

# Birchtree Charter

Friday Update, October 21, 2011

## Thank-you!!

Birchtree would like to recognize community members who have helped in a variety of ways at our school. Of course, we are aware the entire school community contributes many volunteer hours to help our school and teachers, but this week we would like to especially recognize these people:

Shannon Minder, Sherry Walling, Dawn Valley, Heather Lee, Tina Leingang, Abby Leingang, Ruth Western, and Del Rae Berg for helping Frau Rogers with a long list of classroom projects!

Joe Germain, Victoria Nielson, and Lisa Bowman for keeping our students safe and happy at recess time!

Ed Embler for serving as our evening custodian!

Rachel Bailey for coordinating a lego club!

## Virtue of the Week

October Virtue of the Month: **Respect**.  
Please share the following with your child.

### Respect

How do you practice it? Think about how you would like others to treat you and treat them with the same dignity. How would you like others to speak to you, treat your belongings, and your right to privacy?

If you want to use someone else's things, ask, and then take good care of them. Express even your strongest feelings in a peaceful way.

Treat yourself as you feel others deserve to be treated. You deserve respect, too!

-The Virtues Project

## Halloween Activities

While we know that Halloween for most children and families is a traditionally celebrated and enjoyable holiday, at Birchtree our annual Fall Faire serves as the school-wide autumn seasonal celebration.

Therefore, we respectfully request that students not wear costumes to school on Halloween and refrain from bringing candy for themselves or other students. Some teachers may choose to plan a Halloween-related activity for the end of the day. If so, they will let you know of the specific activity.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping the focus at Birchtree on healthy learning activities 😊

## There are some cards left...Hurry they are selling fast!

The Birchtree 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are selling cards. They will be available at the front office on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

What are the cards? They are a high quality, hand printed, blank cards. The cards can be used for greetings, birthdays, or as a warm thank-you. The cards were created by the 7<sup>th</sup> graders so you will not find them anywhere else! The best part is they can be yours for \$4.00 each. We have a limited supply so come fast or they will be gone.

## Bus Transportation

Earlier this week, you received the attached letter about some limited transportation bussing options. This bussing schedule will begin **Wednesday, October 26th**.

If you would still like to "sign up", then you may do so by stopping by the office on Monday or Tuesday or e-mailing the form to [birchtreecharterschool@gmail.com](mailto:birchtreecharterschool@gmail.com).

## Geography Week

The week of November 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> is national geography week. With the help of Kristi Shea, Birchtree will be planning a family GEO night. More information to come!

## Parent Teacher Conferences

We are looking forward to seeing parents on Monday and Tuesday (October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>) for parent conferences. All parents should have received an appointment from their children's teachers. There is no school for students on these days.

## Box Tops

The Fall submission for box tops is quickly approaching. Please turn in any box tops by Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. This will give our parent volunteer plenty of time to count the box tops and fill out the paperwork.

## Lego Club

There will be an after school lego club beginning on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. The club at this time will be for students in grades 1-3. The club will meet from 3:00-4:00. There will be a limit of 15 students in the club. More clubs could be formed if there was enough interest. Additional coordinators would also be needed. Permission slips will be available at the front office on Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Bailey is the coordinator. Please contact her if you are interested in helping with the lego club!

## Welcome to our new APC Board Members!

At its meeting last week, the Birchtree Academic Policy Committee elected two new members to its Board of Directors. Brooke Loudon and Pete Houston, both Birchtree parents, will be joining the Board. The Birchtree APC is responsible for governing Birchtree Charter School, much in the same way that the School Board governs the District. The Board is responsible for upholding the terms of our charter, District policies, and Alaska State Statute. Additionally, they oversee our operating budget and serve as the principal's evaluator. We appreciate the willingness of all of our Board Members to serve on the APC.