

Birchtree Friday Update

Birchtree Charter School 7107 E. Palmer Wasilla Hwy. Palmer, AK



April 10, 2015

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Happy Spring! As we head into the last six weeks of school I want to thank Birchtree parents for their dedication and hard work to make their child's education successful at Birchtree. We really could not do it without you!

Please pay Second Semester Supply fees. You may check at the Front Office if you are unsure if you owe. The supply fees are due prior to returning for the 2015/2016 school year. If you are incurring a financial hardship, please ask at the Front Office for a Supply Fee Scholarship.

There are some upcoming events that parents need to be aware of for the last few weeks. Intent to enroll forms are due today!

The spring concert will be on Tuesday, April 21st at 6:30PM Please have your students arrive by 6 PM. We have changed the location to the First Baptist Church in Palmer. The concert is for students in grades 4-8, but any family/ community member is welcome to attend.

Our 8th graders leave for their Washington, DC trip on Friday, May 1st. The class has worked relentlessly on fundraising for the trip. We wish them a safe, educational, and fun trip! Also, in May is the May Faire sponsored by the BPG. The event is on Saturday, May 2nd. On May 7th our 5th grade classes will travel to Anchorage to take part in the 2015 Pentathlon. Lastly, the 7th graders will be holding a rummage sale on Friday, May 8th and Saturday, May 9th at the school.

I would also like to encourage people to attend a BPG or an APC meeting. Both of these groups do so much for the school. The BPG organizes school-wide activities and are always willing to listen to new ideas. The next BPG meeting is Wednesday, April 15th. The APC sets policy for the school and develops the strategic plan for the school. The next APC meeting is Wednesday, May 13th.

As always my door and Mr. Bowen's door is open to anyone who needs to speak with us concerning any aspect of the school or your child's education.

Enjoy the warm weather and the sunny days.

Warmly,

Mrs. Busbey, Principal

Save This Date

April 11th: Middle School Chess tournament See Mr. Klauder for more information.

April 17th: Middle School Social after school from 3:30-5:00 PM

April 18th: Elementary Chess Tournament. See Mr. Klauder for more information

April 22nd: The lottery will be held at 7 PM

April 29th: Jo-Ann Climenhage, How to bolster their child(ren) learning at home lecture will take place from 6:30-8 PM

April 30th: 2nd grade plays and potluck dinner 5:00 PM

May 1-8: 8th Grade trip to Washington DC.

May 2nd May Faire 11 AM - 3 PM

May 7th: 5th Grade Pentathlon @ Goose Lake in Anchorage Bus provided only to Goose Lake departs at 9 AM

May 8th and 9th: BPG rummage sale.

May 9th: Elementary Track Meet Palmer High School

May 15th: 8th Grade promotion at Mat-Su Senior Center 6 PM

May 18th: Last day of school for students. Enjoy your summer break!!

Reminders

BPG and the 7th grade class are looking for good quality donated items for this year's rummage sale! The sale will be held May 8th and 9th at the school. Donations will be accepted each Thursday from 1-2 pm. If you have any questions please contact Mr. David Auld at 315-3079.

Elementary Track practice starts

Middle School social will be April 17th from 3:30 until 5:00 PM. The theme is Lord of the Rings.

Jo-Ann Climenhage, an expert in assessments and learning support for Waldorf schools, will be coming to Anchorage Waldorf School and Birchtree Charter School during the last week in April and the first in May. More information to come in next week's update.

The Intent to Enroll Forms are due today, Friday, April 10. Any Intent to Enroll Forms completed after April 10th will be put on a waitlist.

Please pay Second Semester Supply fees. You may check at the Front Office if you are unsure if you owe. The supply fees are due prior to returning for the 2015/2016 school year. If you are incurring a financial hardship, please ask at the Front Office for a Supply Fee Scholarship.

4th Grade Needs

Mrs. Johndro's class is in need of donations from our Birchtree Community. Mrs. Johndro's 4th grade class is helping children from Make a Wish Foundation.

We are in need of travel items such as: Crayons, books, paper, sunscreen, chapstick, snacks for travel, games, and anything that a child would enjoy while traveling.

There is a purple tub in front of Mrs. Johndro's classroom door, you or your child may drop items in at any time. All items will be collected on April 13th. If you have any questions please contact Heather Wagoner @ 841-6966 or wagonerheather@hotmail.com

Mrs. Wallin's News

Dear Mrs. Hill's first grade parents, Please send back any books from our classroom library. These may be marked SW, HILL, LANG or several other spine tabs. I'd like to collect these and get them returned to correct spots. I am especially focused on getting the 2 books per day books back to correct collections. This proved too much to remember for some children. Parents, I am willing to put books for a week in your hands on Monday and have you return them to me on Friday. Yes, they are easy sight word readers. PLEASE take time to listen to your child read as these are the words that weave all our stories together.

