



# EXPLORATIONS

## Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

March 6, 2014

### **Daylight Saving Time This Weekend**

Don't forget to set your clocks AHEAD one hour on Saturday night. A good family discussion might be the following: *What is the reason we have DST, and is it necessary?*

Some good news about spring...I saw pussy willows on Pleasant Street yesterday and fat robins have been playing in the trees outside my office. It's coming!

### **Safety at BHCS**

We had our first trial of a lock down today. Earlier this week, using age appropriate messages, we talked with kids about the need to be prepared in any emergency, so just as we do with a fire drill, we practice what to do if there is an intruder in the school. Today, the students heard the announcement from Mrs. Martin in the office, "Teachers, secure your rooms." At that point they went to the pre-determined safest location in the room and waited silently for instructions. We will have several of these drills in the months ahead, and some will include law officials and first responders. If your child wants to continue this discussion at home and you are at a loss of what to say, we can give you literature to share with them to make them feel well assured and safe.

### **Happy St. Patrick's Day Supper at BHCS!**

Monday, March 17 at 5:30 PM in the cafeteria. Join us for a St. Patrick's Day dinner to benefit the BHCS chess team's trip to the national competition in Atlanta. Corned beef and cabbage, and Irish soda bread, of course! Mac and Cheese for the kids, too. Irish music and more. Admission by cash donation at the door.

### **Congratulations, Cheerleaders!**

The BHCS squad took third place in their division at the "Ellsworth Spirit Invitational" Cheerleading Competition at the Ellsworth Middle School on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The squad included Tillie Marsh, Sandra Bock, Autumn

Moore, Schyler Dorr, Fiona Larkin, Paige Butler, and Shelby Williamson. In another division, Lael Clapp's Lamoine team of Pee Wee cheerleaders placed first.

### **Chess Success!! Help Our Chess Team!**

*The BHCS Chess Club is "Exceeding Expectations" and they are ready to participate on a national level!!!* The kids practice every minute they can, and they've taken 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> places at the last two tournaments they've participated in. Wow! *There is a fund raising campaign to help them travel to Atlanta for this exciting experience, but it will cost about \$1470. One way you can help is through a group called DonorsChoose.org. If you want to help, please read the information on our website and make a donation (any amount will help).*

***DonorsChoose.org will also match the first \$100 we raise if the donors write INSPIRE in the promo code box. I did it - it's easy!***

~ Della

### **Score!**

Congratulations to Curran Granger and the Maine Junior Black Bears Navy Hockey team for taking home the silver medal in the DU Tournament last weekend. The Portland area tournament hosted teams from Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Maine. Curran also took home the Most Valuable Player medal in the semi-final game. Nice job, Curran. Sounds like fun!

### **PTF News**

*Be Enthusiastic About Reading* and join us this Friday, March 7, for B.E.A.R. Night. We will be gathering for games, snacks, and, stories, of course! Bring your favorite books, stuffed animal, pillow and a snack to share. The event runs from 6:30 - 9:00 PM so feel free to stop by for some or all of it. All K-8 students are welcome, accompanied by an adult.

Della L. Martin, Principal • Loretta Smith, Secretary • Beth Jackson, Librarian • Matt Jurick, Technology Specialist

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Our last collection drive for the Box Tops for Education was a huge success. Please keep clipping them and sending them in. The March collection sheet is attached.

Since our February meeting was canceled because of snow, there are a few things that the PTF is running that need some attention. A coordinator is needed for the Teacher Appreciation week in May and also someone to take care of a potluck luncheon the end of March for the Acadian Festival. Please contact Tracy Gandy at [ptf@bhcs.org](mailto:ptf@bhcs.org) if you need more information or if you would like to volunteer.

**Our next PTF meeting will be March 13 at 6:00 PM. There will be an information session about the proposed Pre-K program and then the normal PTF business. Hope to see you there!**

### **BEEM BASH**

The BEEM Bash is coming. Mark your calendars for Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. It's a fun evening at Barncastle and a chance to help raise funds that provide enriching opportunities to students at BHCS.

### **5-2-1-0 Meeting --Planning Ahead for the Spring Fling Event and Screen Free Week**

The 5-2-1-0 Committee would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join us for our 5-2-1-0 meeting on Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:45 PM in the BHCS library. We will be planning for our annual Screen Free Week Celebration and the Spring Fling event. This is a fun event that incorporates the recommendations of 5-2-1-0 for healthy children and families. These recommendations are to eat at least 5 fruits and vegetables a day; spend less than 2 hours a day on a screen (*TV, video games, computer use other than homework*), getting at least 1 hour of physical activity every day, and zero sugary beverages. We need to plan the date of the Spring Fling celebration that will take place sometime during the week of April 28<sup>th</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>. It will definitely be something to look forward to while we are waiting for Spring to get here. If you can't make it to the meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup>, there will be another one on March 19<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions on how to make this another fantastic event. If you have any questions about

the meeting or 5-2-1-0, or if you would like to volunteer to help with the event but cannot come to the meeting, please email or phone me.

