

# Birchtree Charter

Friday Update, November 4, 2011

## Virtue of the Month

This past month students learned about respect. You are practicing respect when you . . .

- treat others as you want to be treated
- speak politely to everyone
- take special care of other people's belongings
- treat yourself to healthy food, plenty of sleep, and fresh air
- are receptive to the wisdom of your parents and teachers
- honor the rules of your family, school, and community
- Respecting yourself and others creates more harmony in our community. Thank you for practicing respect!

## Fundraiser for 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Our 8<sup>th</sup> graders are selling Northern Lights Coupon Books to raise money for their trip to Washington, D.C. If one-hundred books are sold, then the class earns \$20.00 per book. Please contact Loni Jirik at [lonijirik@gmail.com](mailto:lonijirik@gmail.com) if you would like more information.

## Harvard School of Education – interesting article

The link below connects to an article about Waldorf Education in public schools:

<http://www.hepg.org/hel/printarticle/515>

## Thank you!

Birchtree would like to recognize the following people who have helped out this past week:

- Nancy Pelphrey for helping paint and organize the library!
- Mrs. Western for sketching a mural in the foyer by woodworking and the library! The mural will be painted soon.

## BPG and APC Meetings

The next APC board meeting will on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:15 at the school. The next BPG board meeting will be on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 at the school. All are welcome to attend.

## Board Openings for Birchtree Parent's Guild

The Birchtree Parents Guild (BPG), the 501c3 fund raising organization for the school, has openings on the Board of Directors. Board membership requirements include being a Birchtree parent and being willing to uphold and represent the mission of Birchtree. The BPG is looking for people interested in leading projects for the board including; organizing events, developing fund raising opportunities, and organizing Waldorf education opportunities. We meet at 6pm every fourth Thursday of the month and have an important strategic planning retreat on Dec 2 and 3. If you are interested in applying to serve, please fill out the attached form and contact Ruthann at [drbaker@gci.net](mailto:drbaker@gci.net). Please drop-off completed application forms to the front office. Applications are due by November 16.

## Girl Scout Information

### Calling All Birchtree Girls

On **November 17th at 5:30 PM** there will be a Girl Scout information night for Birchtree girls and parents. We will meet at Birchtree Charter School in room 217 (Mrs. Hill's room). Please R.S.V.P. to Diana Jobin-Vig by November 15th with your name, grade level and parent contact information. Contact Diana at [upnorthmountainrunner@yahoo.com](mailto:upnorthmountainrunner@yahoo.com). Hope to see you then.

## Bus Transportation

The busses are dropping-off and picking-up our students. The pick-up locations are Wasilla Target (at 7:20 AM) and the old Carr's parking lot (at 8:10-8:15 AM). Students are being dropped off at Wasilla Target (at 3:30-3:35 PM) and AT&T center (at 3:40 PM). If you are interested in having your son/daughter ride the bus, then contact the school.

Transportation has now added the opportunity for students to be dropped-off in the afternoon at the old Carrs in Palmer. The drop-off time will be 3:45-3:50 PM.

If you interested in this additional time, contact the office.

## Winter Gear

### (It is that time of the year)

Please remember to send students to school with snowpants, jackets, hats, mittens, and boots. The students will go outside unless the weather is really cold ☺. The district guideline is that students may be outside to -10 degrees. This temperature does factor in wind-chill. Our students are outside for recess and movement.

## Picture Re-take Day

The picture re-take day has been re-scheduled to Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. **It will not be on November 9<sup>th</sup> at was previously mentioned.**

If parents would like to order pictures online, then parents can login at [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com). The ID for Birchtree is AK211492Y1.

## Geography Bee and Club

In the next few weeks more information will be sent home about a geography club beginning at Birchtree for students in grades 4-8. The school would like to have interested students participate in the Geography Bee, which will be later this year.

## Lego Club Update

We have 50 students signed up for Lego club. Because of the response we will have three groups. The first meeting will be an informational/organization meeting in room 231 (Mr. Bowen's room) on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 3:15-4:15. If you need more information or are interested in helping, then please contact Rachael Bailey at [ribails2@yahoo.com](mailto:ribails2@yahoo.com).

## Reminder – No school

There will be no school for students on Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. The staff at Birchtree will be involved in professional development activities with Winterberry Waldorf School in Anchorage.

Just in case in you need another copy of the school calendar, we have attached one.