May Fair event is Sat May 2 11am to 3 pm. Our class project is a cheerio birdfeeder. Materials and a sample will be provided. We need to supply manpower! A sign up list is posted outside our classroom door. PLEASE fill it up!

Happy Spring! Mrs. Wallin

Middle School Track

If your student athlete is interested in participating in the middle school track and field program at Birchtree, you MUST have the following submitted to the office prior to participation:

- * Signed participation form
- * Current school physical on file
- * \$60 participation fee

Your student will NOT be allowed to participate until all three of these items are completed.

Please be aware that the track season is very brief — starts April 13 and ends May 13 — so attendance at every practice is important. It is my priority to assure that our athletes are trained safely and consistently. Consistent attendance will assist in injury prevention and maximum benefit to your athlete.

For those students that have already been participating in the pre-conditioning, please be sure your fees are paid, if you have not already done so, and that we have a copy of your physical on record.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions or concerns (hacski@mtaonline.net <<mailto:hacski@mtaonline.net>>; 907-232-0660)

Thank you and I look forward to a fun season with your student athletes!

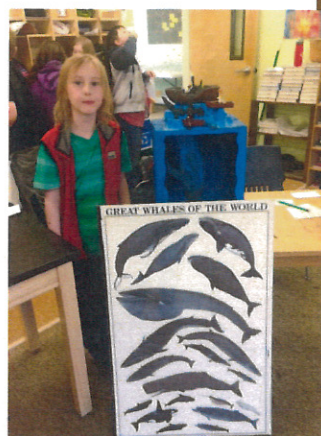
Heather Lee
Coach
907-232-0660

Hildegard Von Bingen



Art work by Tyler Germain who has recently broken his right hand and has learned to draw with his left hand. Amazing Job Tyler!

Mr. Clarks 4th grade Animal projects



Gratitude's and Expressions.

5th grade parents, Thank you for encouraging and supporting your child in getting the state reports completed! Thank you 6th grade for making a special visit to our Question and Answer gallery. Thank you also 1st & 4th grade classes, Mr. Bowen, & Mrs. Busby, Frau Rogers and Mrs. Vander Shrier for visiting our displays. Also, thank you 5th grade parents for sending in extra healthy snacks for our class during AMP week! Thank you all the parents who came to the Pentathlon meeting! Mrs. Tran

Thank you To Birchtree parent Bill Mackreth for volunteering to host a First aid and CPR training for all Birchtree staff.

Thank you to our Acting principal Mr. David Booth for filling in while Mr. Bowen and Mrs. Busbey are gone.

Twisted color Jump Ropes



Twisted Colors Jump Ropes are back! Sixth Grade will be making jump ropes for sale for the rest of the year. Order forms will be in the office and, once filled out, can be either brought to Mrs. Feldman or put into her mailbox. Please note that, due to a need for efficiency, we will not have colors requested on the form. However, if you wish to come up to Mrs. Feldman's room and see what colors are available, you may do so. Child size are \$7.50 adult size \$10.00 and double dutch are \$20.00.

Sprockidz Summer Mountain Bike Program For Kids

What age group is Sprockidz open to?

Ages 8-18; coaches are always needed too!

What is the cost?

The cost may fluctuate each year but here are some numbers from last year:

2014: \$75 for first child; \$25 for each additional child

The cost of Sprockidz will always include the VMBaH membership fee. Registered kids must be a member of Valley Mountain Bikers and Hikers. If your family is already of member of VMBaH, contact us upon sign up and receive a lower rate.

The registration fee also includes a Sprockidz t-shirt, as well as all the fun they'll have this summer!



More information is available on our website at <http://sprockidz.weebly.com/>

April/May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5	6 Day 2	7 Day 3	8 Day 1	9 Early Release Day 2	10 Intent to enroll forms are due Day 3	11 Middle School Chess tournament TBA
12	13 Day 1	14 Day 2	15 BPG 2nd semester Supply fees due Day 3	16 Early Release Day 1	17 Day 2	18 Elementary School Chess tournament TBA
19	20 Day 3	21 Spring Music Concert 6 PM @ Palmer First Baptist Church Day 1	22 Lottery 7PM Day 2	23 Early Release Day 3	24 Day 1	25
26	27 Day 2	28 Day 3	29 Day 1	30 2nd grade plays and pot luck at 5 pm Day 2	1 Pastries for Parents 8-10 AM 8th grade leaves for D.C. Day 3	2
3	4 Day 1	5 Day 2	6 Day 3	7 5th Grade Pentathlon at Goose Lake Early Release Day 1	8 Professional Development day No school for students. 7th Grade Rummage Sale	9 7th grade rummage sale

Birchtree Summer Arts Camp 2015 is to be held [June 8-13th](#). I am honored to be passed the torch as Coordinator and continue what began last year. Our amazing volunteers and instructors served 34 campers in 2014 and raised a net profit of \$1600.31 for the BPG. It is my hope to expand camp attendance this year, hire quality instructors and artists, involve more of our community, and inspire people to create! This year, adult classes and more child age groups are to be included.

