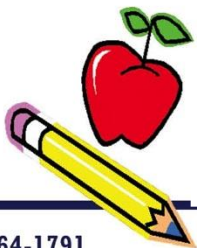


FRIDAY



FLASH


EDMUNDS
 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

From the Principal's Desk

I was thinking about how watching television impacted what I do. Television is a very passive activity. It requires no real thought or energy. Now don't get me wrong, I think all of us deserve a little down time and even though I've cut the cable, I have found Roku answers all my "veg. out" needs. But we also need to recognize when watching someone else live their lives, whether fictional or real, we are doing less with our own lives, our own brains and bodies. Believe it or not, reading burns more calories than watching tv, because we are actually engaging our brains more.

I've had a lot of nostalgic conversations with adults, reminiscing about the activities we did as kids - playing in the woods, building forts and tree houses, playing games with neighborhood kids like kick the can, or capture the flag and so many other things. Houses were constructed from broken branches, with piles of leaves representing beds, and stones representing the kitchen. A ball of twine could result in furniture made from sticks lashed together. The thing was, these activities entertained us for hours and even days. Back when I was a child, we had only the three major networks and public television, and most shows were for adults. Whether indoors or out, the preferred activity was play. We were enriched because rather than passively watching other people live their lives, whether pretend or real, we were living our own lives, creating and doing.

The thing that we need to be conscious of is balancing the passive activity of watching others live their lives, with time for our kids to live their own, doing and creating their own visions. Children will take the easy route. They will plunk themselves down with the remote. We have to be the ones who protect the time for them to develop their creative ability and turn off the TV and the video games. We need to be the ones to tell them to go play - outside or in. And when they say, "we're bored", which they will, just as we did, we need to just shrug our shoulders and tell them to figure it out. And if figuring it out involves couch pillows and blankets and the construction of a fort, smile. It is far better that they invent their own stories and act them out, than they sit passively. And given the time, they will figure it out, just as we did.

May 4, 2018

Up Coming Events:

- May 4 - Vermont Green Up Day
- May 7-11 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 18 - Mayfair! 4:00 - 7:00 PM
- May 28 - No School - Memorial Day Observance

Whole School Assembly
May 10, 2018
Teacher Appreciation
2nd Grade Leading

PTO NEWS

PTO LEADERS: Leigh Fisher, Jenny Sullivan and Rachel Shelley PTO CONTACT: pto@eespto.org

SAVE THE DATE MAYFAIR MAY 18TH 4-7PM

SPECIAL JOINT EMS/EES PTO MEETING TO DISCUSS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND CONSTRUCTION, WEDNESDAY, MAY 9 AT 6:30 - EES CAFETERIA.

At the April 10, 2018 the School District facilities team presented their latest ideas in the capital plan which includes a substantial overhaul of Building C (the cafeteria) at Edmunds, as well as the construction of a new roadway through campus. The School District wants to present their plans to the school community, and solicit vital feedback on the proposed plans for the Edmunds Campus. Join us to see how these plans could work for our school community. We encourage you to visit the site: <http://www.bsdyt.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/FY18-Capital-Project-Update.pdf> to get a glimpse of some of the proposed changes and come with questions and concerns. Changes include: ADA accessibility - A new elevator - Makerspace (grant funded) at EMS - New dedicated cafeteria space and kitchen - Single entrance - A roadway cutting through the green space on the Main Street side - And more...Your input is important. Let's help shape the capital investments for our schools - for all our children. Childcare will be provided upon request

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MAYFAIR!!!!

It's almost time for Mayfair 2018! Mayfair takes place this year on **Friday May 18th**. This fun event is one of the PTO's largest fundraiser and an Edmunds Elementary School tradition! Dollars raised during the Mayfair fund enrichment activities, such as art, language and dance programs, that would otherwise be unavailable to Edmunds kids. Funding is also given to teachers to provide basic but essential classroom supplies. It takes many volunteers to pull off Mayfair. If you would like to volunteer in any way please sign up below. Thanks in advance. We couldn't do it without you!

[Link for May Fair 2018 Volunteer Sign Up](#)

VERMONT COFFEE COMPANY ORDERS**DUE TUESDAY MAY 15TH**

EES makes \$6/bag! Orders will be collected the third Tuesday of every month. This month orders will be delivered Friday, May 18th. Order forms at Front Office and EES PTO website.

(<http://eespto.org/fundraisers/Vermont-coffee-fundraiser/>). Checks payable to EES PTO, OR Pay via PayPal; Please note in PayPal "Purpose Box" number of bags and coffee choice. Contact Pam Moreau ([802.999.4590](tel:802.999.4590) or pmoreaulawvt@gmail)

FOUND:

Car keys out front of EES - if they are yours, contact Leigh Fisher at leigh.r.fisher@gmail.com.