

**Earl Elementary School
Boyertown Area School District**

Mrs. Rachel Franco, Principal

Late Autumn 2018



November Calendar of Events

- 11/2 - PTO Basket Party @ Morningstar Church (doors open at 5 p.m., raffle begins at 7 p.m.)
11/4 - Daylight Saving Time Ends (set clocks back 1 hour)
11/5 - Grade 3 Field Trip to the DaVinci Science Center (9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)
11/6 - Operation Gratitude Halloween Candy give-back sponsored by the Earl Student Council
Grade 5 to PA Philharmonic Performance @ Middle School West (9:25-11:30 a.m.)
11/7 - Grade 3 Vocal Music program @ Middle School West, 7 p.m. (dress rehearsal during school hours)
11/12 - End of 1st Trimester
PTO Meeting, 6 p.m.
11/15 - Science Explorers assembly, 2 p.m.
Parent-Teacher conferences (by appointment) 4:30-7:30 p.m.
11/19 - **Early Dismissal, 12:30 p.m.** (AM Kindergarten session 8:30-10:30 a.m., PM Kindergarten session 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
Parent-Teacher conferences (by appointment) 4:30-7:30 p.m.
11/20 - **Early Dismissal, 12:30 p.m.**
11/21 - **Early Dismissal, 12:30 p.m.**
11/22 - **Holiday, No School, Office Closed**
11/23 - **Holiday, No School, Office Closed**
11/26 - **Holiday, No School**, Office open from 7 a.m.-12 noon, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
11/27 - School Board Meeting @ Earl Elementary School, 6:30 p.m.
11/29 - Senior Band & Orchestra Concert @ BASH New Auditorium, 7 p.m.
11/30 - PTO Craft Night and Santa Shoppe, 5-8 p.m.

December Calendar of Events

- 12/5 - Grades 4 & 5 Holiday Choral Concert @ BASH New Auditorium, 7 p.m.
12/10 - PTO Meeting, 6 p.m.
12/20 - PTO Holiday Parties, 2:30 p.m.
12/21 - **Early Dismissal, 12:30 p.m.** (AM Kindergarten session 8:30-10:30 a.m., PM Kindergarten session 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
12/24 - 1/1/19 - **Holiday, No School, Office Closed**



Principals' Note

It's hard to believe that the first trimester of the school year is coming to a close! Staff and students have worked hard to start the year off on a positive note. As a school community, we have focused on the theme *Be Kind* this Trimester. We have enjoyed two assemblies focused on Kindness: Dr Recess and Duck Sense Bullying Prevention Assembly. These also served as our first two No Place for Hate activities.

At Earl, we will continue to build on the life lesson of *Be Kind* but will also add a new theme for second trimester. Our next theme is *Be Helpful*. Throughout this quarter, we will highlight ways students can be helpful in their school and surrounding community. We will look for ways to help ourselves and others be the best we can be. The Great Pumpkin/Food Drive Contest to support Multi-Service is a perfect example of helping others. We will also be participating in Operation Gratitude where students collect Halloween candy to be sent to our troops. Please talk with your child about ways he/she can show kindness and helpfulness at home and in his/her daily activities!

Great Pumpkin Contest/Food Drive

Earl students and parents have recognized the need for student involvement in community service. The Great Pumpkin Contest/Canned Food Drive serves as a testament to our students' commitment to community service. Sponsored by the Student Council, we hope to raise a record number of items to be donated to the Boyertown Area Multi-Service to benefit needy citizens in our community. I encourage all Earl Elementary parents and students to participate in the food drive. Your donations will make the holiday season a little better for many needy citizens of our community.

Operation Gratitude

Ready to get rid of all that extra Halloween Candy??? Please send your extra candy in on November 6th. Through the organization Operation Gratitude, the candy will be sent to our troops! For this event, students will bring in Halloween candy and put it in cardboard boxes in their homeroom. This is not a competition, rather just a day to show our gratitude to our troops. 5th graders will be around that day to pick up boxes of candy.

PTO Basket Party

The PTO Basket Party will be held at Morning Star Fellowship Church on Friday, Nov. 2nd. I greatly appreciate the hard work and dedication of our Earl PTO. A very special thank you goes out to all who donated baskets and prizes for the event.

Again, I would like to personally thank the parents and students who participated in these events. Have a very safe and enjoyable holiday season!

Rachel Franco
Principal



BASD ATTENDANCE POLICY

If your son or daughter is going to be out of school, there are two preferred options to notify us. THESE PREFERRED OPTIONS DO NOT REQUIRE A PHONE CALL TO THE ATTENDANCE LINE!

1. Parents/guardians may send an email to attendanceEES@boyertownasd.org from the email address of the parent/guardian on file with the school.
2. Parents/guardians may use the district website www.boyertownasd.org.

