

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

299 Main St, Burlington, VT 05401 • 864-1791

Date and Volume Number

From the Principal's Desk

Next week the Edmunds Campus will be practicing an Evacuation Drill. Technically, a fire drill is an evacuation drill in that we empty the building. This particular drill will include leaving the campus to a pre-arranged safe space at Champlain College. In case of an actual fire, First Responders (Fire and Police) would be working to put out the fire which would involve fire engines, ambulances, police cars, hoses and high pressure water all descending rapidly on the campus. We would want the students to be safely out of the way at a location that would also facilitate parents or emergency contacts being able to pick them up. We need to familiarize the students with the process so that they are calm and able to follow instructions should we need to actually leave the campus. We need to test our systems to make sure that our evacuation plan works smoothly. The drill also gives our partner organization to opportunity to see how their systems work in response to having over 800 people descend on their site. After the evacuation drill, we take time to review the drill to determine whether any systems need to be fine-tuned. Those involved in reviewing the process include the safety teams at all three schools, and the Burlington Police and Fire Departments.

What will your child experience during an evacuation? We may start the drill with the fire alarm or we may announce that we are evacuating to Champlain - both ways are actual ways to start the drill. The students immediately get up and calmly proceed according to a route they have been taught and practiced. They are expected to be quiet throughout the entire drill. We take attendance as soon as we have arrived at our designated safe spaces to insure that every student is accounted for. Our teachers have safety bags with rosters, contact information and some quiet activity for the students (often a book that the teacher can read to them).

The students understand why we do drills and why they need to be quiet. You can ask them about drills, and what they need to do. I'm pretty sure that most will be able to tell their parents why they need to be quiet. They understand that they each play an important part in keeping everyone safe with their cooperation. You would be amazed to see how well 300 elementary age students are able to remain quiet. If they have forgotten, please remind them that their silence is so that everyone can hear instructions during an emergency.

October 12, 2018

Up Coming Events:

- Oct. 15 - Picture Retake Day
- Oct. 19 - In-Service: **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**
- Oct. 22 - Winter Coat Swap Begins
- Oct. 25 - **EARLY RELEASE:** 11:30 AM
- Oct. 31 - Annual Costume Parade

Whole School Assembly**October 18, 2018****Art Residency****Mrs. Flaherty & Goldsmith's Class Leading**

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If there were a need to move to Champlain College because of an actual emergency, the district would use our School Messenger system to alert all numbers in the emergency contacts listed for your student - by phone, email and text to the nature of the emergency. You would get instructions at that time as to what is happening and what you should do. Should you receive a text from your child stating that they are being moved off Campus, please tell them to cooperate fully and follow all adult instructions. Your part is to wait for a call from the district. Please do not call the district if your child texts you. The lines need to be kept open for First Responders. Should the emergency be real, you will receive notification. I will be asking the district to involve you in the upcoming drill by using School Messenger so that you can also experience what will happen for you in the case of an actual emergency.

FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

Every year, children in kindergarten and odd numbered grades receive vision & hearing screening following Vermont School Health Screening Guidelines. Parents are notified if the screening indicates a medical follow-up is necessary, so "no news is good news". Parents are permitted to opt their children out of these screenings. Please contact the school nurse before October 29th if you do not want your child's vision and/or hearing screened this year.

PTO NEWS

PTO LEADERS: Jenny Sullivan, Pam Moreau and Stacey Kelleher
PTO CONTACT: pto@eespto.org

EDMUNDS ELEMENTARY COAT SWAP BEGINS

OCTOBER 22

As the weather turns colder and we assess our families' winter coat situation, please remember Edmunds Elementary annual coat swap. Clean, used coats and winter wear that you can pass down to a friend in the Edmunds community will be greatly appreciated. These can be brought to the main lobby. Also, remember, you don't have to give to get!

FOUR WINDS BAKE SALE AT THE I-89 WILLISTON REST AREAS IS COMING UP ON SATURDAY,

OCTOBER 27TH

We need volunteers to take shifts at our tables in the rest area (North & southbound) during the day. This is the only fundraiser for the year to make this important nature-based program happen in our school! Please contact Jens Hawkins-Hilke (jhilke@gmail.com) to sign up to work a table at the bake sale. We'll be reaching out to the school community in coming weeks for details on how to drop off donations (baked goods or financial contributions welcome).