

# Pine Forge Elementary School



**November 2009**

**Mrs. Melissa L. Woodard, Principal**

## **EVENTS**

- 3 Author Visit Assemblies/Family Night – 6:30 pm
- 6 End of First Quarter  
Grade 4 Planetarium – 10:00 am
- 10 School Board Meeting – GES – 7:00 pm
- 11 Sr Orchestra/Sr Band Rehearsal – 7:15 am  
PTA Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 13 Early Dismissal – 12:30 pm
- 17 Picture Retake Day
- 18 Youth Symphony Rehearsal – 7:15 am
- 19 Parent Conferences - 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm
- 23 Early Dismissal – 12:30 pm  
Parent Conferences – 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm
- 24 Early Dismissal – 12:30 pm  
Parent Conferences 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm
- 25 Sr Orchestra/Sr Band Rehearsal – 7:15 am  
Early Dismissal – 12:30 pm
- 26-30 Thanksgiving Holiday Break – No School

## **LIBRARY NEWS**

Pine Forge families, you are invited to the Debra Frasier hands-on family night! This free event is being offered to Pine Forge Elementary School families on Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from



6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. During this interactive night, participants will learn how the author, Debra Frasier creates her cut paper illustrations to complement her writing. At the end of the night, each participant will leave with a self created cut paper illustration of their own. So have a great time with your family and come to the Debra Frasier Family Night!

## **H1N1 UPDATE**

Over the last few weeks, our schools are experiencing a high rate of student absences. We will continue to monitor this situation and 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/>

## **PICTURE RE-TAKE DAY**

Picture re-take day will be held on Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Students who were absent on picture day may have their pictures taken on this day. If you were not satisfied with your child's original picture, you may have his/her picture taken again. Please be sure to return the original package to the photographer on re-take day.

**Parents of morning kindergarten students will need to bring their child to school between 1:30 and 2:30 pm for picture retakes.**

## **REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION**

Report cards for the first quarter will be distributed to parents at the scheduled parent conferences. Also, for your information, the district was unable to switch to an electronic elementary report card for this school year.

## **REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCE**

Please call the school office (610-323-7609) to report your child's absence from school. 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. **If you do not call the school or complete an excuse blank, the absence will be recorded as unlawful.**

### **EARLY DISMISSALS**

We will have early dismissal on November 13, 23, 24, and 25 at 12:30 pm. Kindergarten will report as follows:

**AM Kindergarten** – 8:45 am – 10:25 am

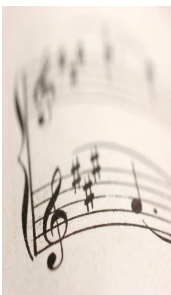
**PM Kindergarten** – 10:25 am – 12:30 pm

### **AFTER SCHOOL HOURS**

Occasionally we have a child who forgets his/her homework/textbook and wishes to retrieve them after school hours. Please note that due to our security system, this must occur before the office closes at 4:15 pm. A parent must accompany the student into the building after school hours.

### **MUSIC NEWS**

Attention 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 will be on **Wednesday, February 10, 2010**. It will take place at **7 PM 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 would 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 be a volunteer, your clearances must be on file with the school secretary.

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 how exactly you would be willing to help.

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

### **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 PFES lobby.

### **MATH HOTLINE**

The district will once again provide a Math Hotline for students. The Hotline is manned by math teachers and students. Hotline hours are Monday through Thursday evenings from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm in Room 19 at Junior High West. Students may also call the Hotline at 610-473-3720 or 610-473-3721.

### **VOLUNTEER CLEARANCE POLICY**

If you wish to volunteer in our school, please present your original criminal and child abuse clearance forms to the office to be copied and kept on file. We appreciate all our volunteers do for our school!

### **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.**

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### **LABEL CLOTHING**

Our lost and found items are increasing. Please label all hats, coats, etc. This labeling will help us identify the owner.

### **SNOW DAYS**

On snow days, information about delays or cancellations will be provided. Listen to one of the stations listed in the Elementary School Handbook. You may also call the district information line at 610-369-7669 for specific information relating to weather. Special announcements are also posted on the district website at <http://www.boyertownasd.org>.

### **FAMILY COUNT EMAIL**

We are creating an email directory of parent contact information. If you wish to receive the monthly newsletters via email, please send your email address to [tgomolka@boyertownasd.org](mailto:tgomolka@boyertownasd.org). We will also communicate information regarding emergency closings and delays using the email directory. At times, we will also send PTA information via email.

### **PRINCIPAL'S WALL OF FAME**

Congratulations to the following students who have artwork displayed on the Wall of Fame:

Grade 1 – Rebekah Nester, Marley Yambor  
Grade 2 – Morgan Kline, Noah Fisher  
Grade 3 – Trey Hartline, Connor Brehm  
Grade 4 – Johnny Wasson, Dan Trout  
Grade 5 – Anthony Garber, Sarah Gaudioso  
Grade 6 – Liam Esterly, Jeffrey Alderfer

### **FROM THE HEALTH ROOM**

Please be reminded that colder weather is coming and students should dress appropriately for the weather. Please have students wear appropriate outerwear (jackets, hats, gloves). The student can always remove their jacket if the weather is warm at recess time. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**



#### PTA Events

Holiday Craft Night – December 4th  
Santa Store – December 10 & 11th