Click on the "Parents/Community" tab
Click on "Forms"
Click on "Attendance-Absence Excuses"
Scroll down to choose "Earl Elementary School"
Complete the form then click on "submit"

You may still call the attendance line; however, you MUST send in a handwritten note or excuse blank within three (3) days of the return to school or the absence will be coded as unlawful.

Also remember, Educational Trip Forms CANNOT be completed after the trip. They MUST be completed and submitted at least two (2) school days BEFORE the trip.

BLACKBOARD CONNECT®

BASD utilizes the **Blackboard Connect®** service which is used to convey emergency messages including weather delays or closings to parents and guardians with one recorded phone message. It is important your school has all of your current telephone numbers so you will not miss any important communications. We are utilizing your phone numbers from our student information system. If you change your telephone numbers anytime throughout the school year, please remember to update them with your child's building secretary.

COMMUNICATING DISMISSAL INFORMATION

If you need to communicate information regarding student dismissal, **please do not convey the information via e-mail.** Please call the school office at 610-369-7504 with the information. If a staff member is absent their e-mail cannot be accessed. There is always someone in the office to retrieve messages. Thank you!

EARLY DISMISSALS

Please make a note that all scheduled elementary early dismissals throughout the school year are **12:30 p.m.**

The Kindergarten schedule is as follows on early dismissal days:

AM Kindergarten—8:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

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

DISMISSAL PROCEDURE REMINDER

Parent Pick-up: PLEASE bring photo identification every time you pick up your child.

There may be different staff members facilitating this process and they may need to check your identification for safety/security measures.

- Please send a note or call the school each day your child will be parent pick-up so we do not send him/her home on the bus. If your child will permanently be picked up on specific days or daily, please complete the permanent pick-up cards available in the office or during parent pick-up so you do not need to send in a note or call each day.

- A staff member will open the front doors at approximately 3:25 p.m.

As you enter, he/she will check off your name from the parent pick-up list

Then, please move to the All Purpose Room and sign your child out on

the appropriate list. Please wait in the All Purpose Room for your child to join you there after his/her name is announced.

- Please exit the same doors you entered for parent pick-up. The students exiting for buses will be using the other doors. This will help with traffic flow.

Thank you for your cooperation and support!



END OF DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour.
Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, November 4th.

GIANT A+ SCHOOL REWARDS PROGRAM



With the start of a new school year comes another year of A+ School Rewards. Our school has the opportunity to earn cash through the Giant A+ School Rewards Program through 3/16/19. If you haven't done so already, all you have to do is log on to www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus and register. If you registered your card last year, you **DO NOT** need to re-register this year. You can visit the website to verify the correct school assignment. Also, don't forget to encourage your friends and relatives to do the same. Please be sure to register your card to benefit Earl Elementary School using ID #**26415**.

REQUEST FOR ASSIGNMENTS

When your child is absent from school we will send homework to your child with a messenger if indicated on the green homework messenger form sent home at the beginning of the year. To request assignments for pick-up please contact the school office. If picking up assignments, they will be available after school in the office until 4:15 p.m.

SCHOOL FOLDERS

The PTO supplied each student with an Earl hawk folder this past August. There are extra folders available in the school office for \$1.00 per folder if you need a replacement.

MUSIC PROGRAM REMINDER

Grade 3 Vocal Music Program

Where: Middle School West
When: Wednesday, November 7th
Start time: 7 p.m.
Report time: 6:45 p.m.



Grade 4 & 5 Choral Concert

Where: BASH New Auditorium
When: Wednesday, December 5th
Start time: 7 p.m.
Report time: 6:45 p.m.

Senior Band & Orchestra Concert

Where: BASH New Auditorium
When: Thursday, November 29th
Start time: 7 p.m.

TESTING INFORMATION

Please mark your calendars with the following:

PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) ELA will be given to students in grades 3, 4, and 5 during the weeks of April 15-26, 2019.

PSSA Math will be given to students in grades 3, 4, and 5 and **PSSA** Science will be given to students in grade 4 during the week of April 29-May 3, 2019. **Parents should make sure appointments are NOT scheduled during these time periods. Students will NOT be excused for “educational trips” during these testing periods.**



FROM THE DESK OF DR. GAUL, READING SPECIALIST



Learning to read is critical to your child's success in school. Reading skills need to become automatic so they can be applied to reading text in a variety of subject areas, including math, science, and social studies. During the early elementary school years, children learn HOW to read. Because reading is such a complex process, some children struggle learning the skills required to decode words and comprehend printed text. Parents play an important role in helping their children develop reading skills and in keeping their children interested in reading. Parents should show their children that reading is both pleasurable and informative. Parents serve as role models of reading. In other words, children benefit from seeing parents and other adults reading. Parents can also help by providing reading materials that are of interest and are enjoyable. Selecting books that focus on your child's interests and hobbies can motivate a reluctant reader. Parents can also involve children in activities that require reading such as following a recipe while cooking or identifying an insect that was found outside in a reference book. Finally, reading to your child often and regularly can foster a love of reading that will last a lifetime.

REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION



Student report cards for the 1st trimester will be distributed at parent/teacher conferences. If you do not have a parent/teacher conference scheduled, please contact your child's teacher to set up an appointment.

FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

Health Screening Notification Letters

- Health Screening Notification letters will be mailed to students' parents/guardians. The letter contains the results of your child's annual health screenings. Parents/guardians of students that failed a vision or hearing screening at school will be contacted by the school nurse and referred for further medical evaluation; referral letters for an MD to complete at that evaluation will be sent home with the students. If you have not been directly contacted by the school nurse, your child passed the screenings that were done for their grade.

Physical and Dental Exams

- **Parents of K/1 students: Physical exams are now due.** Please return your child's physical form as soon as possible. If you need a new form, please contact the nurse's office or you may print a form from the district website at: www.boyertownasd.org and clicking on the Services tab and then clicking on student services.
- **Parents of K/1 and 3rd grade students: Dental exams are now due.** If you have not yet submitted your child's dental report, please return it to the health room as soon as possible. If you are in need of a form, please contact the nurse's office or you may print a form from the district website at: www.boyertownasd.org and clicking on the Services tab and then clicking the student services tab.

Cold and Flu Season

As the cold and flu season begins, 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.
 - The BASD medication policy **does not allow elementary students** to use cough drops at school because they present a choking hazard. Students may gargle with salt water or drink fluids during school hours to treat mild sore throat symptoms. Please consult your health care provider if your child has a severe sore throat or symptoms lasting more than 3 days.
 - Reminder: if your child needs medication during school hours, please review the BASD medication policy in the elementary school handbook or on the BASD website at <http://www.boyertownasd.org/> under Services, Student Services, Health.
- Students may not bring any medications to school.**

It is advisable for the student to stay home from school if any of the following symptoms are exhibited: unusual skin eruptions, chills, discharge or redness of eye(s), or persistent cough. **Students should not be sent to school to be evaluated by the school nurse with an illness or injury that occurred at home. Any serious illness or injury occurring at home must be evaluated by the student's healthcare provider.** If your child was sent home from school the previous day for a fever or illness, they should remain home the following day.

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

Cold Weather/Recess: Cold weather is finally here! Please make sure your child has the appropriate outerwear to sustain the weather conditions while out at recess. The health room does not supply coats, hats, mittens, sweatshirts etc. for children to go to recess.

Head Lice

- During each school year, almost without fail, we can expect to find some cases of head lice among our students. To control outbreaks in our schools, the Boyertown Area School District follows the PA Guidelines for School Based Program for Control for Lice Infestation (2011). When an active head louse infestation is detected by the school nurse (findings of crawling insects or nits within one half inch of the scalp), the student's parent or guardian will be asked to come to school and take the student home for treatment.
- The parent or guardian will have two options for treatment: (1) Contact their family physician for diagnosis and treatment or (2) use a checklist provided by the school nurse for at home treatment using an over-the-counter pediculicide (chemical shampoo that kills lice). The school nurse will also check any siblings in grades K through 12 that may have been exposed or possibly be infested with head lice.
- Students with head lice will be excluded from school and from riding the school bus until the school nurse or child's physician determines the student has received proper treatment and is non-infectious. Students may return to school once they have been treated with an approved pediculicide. Parents or guardians must present proof of the pediculicide used for treatment (empty bottle or dated receipt) to the school nurse. Students should receive a second treatment in 7-10 days. Retreatment is recommended because no approved pediculicide completely kills all eggs. The school nurse will do a follow up check in 7 – 10 days to ensure the at home treatments have been effective.
- Prevention and control of head lice begins in the home: parents should routinely check their children for head lice and not allow them to share hats, clothing, brushes, combs or sleeping bags with other children. Individuals become infested with lice by coming into close contact (usually head-to-head contact) with an lice-infested person, by wearing infested garments, by using infected combs and brushes, or by lying on infested carpets, beds, or upholstered furniture that have recently been used by an infested person.
- **We strongly urge all parents to read about head lice and inspect the hair and scalp of their children regularly.** Please contact the school if you discover that your child has lice. The Boyertown Area School District trust that with the school and home working cooperatively, head lice can be kept under control with minimal inconvenience to our students and their families. More information on head lice is available on the BASD website at <http://www.boyertownasd.org/> under Services, Student Services, Health or from the school nurse. Please help us prevent head lice by following the policy and checking your children often.