



February 2016

Mrs. Laura Heineck, Principal

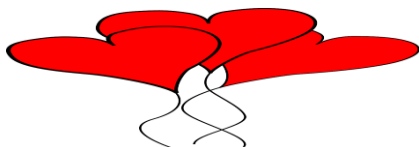
EVENTS

- 2/2 Life Begins Presentation – Grade 6
- 2/5 Report Card Distribution
PTA Game Night
6:30 PM
- 2/10 EARLY DISMISSAL
12:30 PM**
- 2/15 NO SCHOOL**
- 2/16 School Board Meeting
Ed. Center 7:00 PM
- 2/23 School Board Meeting
CES 7:00 PM
- 2/24 EARLY DISMISSAL
12:30 PM**

YEARBOOK

It is that time of year again to order your 2015-2016 Yearbook. Don't miss out on this opportunity to capture your child's memories. Again this year we are offering the ability to order your yearbook online.

Simply click on the following URL, <https://ybpay.lifetouch.com/> at any time between now and the end of February and follow the instructions to order your child's yearbook. You will need our school code which is 1025416 and to enter in your child's name. Printed forms will also be sent home as usual with your child if you prefer to go that route. Thank you.



PTA BASKET RAFFLE

The annual Pine Forge Basket Raffle will be held on Friday, March 4, 2016. This year's event will be held at Boyertown Junior High West. Junior High West is located at 380 South Madison Street, Boyertown, PA. Please join us for an evening of fun festivities.



PTA NEWS

The PTA will be sponsoring a Game Night on Friday, February 5th in the Multi-Purpose Room. Please join us for a fun filled evening.



ART NEWS

ART TIP: Snow days are perfect for creating art. As an alternative to computer games, keep a container of art supplies available for your children. Add something new and different to surprise them. Collect old cereal boxes, bottle caps, and other "junk" for them to make things from. There is a great variety of markers on the market that sparkle, change colors, work on black paper, etc.

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS

Just a friendly reminder; **ALL** visitors and/or volunteers **MUST** sign in at the office upon entering the building. Your child's safety is always our first concern.

PLAYGROUND NEWS

Meet our Cool Moms that Warm the Hearts of the Children of Pine Forge!
Welcome our lunch and playground dream team!!



Mrs. Martignetti, Mrs. Appel, and Mrs. Schmoyer

We have some new faces to our lunch and playground paraprofessional team! Let's welcome Mrs. Martignetti, Mrs. Appel, and Mrs. Schmoyer to our Pine Forge family. All three are moms with children ranging from 8 to 19 years old and are involved in many activities such as wrestling, twirling, football, track, and basketball. We are happy to have them serve as our "moms away from home," showing much love and care to our children.

ITEMS DROPPED OFF AT SCHOOL

If you are dropping off forgotten homework, musical instruments, birthday treats, etc.; we respectfully ask that you bring the items to the office and not the classroom. This prevents interruptions in the students' instructional time.



BLACKBOARD CONNECT

Our **Blackboard Connect** telephone messaging service enables us to deliver important school information in the event of

any emergency, including weather delays or closings. With the **Blackboard Connect** service, we are able to send a personalized voice message to parent/guardians and families with one recorded phone message. It is important that the school office is updated with any change in contact telephone numbers so that you will not miss any important communications. We are utilizing your phone numbers from our student information.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2016-2017

Online Kindergarten Registration Now Available

The Boyertown Area School District is announcing kindergarten registration for the 2016-2017 school year.

Information packets were recently mailed in to each resident with a child who will reach 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2016. If you or someone you know has a child that meets the age requirement and has not received a packet; please contact the district office to obtain a registration packet.

The Boyertown Area School District student registrations are now conducted through our electronic registration portal at www.boyertownasd.org. All supporting documentation including residency, verification of birth, and immunization records should be available when completing the application and can be scanned and submitted as part of the application.

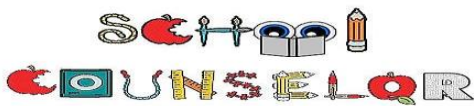
Note that although students entering kindergarten are required to have a physical and dental examination, these exams must be completed after September 1, 2015 and no later than September 15, 2016.

Please contact the Student Registration Office at 610-369-7492 or email

cbartholomew@bovertownasd.org if you do not receive a packet or have questions or concerns regarding this process.

SCHOOL SECURITY

Our school utilizes a camera and buzz-in security system. **Please push the call button and wait in front of the camera.** All visitors are required to state their name and purpose for their visit prior to obtaining entry to the building. Once you are buzzed into the building, **please report directly to the office to sign in** and obtain a visitor's badge. Deliveries are to be brought to the office (**please do not go directly to the classroom.**) Parents are expected to meet their children for appointments in the office and not at the classroom.



THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER School Counselor, Robyn Michael

February hosts National School Counselor's Week (Feb. 1-5), as well as Random Acts of Kindness Week (Feb. 14-20)! Are these made up holidays? Of course, but it's a good time to showcase some heart and get some help if necessary! My job as your school counselor this year is to help provide and promote a supportive environment for your child to succeed. I'm a resource for parents, teachers, and students and their concerns. If you feel your child is struggling emotionally, academically, or socially please contact your school counseling office for help. I will be speaking with your students this month about ways to be kind, and will be promoting a happy and safe learning environment. If you would like additional ideas to help promote social and emotional skills, please visit www.randomactsofkindness.org.

2016 – 2017 STUDENT CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Each year we work diligently to determine student placements for the following school year. Since we consider the placement process to be one of our most important tasks, we would like to share the process with you. Student placement is determined and reviewed by a team of professionals consisting of your child's present teacher, reading specialist, guidance counselor, and the principal. Additional personnel, such as the remediation teacher and special education teachers, are consulted when appropriate. Each child's academic, social and emotional growth and needs are discussed as well as peer relations. We strive to create classes that are heterogeneous, function as cohesive groups, and provide each child with an educational environment that will meet his or her needs. We feel our time is well spent because we also have a personal investment in each child.

In view of the time and consideration taken in the placement of your child, we request that you do not ask for a specific teacher placement. Should your child need special consideration, such as a specific type of learning environment or you wish to share information about your child's specific needs, please write the principal a letter stating those areas that should be taken into consideration when making next year's placement. Any written request of this nature must be submitted by April 15, 2016. Letters that include specific teacher names and/or are received after April 15, 2016 will be returned. No requests will be considered after this date. We ask that you respect our professional judgment and be assured that we strive to make the best possible match for your child.

"We rise by lifting others." -Robert Ingersoll

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 media locations will broadcast the information.

Radio

93.5 WSBG-FM Stroudsburg
96 WCTO-FM Allentown
99.9 WODE-FM Allentown
100.7 WLEV-FM Allentown
102.5 WRFY-FM Reading
104 WAEB-FM Allentown
105.1 WIOV-FM Reading
105.5 WMGH-FM Tamaqua
107.1 WWYY-FM Allentown
107.5 WFKB-FM Reading
790 WAEB-AM Allentown
830 WEEU-AM Reading
1060 KYW-AM (District #893) Philadelphia
1160 WBYN-AM Boyertown
1240 WIOV-AM Reading
1340 WRAW-AM Reading
1370 WPAZ-AM Pottstown

Television

CBS3 – TV Philadelphia
WCAU-TV – NBC 10 Philadelphia
WFMZ-TV–Channel 69 Allentown
WPVI-TV6 Philadelphia

Websites

www.wfmz.com
www.wzzo.com
www.fox1470.com



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. 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, announcements will be made that will detail the plan. Afternoon kindergarten classes will not meet on days when schools are dismissed on the above schedule. When school is closed, all school and community activities in district buildings are canceled.

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 weeks of April 11 - 22, 2016. **PSSA** Science will be given to students in grade 4 during the week of April 25 – 29, 2016.

Parents should make sure appointments are NOT scheduled during these time periods. Students will NOT be excused for “educational trips” during these testing periods.

How can you help your child do better on standardized tests?

In the months preceding the test:

- Find out when the tests are to be given. Write the date and time on your calendar. Avoid scheduling appointments or trips during these times.
- Ask the teacher what you can do at home. Before the state tests, the teacher might ask you to review math facts or vocabulary terms, for example.
- Encourage your child to **read**. The easiest and best way to prepare your child for doing well on tests is **read often**.

Right before the test:

- Make sure your child gets a good night’s sleep. Provide a good breakfast.**
- Have your child dress in layers- kids do better on tests if they don’t have to think about how hot or cold they are.
- Don’t be too anxious. Say, “this test is important. I know you will try hard and do

your best.” Your confidence will be contagious.

☐ On the day of the test, give your child these tips:

1. Pay close attention to test directions.
2. Answer the easy questions first.
3. Read every answer before you choose one.
4. If you are not sure of the answer, rule out the choices that you know are wrong. Then pick the best answer that is left.
5. If you have time, check your answers carefully. Make sure the numbers of your answers correspond to the numbers of the questions on the test.
6. If you start to feel stressed, take some deep breaths to relax.



LOST AND FOUND

Please check with your child to see if he/she is missing any items (coats, hats, lunch bags, etc.) Have your child check the large container in the multi-purpose room for any missing items.



NEWS FROM THE NURSE ***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 throats 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 Departments, Student Services, Health. **Students *may not* bring any medications to school.**

Dental Exams

Dental exams are required for students in grades Kindergarten and 3rd. If you have not returned your child's Dental exam please do so.

Physical Exams

Physical exams for Kindergarten and 6th grade are now past due. Please return your child's physical exam to the health office

Immunizations

If your child has any outstanding immunizations please return copies to the health room. Provisional letters will be mailed home notifying you of any outstanding immunizations.

Human Growth and Development:

Growth and Development classes have begun.

You may have your child excused from the program with a written request sent to the health room.

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 Departments, Student Services, Health or from the school nurse. Please help us prevent head lice by following the policy and checking your children often.

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.