space, how to make and use stencils and shading techniques. Sixth grade is working with complimentary colors, analogous colors and block printing.

FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

Parents of K/1, 3 and 6 grade students: If you have not yet handed in your physical and/or dental form, you still have time to have the form completed. Please contact your family physician/dentist to make an appointment and have the form completed. If you need a new form, please contact the nurse or visit the district website under health services to obtain a form. (requirements: K/1 physical and dental exams, grade 3 dental exam and grade 6 physical exam). A reminder that school physicals will be given on Friday, November 20th. Parent permission for the school exam is required. If you wish to have a school physical exam and have not yet signed up, please contact the health room immediately at 610-473-1670 to register for the exam.

Reminder: With colder weather arriving, students must be dressed appropriately to go out to recess. Please make sure your child has something warm to wear for recess. Students can always take their outerwear off if the weather warms up at recess time. Thank you for your assistance!

Cold and Flu Season:

- Review the importance of hand washing and demonstrate the proper way to wash your hands with your child.
- Children should be free from fever, vomiting and/or diarrhea for a full 24 hours before returning to school.
- Review the medication policy in your BASD handbook. **WE MUST HAVE A DOCTOR'S ORDER AND PARENT PERMISSION TO GIVE ANY MEDICATION INCLUDING THOSE SOLD OVER THE COUNTER. STUDENTS MAY NOT TRANSPORT THEIR MEDICATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL.** COUGH DROPS are **NOT** allowed in school per the BASD policy effective 2001.



MUSIC NOTES FROM THE DESK OF MR. BRUNNER, VOCAL MUSIC TEACHER

Attention 3rd and 4th grade parents: Your child will be participating in a concert this year. I have decided to put together a small show that your son or daughter will be taught from November through February in music class. The date of the concert is **Wednesday, February 10, 2010**. It will take place at **7 p.m. at Jr. High West**. *There is no concert in November.*

Although I have not come up with a catchy title for the show, the show will be a collection of songs that come straight from the Magic Kingdom in Disney World. I thought it would be fun to have the students learn the songs from the rides and perform them for the Boyertown community that evening. Selections may include *Zip-a-Dee Doo Dah* from Splash Mountain, *In the Tiki Room*, *A Pirates Life for Me* from Pirates of the Caribbean, and of course, *It's a Small World*, along with a few others.

At this point, I imagine each student could be dressed up like a character from the ride. The students will sing the songs and tell a story about their adventure through the Magic Kingdom. To have all these components come together I would like parent volunteers to help me with some logistics. I will need parents who can help the night of the show with costumes and make-up (if needed). I will need parents who can help create costumes for students who need assistance. Parent volunteers are needed to help create the program and help with a Power Point of all the rides. Other parents will be needed to do miscellaneous tasks. In order to volunteer, your clearances must be on file with the school office.

In the near future, a letter will be sent home with all third and fourth grade students asking parents if your son or daughter will participate in the program. It will also tell you exactly what your child's costume will require. If you need assistance for creating a costume for your child, there will be a box to check off and I will have a parent volunteer make your child's costume. Lastly, on that form will be a section for you to check off to be a volunteer and what exactly you are willing to help out with.

These shows are always so much fun for me to create and teach your children. I hope the result is a fun adventure for the next few months in music class. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me by email at jbrunner@boyertownasd.org or by phone at 610-473-1819. Thank you for your help and support!

PARP UPDATE FROM THE READING SPECIALIST, MRS. WAMPLER

We kicked off our PARP (Parents As Reading Partners) program in October. I hope that you and your child are enjoying the time that you are reading together! Don't forget to send in your October PARP calendar. We have added another twist to our home reading program. Earl Elementary is officially registered in the Phillie organization "Be A Phanatic About Reading" program. As participants of this program, the students received a Phanatic bookmark and pencil. We are hoping for 100% classroom participation in our PARP program each month. Classrooms with 100% participation will be entered into a drawing that could result in a Phillie Phanatic visit! Keep on reading!

PTO NEWS

Congratulations Earl! The Student Walk-A-Thon was another huge success this year. We collected over \$11,000 with over 160 students participating. Thank you to all who participated to make the walk so successful again this year. Although there were a limited number of prizes, we want to acknowledge the top ten collectors for their hard work. They are Chance Babb (\$420); Kylie and Amber Marburger (\$331 each); Vivian Landis (\$303); Nolan and Paden Hillegass (\$292.50 each); Mackenzie Shaner (\$265); Hunter Ewing, Cy and Levi Evans (\$225 each). Great Job everyone!!



CRAFT DAY

Craft Day is scheduled for Saturday, December 5th. This completely free event for Earl students is a fun day of crafting and spending time with your child. We are in need of various supplies. We are in need of ziploc or slide sandwich size baggies. Unfortunately, we cannot use the fold over sandwich bags or snack bags. We are also in need of puzzle pieces. Pieces should not exceed two inches. They will be used as a craft and therefore puzzles may have missing pieces. Donations can be dropped off in the lobby. A box marked Craft Day will be available.

MARKET DAY

We would like to thank everyone who supported our Market Day program in October. November's Market Day is Dessert Bonus Days! We have 14 YUMMY desserts to choose from. Purchase any 3 and receive a free 12oz. bag of coffee. For every dessert purchased our school earns extra profit, so be sure to stock up on your holiday desserts!!!

As a reminder to our parents and students, Market Day is a monthly fundraiser held throughout the school year, September through June. You can order restaurant quality pre-packaged foods and pick them up once a month at our school. Every order placed helps our school earn money. It is a quick and easy way to support the school and get healthy quick meals and snacks for your family.



You can place your order online at Marketday.com, be sure to pick Earl Elementary as your school/pick up place or turn your completed order forms into the school and we will place the order for you. You also have the option of pre-paying online when you place your order or paying for your order on the pickup date. So please place your orders today and be sure to share with friends, family and co-workers.

The next Market Day orders are due by Tuesday, November 10th and pick up will be held on Monday, November 16th from 6-7 p.m. Thank you for your continued support of our school!

SANTA SHOP REQUEST

The Santa Shop is scheduled for Monday, December 7th and Wednesday, December 9th. This is always a fun event for the kids. They enjoy picking out and wrapping gifts for family and friends. To make the event a success we are in need of the following donations: wrapping paper, scotch tape and name tags. All donations can be sent to school with your child and dropped off in the lobby. **Your generosity is greatly appreciated!**

