



Birch Grove Primary School

November 2017



Mr. Swanson says.....

Hello Families,

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who assisted TEPTO with the staff appreciation last week. Continue to visit the Birch Grove website to access our monthly calendar and review all the up coming events and dates. A reminder that the rotation special schedule continues to rotate when school is not in session due to a school cancellation.

PBIS update—The students are motivated to earn 50 GROW Cards for demonstrating positive behavior actions. The students are excited to participate in the special classroom reinforcement opportunities. Be sure to ask your child about the Matrix.

We are planning to host an assembly on November 10, honoring veterans in the BGP community. We would like to invite all veterans of Birch Grove Primary School families to our special Veterans Day ceremony at 9:15am. It could be a mom, dad, grandma, grandpa, aunt, uncle, or cousin of a Birch Grove student! Students are encouraged to wear red, white and blue. Students who are members of the Cub scouts or Girl scouts are encouraged to wear their uniform on the day.

We are looking forward to having everyone in the building this week for parent teacher conferences. Conferences are an opportunity to discuss the progress that your child has made since the start of the year. Grade level standards and learning expectations will be shared at the conference. Report cards will be available for viewing and printing on the Power School Portal starting on December 8. Please contact the office if you questions with accessing the Power School Portal.

Safety is our top priority and **all doors** will be **locked at all times**. All visitors will need to be buzzed in and need to stop in the office. All visitors need to sign in and receive an identification badge to wear in the building. Pre K visitors at 11:20 pickup will wait in the front lobby for the students and staff to come to the front. The adults for the Pre K student drop off/ pickup will be in the front lobby. Please wait for a staff member to greet you. At 3:10 pickup time, please wait in the front lobby. Visitors for the 3:10 end of the day pickup will need to be buzzed in at the back entrance and wait in hallway next the café for a staff member to verify ID. The back side entrance next to café will be closed from 9-3:00 and all visitors are to use the main entrance. FRC visitors will be buzzed in at FRC side door entrance from 7-6:00.

Important dates:

- November 2— Principal Breakfast 9:15 and early release at 12:45
- November 3—No school / parent teacher conferences
- November 6—TEPTO meeting 7:00pm at Birch Grove
- November 10—Veterans Day - Veterans are invited to the assembly at 9:15AM to honor veterans in our community. You must register with Main Office.
- November 22 -24—No school Thanksgiving

PLEASE send in a note if you are picking up your child at the end of the day. Calling and interrupting classrooms is disruptive to the learning process. End of the day pickup is in the café at **3:20**.

The annual Hat and Mitten drive sponsored by the Tolland Community Women and from the Heart will be starting. Students can place the donated items in the boxes in the lobby. The grade with the highest number of items will receive a pajama day.

We wish all of the Birch Grove families a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. We are grateful to be part of such a wonderful school community. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call Mr. Swanson(x30903).

Grade Level News!

Each grade is working on the following...

Preschool

- Working on letters F-I
- All About Me unit
- Pre Rhyming & sequencing skills

Kindergarten

- Things we are thankful for...
- Family and Nutrition
- Math—Numbers, counting and adding numbers 1-10

Grade 1

- Social Studies – Neighborhoods, Veterans Day
- Language Arts— verb endings—s,ed, ing, possessives with S and Short I words
- Math - fact families, subtraction and three addend equations
- Writing—Informational unit

Grade 2

- Language Arts— unit 2- skills: story structure, prediction, and fantasy/realism
- Math - Math facts and place value to the thousands

Health Center Update

As we have seen first hand, the New England weather can be quite unpredictable! Please have your children dress appropriately for the weather, as they will be going out for recess every day that the weather is 20°F and above. Dress in layers and don't forget hats and mittens! It can be rather windy at Birch Grove.

Please remember to report your child's absence by leaving a message for the nurse @ 860-870-6755 by 9:00 am. Children must be fever/vomiting free for 24 hours (without the use of medicine) to return to school.

Please launder and return borrowed clothing to the nurse ASAP. Donations of gently used SWEATPANTS (boys or girls) size 5 and UP would be greatly appreciated!

**Reminder to all Preschool and Pre K parents: Flu shots are required per State of Connecticut. Documentation of vaccination needs to be provided to the school nurse prior to December 31. Thank you!

Theme of the month is ~~~ Cooperation ~~~