Deborah L. Candage, RN, BSN  
374-2202, ext. 103  
[dcandage@bhcs.org](mailto:dcandage@bhcs.org)

### **Notes From the Band Room**

The Blue Hill Eights Jazz Band will play in the GSA band room on Thursday after school. This is a great opportunity for our kids to be critiqued by the high school students. We will play at 2:45 PM and then the GSA Jazz Band will play for us. All three BHCS Jazz Bands will compete at the Middle School State Jazz Festival in Westbrook on Saturday, March 22. FYI...The High School State Jazz Festival is in Hampden with the combos on Friday, March 14 and the jazz bands on Saturday, March 15.

A special recognition goes to Dylan Nason and Gavin Mote who both had excellent solos at the District Jazz Festival last Wednesday. I neglected to mention them in last week's newsletter and I wanted to make that correction. ~Mr. Schubeck

### **Thank You From Ms. Hudson**

Ms. Hudson would like to say a big thank you to all the students and parents of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade who have helped her transition into the long-term sub position for Mrs. Danielson. They, along with the BHCS staff, have helped tremendously in welcoming her and her daughter, Yasumin, back home.

### **A Note from Mr. McCormick... Celebrating Acadian Culture**

This year the Acadian World Congress meets in Madawaska, Maine to celebrate Acadian heritage in Canada and Maine. During the month of March the students of BHCS have an opportunity to learn about the culture of the Acadian people. They will learn the history, art, language, music and dance of the Acadian culture and its influence on our culture.

There will be two special events at the end of the month. Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> will feature 16 musicians from around the state who will come to BHCS to play Acadian music for the students. These musicians will visit different classrooms in the morning. There will be an

afternoon assembly with all the musicians doing a ceilidh (kitchen party) for the students. Parents and family members are welcome to attend the afternoon session.

On Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> there will be an evening performance in the gym by the BHCS students from K to 8. From 5:30 - 6:00 PM there will be a display of the students' arts and crafts in the cafeteria. French snacks and pastries will also be available. From 6 - 7:30 PM there is a K-8 student performance in the gym. They will perform different traditional Acadian dance, music, and songs for the parents and members of the Blue Hill community.

Bill Schubeck will be calling the dances, as well as providing traditional music with his band. More information will be coming. You may contact me at BHCS (374-2202, ext. 113) if you have any questions, or can help with the Acadian snacks.

Respectfully Yours,  
Robert McCormick

#### **Four Hand Piano Concert!**

For piano lovers of all ages...come enjoy the music of wife and husband duo pianists Andrée-Anne Perras-Fortin and Jean-François Latour. The passionate energy of Andrée-Anne combined with the imaginative poetry of Jean-François produces a unique musical voice. With their four hands, the music speaks from one heart. The concert will be at the Congregational Church of Blue Hill on Sunday, March 9 at 3:00 PM. **Students 18 years old and younger always enjoy free admission.** Adult donation at the door is \$30. For more information, go to [bluehillconcertassociation.org](http://bluehillconcertassociation.org).

#### **St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner** at First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, Saturday, March 15, 5:30 PM.

Enjoy a great corned beef and cabbage supper (or a vegetarian dinner--please request as you enter). The feast is followed by Irish entertainment in the church's Jonathan Fisher Hall. Delicious food and fun for all ages. Child care provided. Space is limited, so first come first served. Suggested donation- adults \$7, kids \$4. For information, call 374-2891 or email [bhcongo@yahoo.com](mailto:bhcongo@yahoo.com).

#### **Dates to Remember**

Fri., Mar. 7	T2 grades close 5-2-1-0 Meeting, 2:45 K-8 BEAR Night, 6:30-9:00 PM 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Dance, 7-10
Wed., Mar. 12	Board Meeting, 5 PM
Thurs., Mar. 13	PTF Meeting, 6 PM
Fri., Mar. 14	Picture Day
Mon., Mar. 17	Chess Club Supper, 5:30 PM
Wed., Mar. 19	5-2-1-0 Meeting, 2:45
Fri., Mar. 21	8 <sup>th</sup> grade to MMA
Sat., March 22	State Jazz Fest, Westbrook
Thurs., Mar. 27	Acadian Celebration
Fri., Mar. 28	No school, teacher in- service
Sat., April 5	Town Meeting, 9 AM
Tues., June 17	Graduation, 7 PM
Every Friday	Bobcat Day
Attachments:	BEEEM Invitation (electronic) March Box Top Sheet