

Birchtree Charter

Friday-Update-on-Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Gratitude

Birchtree would like to recognize the following parents:

Mary Beth Feldman for answering the "We-Need-You – Call" to assist on a committee!

Loni Jirik "for filling in as our lead parent to begin the second semester. Also, a big thanks to Joanna Stokinger for volunteering to be our permanent lead parent." (Mr. Bowen)

Richalyn Smith; Jack Horner and friend, Declan; and Angie Goguen and friend, Valerie, for helping in the library.

Edward Embler "for hanging wall clips in my classroom, and to Rich Nevitt for helping with this as well and donating and cutting classroom chalkboards for each student. Thank you!" (Frau Rogers)

Stephanie Bowen, Sarah Beaudry, Jo Terwilliger, Billie Haan, Heather Lee, Joanna Stokinger for attending the Valentine Tea.

Heather Lee for donating the "Thought Box" to be found at the front office next week for all parents to contact Tisha

Talk to Tisha

The parent "Thought Box," which has been touted as a future means of communicating with me, will be at school next week. If you have any suggestions, concerns, or praises that you would like to share, please feel free to drop me a note in the front office.

In regard to the "Conflict Resolution Guidelines" that have been part of our previous Friday Updates, we would like parents to know that the "Conflict Resolution Form" can be accessed at the front office or at our website (www.birchtreecharterschool.org) under Resources.

Call or E-mail Tish - with questions, ideas, or to set up an appointment 745-2895 or jonestish@hotmail.com

Upcoming Important Dates

- **Tuesday, February 21st:** Wet-on-Wet Watercolor How-To for parents at 3:45. (see info below)
- **Wednesday, February 22nd:** Teacher Appreciation Luncheon. (Mrs. Folsom's and Mr. Klauder's parents please see below)
- **Wednesday, February 22th:** Mr. Klauder's Class Meeting at 6:30 p.m. – in the classroom
- **Thursday, February 23rd:** German Carnival Parade from 1:45-2:45. (see info below)
- **Thursday, February 23rd:** 6th Grade Family Night from 6:00-7:30. (see info below)
- **Wednesday, February 29th:** BPG Meeting at 3:30 p.m.
- **Friday, March 9th:** "The 3rd on the 9th" – Parent/Teacher Conferences (see info below)

No School Thursday, February 16th and Friday, February 17th

Virtue of the Month - Kindness

"I feel that there are a lot of kind kids at this school. Kind kids don't call people names, and they don't push people down. They also stick up for others when they are being teased."

-Birchtree 6th Grade Student

Partnership with our Parents!

Social Events & Meetings

Wet-on-Wet Watercolor How-To

Would you like to learn about a calm, inexpensive, beautiful activity that you can do with your child? **On February 21st at 3:45**, Anna Folsom will be teaching parents how to do wet-on-wet watercolor painting with their children. With simple techniques and materials, you can easily incorporate this activity into your life at home. Hope to see you there.

Wednesday, February 22nd

For the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon this month, Mrs. Folsom's and Mr. Klauder's class will be providing pot pies, salad and dessert for our incredible teachers. Parents of these classes can help in many ways: setting-up, cleaning-up, providing salad and/or dessert, or donating \$5 toward the purchase of ingredients. Parents will be contacted by Laura Sampson or Stephanie Nielson, or you may contact them at 745-1645 (Laura) or 631-9995 (Stephanie).

German Carnival Parade

All 1st-8th graders will be celebrating the coming of spring with a parade at the end of the day on **February 23rd at 1:45**. Children are to create a simple, unique costume within their designated themes, and Frau Rogers is asking for parental help from the 21st-23rd during the hours of 10:00-3:00. If you can assist with your time, please contact the front office (745-1831). If you are able to bring baking ingredients, as listed on the sheet sent home this week, please bring those labeled by grade to the front office as well.

6th Grade Family Night

Mr. Bowen's class is sharing in a family potluck on **February 23rd at 6:00**. Each family is asked to bring a food item to share. If your last name starts with B-G, please bring a main dish; H-M, salads or bread; and R-V, drinks. Also, if you would like, bring along a board game to share or trade.

The 3rd on the 9th

Parent/Teacher Conferences are happening **Friday, March 9th**. We would like to invite parents to arrive early or stay after their conference to enjoy some food and fun up on the 3rd floor of our school.

We Need You!

The 3rd on the 9th

If you would like to help in some capacity by decorating, cleaning, providing food or lending hot plates to keep dishes warm on Parent/Teacher Conference day, please contact Tisha or your lead classroom volunteer.

Committees in Need:

Thank-You committee: The Parent Guild is forming a Thank-You committee for ideas and ways to thank the many parents who go above and beyond to help. Teacher Amy Sharrer will chair the committee.

Grant Committee: The school is actively pursuing grant applications, and our chair, Kelly Strawn, can use your help. We have attained a Federal Grant this winter for the Waldorf training of our teachers and a Schoolyard Habitat Grant, but there are many others for which we would like to apply.

BCS Social Committee: The BPG would like to have a BCS Social for our community's parents at the Palmer Depot April 7th. Would you like to be a part of the planning?

School Supply Committee: As we approach our next APC Budget meeting in March, we need to have solid numbers for our school supply operational costs. Cara Horvath is the committee chair and could use your help in assessing this need.

If you would like to be a part of any of these committees, please contact Tisha (see above).

Nutrition Know-How

Take part in local, fresh, and high quality produce and meat by purchasing a share option in Sun Circle Farm. This is a small family farm in Palmer run by Anne-Corinne Kell, along with her husband and two daughters. The season runs 17-19 weeks starting around the first week of June through October. The best means of contacting Anne is by e-mail (ancokell@gmail.com), and visit their website at www.suncirclefarm.com.

As a reminder, please send your child(ren) to school with a snack on Pizza Friday. Additionally, we encourage that you provide them with additional items for that lunch – to provide a well-rounded meal. Thank you!