

Birchtree Charter

Friday Update, November 18, 2011

Many Thanks!

Birchtree Charter School would like to recognize the following parents who have helped the school during the past few weeks:

- Jennifer Budde for painting the staff lounge!
- Heather Lee for painting the staff lounge!
- Faye Trammell and Kelly Nelius for painting and organizing the staff lounge!
- Ed Emblar for a successful coaching season of the 4th and 5th grade boy's basketball team!

BPG Auction Update

The Auction Committee needs a theme for the auction. The Committee would like to include as many families as possible in the decision making process. Parents please feel to contact Ruthann Baker at drbaker@gci.net to express ideas for a theme.

Upcoming Important Dates

- Saturday, November 19th at Teeland Middle School: Come and cheer on the 5th grade girls as they play basketball at the district jamboree. The Birchtree girls will be playing from 1:15 to 4:00.
- Monday, November 28th at the school: A nurse will be on site to provide TB tests to students whose parents have signed them up for the TB test.
- Thursday, December 1st at the Palmer First Baptist Church in Palmer: Birchtree's Winter Concert. The concert will begin at 6:30.
- Friday and Saturday, December 2nd and 3rd: Joint APC Board and BPG Board retreat.
- Friday, December 16th: No school for students.

Virtue of the Month - Forgiveness

For adults: "Forgiveness is overlooking mistakes and letting go of resentments. Forgiveness frees us from the needless pain of reliving a hurt over and over. Forgiveness doesn't make a wrong choice right; it brings the generosity of spirit to release it. Forgiveness can heal even the most grievous offense. It brings a blessed opportunity for a clean start. Accepting Divine forgiveness transforms our hopeless guilt into resolve. Self-forgiveness moves us forward, ready to do things differently, with compassion for ourselves and faith that we can change. Forgiveness opens the door of hope."

To share with our students: "Being forgiving is giving someone another chance after they have done something wrong. Everyone makes mistakes. Instead of revenge, make amends. Forgive yourself too. Instead of feeling hopeless after a mistake, decide to act differently, and have faith that you can change."

Reading Information about Waldorf Education

Please open the following link for an article about Waldorf education:

http://www.allianceforchildhood.org/sites/allianceforchildhood.org/files/file/crisis_in_early_ed.pdf

Lost and Found/Winter Gear

The lost and found area is again overflowing. Please check in the lost and found room by the front office for any items that have become missing. Items will be donated to a charity on Friday, December 16th.

Also, students need to have the appropriate winter gear for recess and movement classes. With the temperature dipping down to single digits and the wind picking up, keeping warm during recess and movement is important 😊.

BPG Information

Birchtree Parent Guild Update

At its meeting last night, the Birchtree Parent Guild added the following members to its Board of Directors:

Heather Lee, Birchtree parent
Kristi Shea, Birchtree parent
Amy Sharrer, Birchtree Grade 1 teacher
Kelly Nelius, Birchtree Administrative Assistant

They join the rest of the Board which includes Ruthann Baker, Jennifer Budde, Greg Stuckey, Jo Terwilliger, Lori Berrigan, and Lora Mahoney. Thank you to all of these individuals for being willing to serve in this important function.

Winter Concert

On Thursday, December 1st the Birchtree students will be performing for their parents and family members. Please join us at the Palmer Baptist Church for this event. The concert will begin at 6:30.

MYAC Basketball

Attached to the update is information regarding the upcoming MYAC basketball season. This program is for students in grades 2-8 who are interested in developing and practicing their basketball skills.

Geography Club

A geography club will be starting on Tuesday, November 22nd and will continue through until January 10, 2012. The purpose of this club would be to prepare students to take part in the school and state geography bee. The club would be open to students in grades 4-8. The club will meet from 3:00-4:00 on Tuesdays. Permission slips will be available at the front office. Please contact Kristi Shea for more information at Kristi.shea@matsuk12.us.

Is there an interest in...?

Some of our parents and students have been expressing an interest in various clubs and after school sports programs for the second semester. All of our clubs and sports need to have APC approval. At this time we are looking at the interest level for the following activities: cross-country ski club (students would need to have their own skis), chess club for younger students, and middle school girl's volleyball. Please talk with Mrs. Busbey or email her at cathy.busbey@matsuk12.us and provide her with your feedback.