

Birchtree Charter

Friday Update, September 23rd, 2011

Fall Faire

The Fall Faire is quickly approaching. The Faire will be on Saturday, October 1st from 12:00-3:00. If you have not heard from the lead parent volunteer in your child's class, then they will be contacting you soon. They will be asking parents to help with the Faire. Each class will be responsible for running an activity. Come and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon with other Birchtree families!

The BPG is also asking parents to donate baked goods for the Fall Faire bake sale. Bring in bake goods on Friday, September 30th to the front office.



Absence and Tardy Policy

A full day absence is counted if a student arrives at the school after 11:00 AM or leaves before 12:30 PM. A ½ day absence is recorded if a student arrives between 9:00-11:00 AM or leaves between 12:30-2:30 PM. If a student arrives between 8:30-9:00 they would be marked tardy.

Lifetouch Picture Day

Picture day will be on Thursday, October 6th. More information will be sent home next week.

After School Clubs Update

Art Club for Students in grades 3-8

Thursday, October 13th will be the start date for Art Club for grades 3-8. Previously it was stated that the club would be for students in grades 1-8. At this time we do not have a person to lead an art club for grades 1 and 2. If you have an interest in leading an arts and crafts club for this age level, then please contact Mrs. Busbey.

Art Club for grades 6, 7, and 8: We will focus on different art styles each quarter. Qtr 1- Drawing, Qtr 2 - Art Books, Qtr 3 - Ceramics/School Mural, Qtr 4- Acrylic painting/beautify school dumpster. There will be a \$15.00 fee charged. Payment needs to be turned in when the permission slip is returned. Permission slips will be sent home October 7th.

Art Club for grades 3-5: 15 students from each grade level (3-5) will have an opportunity to participate. The first session will be from October 13th – November 3rd for 5th graders. The 5th graders will be making paper mache fish. The club will cost \$5.00 for materials. Permission slips will be sent home on October 7th.

Cub Scouts: Please see the attached flyer concerning an upcoming meeting for cub scouts.

Girl Scouts: The Mat-Su Girl Scout troop coordinator will be setting up a Birchtree informational parent night. This will take place in October. The date is to be determined.

Chess Club: Originally it was stated that the chess club was for students in grades 6-8. Chess club is open to students in grades 5-8.

Basketball Information

Try-outs were held at Academy Charter School for Middle School basketball. The students have been told what team they were placed on for the upcoming season (JV, C, or 6th grade). Schedules were given out to the students. Additional schedules are at the front office. Please remember to have permission slip, fee, and health physical turned in to Academy Charter/Coach Merrill as soon as possible.

4th and 5th grade basketball will begin the week of October 3rd. We are looking for parent volunteers who would like to assist/coach the 4th and 5th grade boys. If you are interested, then contact Cathy Busbey.

Parent Volunteer Survey

We are asking our parents to take a few minutes and fill out a quick survey for the school. The survey addresses volunteer hours. Click on the link below to access the survey:

<http://www.matsuk12.us/btc/Forms/TakeSurvey.asp?PageNumber=1&SurveyID=33LIm94J5p46M>

Overflowing Lost and Found!

Please help! The lost and found is turning into a mountain. If your child has lost something please ask Faye at the front desk and check out the lost and found pile. We will have all lost and found displayed at the Fall Festival. The current, unclaimed lost and found will be donated to a charity by October 7th.

Playground Committee

The initial meeting for the second phase of the playground was held on Thursday, September 22nd. Committee members will be meeting with two playscape designers next week to help plan the next phase of the playscape. Many ideas were generated at the meeting about the second phase of the playscape. If anybody has an interest in being on the committee or has ideas please contact Cathy Busbey. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 4th at 3:15.

Kim John Payne Lecture

Kim John Payne, author of *Simplicity Parenting*, will be giving a public lecture on using the extraordinary power of less to raise calmer, happier, and more secure kids. Parents will learn how to simplify toys, books, clothes, meals, bedtimes, schedules, and how to filter out the adult world.

He will be speaking on Friday, September 30th at 6:30 PM at the UAA Fine Arts Building. Tickets are still available. For tickets go to the Anchorage Waldorf website, www.waldorfak.org and click on the Kim John Payne button.

Library Update

The software and hardware to start organizing the library has been ordered. Additionally, book lists and other materials for the library are being determined at this time.