

# Birchtree Charter

## Friday Update, January 20, 2012

### Virtue of the Month - Tolerance

#### How We Can Practice Tolerance

We can appreciate each other's differences.

We can free ourselves of prejudice.

We can refrain from judging ourselves or others.

We can forgive mistakes.

We can accept what we cannot change.

We can balance acceptance with justice.

### Online School Fee Payment

For parents who decided to pay their school fees in two payments, the second payment is due by the end of January. In addition, any parent who has not paid their fees for this school year is asked to do so at this time. The fee is \$100.00 for school supplies.

Additionally, you can now pay your school supply fee online with a credit card. Go to <https://www.schoolcashionline.com/> and click "Get started today" to create an account. Once you have an account, add your children to the account and you will be able to pay their supply fees. Call Kelly Nelius at 745-1831 if you need any assistance.

### Volunteer Accountant Needed

BPG needs an accountant to set up our QuickBooks chart of accounts. We will need deferred revenue, grant receivables, and temporary restricted asset accounts.

Additionally, we are looking for someone to give limited advice and review of transactions throughout the year.

Please contact the school if you are able to help.

### Upcoming Important Dates

- Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>: Last day to send in opt out forms for the school connectedness survey.
- Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>: Student assembly for grades 1, 3, 5, and 7 at AT&T Center from 1:30-2:30.
- Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>: BPG Board meeting at 3:30 at the school.
- Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>: Pastries for Parents. Starts at 8:30 and is in the music room.

#### **The following dates are different from the rest of the school district:**

- Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>: No school for students. Professional development days for staff.

### Student Assembly

On Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> students in 1<sup>st</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade will have the opportunity to perform a skit, verse, or an additional feature of their class work to the other students in grades 1, 3, 5, and 7.

Each class will perform as a group for the other classrooms in attendance. The performances are for the classes to share with each other an aspect of their learning.

Parents are welcome to attend the assembly. The assembly will be from 1:30-2:30 at AT&T Center. Bus transportation will be provided from Birchtree to and from AT&T Center.

## Pizza Fundraiser on Fridays

Pizza for lunch will continue in January on Fridays only. An order form is attached to the update. Also, we would like to remind parents that when students do order pizza for lunch they receive the slice(s) of pizza and a juice box only.

Also, please have pizza order forms turned in by Wednesday at 3:00. The pizzas need to be placed by Wednesday in order to receive them in time on Friday.

Coming in the near future will be soup for lunch on Wednesdays. More information about this will be forthcoming.

## Extra-Curricular

Birchtree has several extra-curricular clubs for second semester. Lego club meets on Mondays for grades 1-3; Chess Club meets on Wednesdays; Karate Club also meets on Wednesdays; and Art Club meets on Thursdays. If you would like more information about any of these clubs please contact the school.

Elementary track and field and middle school track and field will be beginning in April. More information will be sent home as the start date approaches.



## Library Update

We are looking for someone who is artistically inclined that would be interested in making signs for the library. If you are interested, please email Kelly Nelius at [kelly.nelius@matsuk12.us](mailto:kelly.nelius@matsuk12.us) or call 745-1831.

Also, we still have a substitute librarian hard at work cataloging our existing materials!

While you are welcome to browse, please don't take or move any of the books at this time. This will help to ensure that the cataloging will go smoothly.

## School Connectedness Survey

The Mat-Su School District is requesting that students in grades 5 -8, along with certified and non-certified staff complete the School Connectedness Survey.

The survey is anonymous. The students in grades 5-8 will be taking the survey on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at Birchtree.

Attached to the update is the survey for parents to review. Also, attached to the update is a letter from the Mat-Su Borough School District, Office of Instruction that explains exactly why the survey is beneficial for the schools in the Mat-Su District.

For Birchtree the survey would help us by allowing us to know the perception of the school by the students.

Parents can opt out their child from taking the survey. In order to opt out please fill out the attached form and email the form to [ella.trammell@matsuk12.us](mailto:ella.trammell@matsuk12.us) or bring the signed form to the front office by Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>.