As an art instructor practicing in Alaska since 2009, I know that it's important to have a clear vision when it comes to promoting your services and feeling invested and recognized when others want you to be a part of what they are doing. Your involvement is priceless. By donating your time or resources by instructing or volunteering, you are raising funds so that the Birchtree Parent Guild can provide valuable resources for the students and teachers of BCS. Please consider joining this exciting adventure with us!

INSTRUCTORS:

Instructors are invited to take part in the [June 2nd Saturday](#) Birchtree Summer Arts Camp Showcase in order to promote their services, free of charge. They are encouraged to display an artist statement as well as host a table and greet attendees with information about their services. Instructor information will also be displayed on our webpage. Instructors in the following areas are needed:

Visual Arts
Culinary Arts
Circus Arts
Dance
Gardening
Woodworking
Fiber Arts
Photography
Drama
Adventure
Other



VOLUNTEERS

There are many opportunities to volunteer for the camp. What a fun way to meet new people, be a part of your community, and gain experience being part of a team! If you are a parent of a BCS student, this is a wonderful way to earn your volunteer hours! Donations are tax deductible. Areas of need are as follows:

Materials Coordinator
Publicity Coordinator
Finance and Registration Coordinator
Facility Coordinator
Clean-Up Crew
Set-Up Crew
Childcare Coordinator
Childcare Workers
Food Coordinator
Meal Preparation & Donation
Grant Writer
Art Showcase Coordinator
Art Showcase Crew

Victoria Peterson
Birchtree Summer Arts Camp Coordinator
Email: thecanvascafe@yahoo.com
Birchtreesummerartscamp.blogspot.com





April 6, 2015

Dear Parents of Birchtree Orchestra Students:

We are looking forward to our Spring Concert! It will be held at 1st Baptist Church (1150 E. Helen Drive) in Palmer on Tuesday, April 21st at 6:30 p.m. This church is located on the hill behind the Noisy Goose Cafe and across from the state fairgrounds.

Our twice-yearly orchestral concerts are an integral part of our music program. They are a culmination of the work done throughout the school year and serve as an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The group dynamic in orchestra is a learning opportunity for both personal and community growth. The successful performance of the group depends heavily on every member being present. Therefore, student attendance at the concerts is expected and mandatory. If there is a significant reason why your child cannot attend, it is crucial that you inform Mrs. Eddings in writing as soon as possible so she can arrange an alternative performance opportunity.

In order to have the best success, we will have a rehearsal field trip on site the afternoon of the concert, April 21st. It will be held at 1st Baptist Church from 12:30pm until 2:30pm. Students will be bussed to and from the church, leaving Birchtree at 12:00pm and arriving back at 3:00pm. We will be leaving all instruments at the church to be tuned after the rehearsal. ***PLEASE RETURN the enclosed permission slip to your classroom teacher no later than April 14. If your student will be riding separate from the bus, please also include the liability waiver and insurance forms. Parent volunteers are greatly needed to help set up chairs prior to student arrival and also to help with crowd control during the rehearsal. Please let Mrs. Eddings know if you plan to be there so she can plan accordingly.

That evening, students should arrive at 6:00 p.m. for tuning. Concert dress for students should be in keeping with this special event. Boys should wear dress pants and a dress shirt. Girls should wear dress pants, a skirt with a dress shirt, or a comfortable dress. We request no dresses or shirts with bare shoulders. We also request that students do not wear jeans or t-shirts. To facilitate a smoother overall program, students are going to be seated with their classes during the concert.

The students have worked very hard and we look forward to sharing a night of beautiful music with our Birchtree families.

Warmly,

Mrs. Jessie Eddings, Orchestra Teacher, Grades 4 – 8
Jessica.eddings@matsuk12.us

Mat Valley Dance Studio

Classes begin in June!
AGES 2 thru ADULT!

M.V.D.

10823 E Palmer-Wasilla Hwy
Palmer, AK

Ph: 907-745-1MVD

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