



# Explorations

Blue Hill Consolidated School

January 5, 2017

## RtI in the New Year

It was wonderful to welcome back your children Tuesday! We are all excited to be back in our regular routines.

Before I let you know what's changing, let me just give you little refresher about RtI, or Response to Intervention. Each trimester we give every student in K-8 a benchmark assessment to determine their knowledge and ability in math and reading compared to other students at their grade level around the nation. If a student does not meet these benchmarks, we respond as teachers with research-based interventions (hence, Response to Intervention). Our RtI Coordinator provides intensive reading and math instruction to help get students back up to grade level.

Some of you may know that our RtI Coordinator, Katie Danielson, is on sabbatical for the remainder of the school year. Katie is working to earn a Certificate of Advanced Study in Literacy Education through the University of New England, a degree that will impact our RtI program in a big way!

While she is out of the building we are lucky to have Mrs. Linda Graceffa filling in as her long-term substitute. Mrs. Graceffa comes to this program with 30+ years of experience in teaching all grades first through eighth. Students receiving instruction through RtI or Title I will be in good hands! If you have any questions about your child's instruction through RtI or Title I, please feel free to email her at [lgraceffa@bhcs.org](mailto:lgraceffa@bhcs.org) or by calling her here at school.

Warmly,  
Shelly

## Winter Clubs at BHCS

Winter Clubs will start next week. The PTF is so thankful for all the parents and teachers who have volunteered their time and talents to offer these enrichment opportunities. Over 75 students will be participating this year! All clubs end at 4:00 pm so please be sure to let us know if your child is scheduled to attend the YMCA aftercare program once the club is done.



### Dates to Remember

January 6	Dance in Penobscot 6-9pm
January 11	School Board Meeting, 5 pm
January 13	No School - Inservice Day
January 16	No School - MLK Day
January 19	PTF Meeting, 2:45 BHCS Library

### **The Mask You Live In**

The Blue Hill Public Library, the Bay School, the Blue Hill Consolidated School, and George Stevens Academy bring you The Representation Project's documentary: the Mask You Live In", Friday, January 6 at 6:30 pm. A discussion hosted by (Blue Hill's own!) Sam Eley, of "Maine Boys To Men" will follow.

This film, appropriate for adult audiences, explores the "struggles of young men to stay true to themselves while negotiating Americas narrow definition of masculinity."

This program is free, all aged 16 and over are welcome, light refreshments will be served.

<http://therepresentationproject.org/film/the-mask-you-live-in/>

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### **From the School Nurse**

Unfortunately we are not rid of the head lice yet at school. I did check all classes upon return from vacation. I am asking for your help in staying vigilant and continuing to check your children at home. If you have any questions or need help checking do not hesitate to ask. As you can imagine it is a lot of work for a family when a child has head lice. If you can all help by checking at home and staying aware we can hopefully minimize the impact. Thank you for your help!

### **Basketball News**

by Andrew Szwez, Grade 8

The coastal boys basketball season has started and all of the players are very excited for what this season has in store. The boys basketball team has had three games and their record is 3-0. The team has been having practices everyday for a few weeks now and they're really meshing together. Talking with the team they think that their biggest challenge will be facing MDES who was last year's champion. The team is very small this year with only four bench players.



### **Basketball Thank-You**

Basketball season is here, and we should take a moment to thank Adam Gray, parent and former BHCS student, for independently raising money to replace the broken and outdated basketball hoops in the BHCS gym. We now have hoops that can be adjusted to the correct height for any age of player. What a great way to give back to the community!



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### **BLUE HILL HERITAGE TRUST- JANUARY EVENTS!**

1/15/17 1-3pm Blue Hill Public Library

#### **WHO GOES THERE?**

Join Blue Hill Heritage Trust and Lynn Havsall of Firefly Farm for a fun interactive workshop. Learn to identify mammal tracks through slides, prints and casts. Bring a notebook to make your own track field guide. Sunday, January 15th 1-3pm Blue Hill Public Library Howard Room. Free and open for all ages. For more information, please contact Blue Hill Heritage Trust at 374-5118 or [info@bluehillheritagetrust.org](mailto:info@bluehillheritagetrust.org)  
<http://bluehillheritagetrust.org/2017/who-goes-there-animal-tracks-id-workshop-january-15th/>

1/16/17 10am Patten Stream Preserve Trail, Surry

#### **Martin Luther King Jr Day- WINTER HIKE!**

Join our local naturalist Merrie Eley and volunteer Barbara Kourajian for a winter group hike at Patten Stream to enjoy and discover our winter environment. We'll begin hiking at 10am and will have hot beverages and refreshments to keep you going! Free and open for all ages. For more information, please contact Blue Hill Heritage Trust at 374-5118 or [info@bluehillheritagetrust.org](mailto:info@bluehillheritagetrust.org)  
<http://bluehillheritagetrust.org/2017/winter-hikes/>

1/21/17 1pm WINTER TREE I.D. WALK at Cooper Farm in Sedgwick

Join BHHT and local horticulturist & landscape historian Val Libby for a guided walk and exploration of winter tree and shrub identification! Join us at Cooper Farm at 1pm to learn the hidden secrets to who's who! Free and open for all ages. For more information, please contact Blue Hill Heritage Trust at 374-5118 or [info@bluehillheritagetrust.org](mailto:info@bluehillheritagetrust.org)  
<http://bluehillheritagetrust.org/2017/winter-tree-id-walk-with-val-libby/>

Community articles submitted by the Blue Hill community are posted as-is. Those interested in submitting community news for the newsletter may contact Tracy Gandy ([tgandy@bhcs.org](mailto:tgandy@bhcs.org)). Views/opinions expressed in this section are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official school positions or policies.