

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

From the Principal's Desk

Monday is MLK day and we will be spending the morning with your children recognizing the impact of Dr. King and of his example of personal service and commitment to social justice. We will begin our day with a Whole School Assembly which all are welcome to attend. Individual classrooms will be doing more exploration about Dr. King through books, and films from his life. Classes will also be participating in restorative practice circles that our RP leadership team has created based for the day, with a focus on social justice and one's personal response and responsibility.

Our nation has seen a significant increase in hate speech and crimes over the past two years which is so incredibly disappointing. I just saw a report of systemic racist behavior at a GM plant in Toledo, OH, where employees were finding nooses, and threatening hate speech posted on the walls, and even during training to address the behaviors, supervisors referenced people being "too sensitive". Too sensitive? The continued existence of bigotry demands that we all challenge it when we see it. Whether it is behavior targeting race, religion, LGBTQ, or women, it will not change if it goes unchallenged by those witnessing it. The work we do here at school includes strategies for confronting bullying which include letting the aggressor being an ally to those who are targeted. The strategy is no different for us if we witness bigoted behavior which is the same as bullying. Bully's and bigots have one thing in common. They expect to be able to do without anyone challenging them.

PAN is a tactic that can be used to help insure that we are more vigilant in stopping bigoted behavior. PAN stands for Pay Attention Now. It encourages us to pay attention when we see situations that we would recognize it to be wrong if we were simply paying attention. There was an example in the news, of a black man who was answering a call from his mother on his cell phone while in the lobby of a hotel where he was a registered guest. The hotel employee interrupted him while on the phone, insisting that the man produce his ID and his room number. The employee then called the police when the man said he didn't remember his room number and pointed out that he was talking to his mother. Meanwhile, no white individuals

January 18, 2019

Up Coming Events:

- Jan. 21 - Early Release Day $\frac{1}{2}$ Day for Students
- Jan. 26 - Math Night 5 - 7 PM
- Feb. 1 - Pack The Gut (UVM Women's Hockey Game)
- Feb. 7 - Fine Arts Night Grades 3, 4 & 5

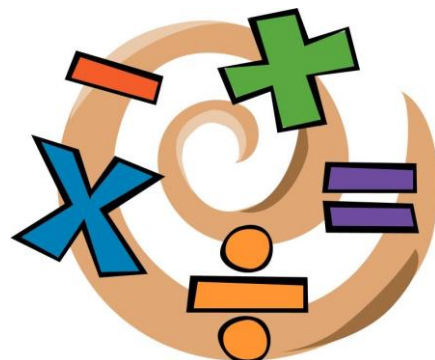
Whole School Assembly
January 31, 2019
Hole at the Bottom of the Sea
Ms. Johnson's Class Leading

(cont)

in the lobby were asked for either. If we found ourselves in that situation, and knew that we had not been asked for our room number or an ID, and the only difference was the color of our skin, it demands that we Pay Attention and not simply walk away as if it isn't our business. These behaviors will not change until those practicing them know that the behaviors will not be tolerated by all of us. Just because it doesn't happen to us, doesn't mean we get to walk away from it. With privilege comes responsibility. Those of us who have enjoyed the privilege of not being the target with bigoted behavior have the responsibility of confronting it when we see it. Modeling confronting the behavior helps others find their courage to do the same.

Math Night is Coming!

January 26, 5 - 7 PM



SAVE THE DATE: 3-5 FINE ARTS NIGHT 2019!

Once a year, the 3rd 4th and 5th grade Edmunds Elementary School community gathers for a special evening: Fine Arts Night! All students will have artwork on display, and all students will have an important part in the music performance. This is our chance to celebrate the musical and visual arts in our community. All students are expected to participate, and all families and friends are welcome to attend. Please let your teachers know if you need transportation support.

3-5 Fine Arts Night is on Thursday, February 7
5:45 Art Show in the first floor hallway
6:20 Doors Open for the Concert
6:30 Concert begins in the middle school gym

HELP NEEDED FOR FINE ARTS NIGHT

The music program could use some help for fine arts night. I need three adults: someone to run the sound board, the light board and take video of each performance for our web page. Don't feel intimidated by the tech jobs, I've trained fifth graders successfully! Reach out to enolan@bsdvt.org if you can help! Thanks - Betsy Nolan, EES Music Educator

**PTO NEWS**

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

COME JOIN THE PTO!!!

Is one of your resolutions to be more involved in Edmunds Elementary PTO? We have a great opportunity for you if so. Next year we will be losing two of our PTO leaders—Jenny and Pam's kiddos will be moving on to middle school. That leaves two openings for new leadership. If you feel even the slightest tingle of excitement at the prospect of taking on one of these roles, contact me, Stacey Kelleher, at this email address and we can chat. It would be ideal to have some people lined up to shadow Jenny, Pam and me for the rest of the year so that we can all be familiar with the expectations of the jobs.

RSVP FOR MATH NIGHT: SATURDAY, JAN. 26, 5-7 PM

The Edmunds Elementary PTO is sponsoring the 11th Annual Family Math Night. Explore the wonders of math with your children and let them show you what they are learning. A variety of activities, math centers and home learning activities will be available for children of all ages, such as graphing, chess, games using dice and playing cards and many other fun activities. Prizes, pizza, desserts and drinks too! We will have National Honor Society students from BHS to help facilitate games so that parents can fully enjoy the night with their children. **RSVP by sending an email to Rachel Shelley (rachskye@gmail.com) including your child's name, grade level and number of people attending.**

For those who are new to Math Night, here is how the night will work. **5:00-5:30 pizza will be served in the first grade hallway.** At 5:30 Math night begins. (until 7:30). Games in the upper gym/cafeteria. Each student will go home with a packet full of games you can play at home.

We are also looking for donations of new or gently used -- with all the pieces--math related games (Uno, Chutes and Ladders, Yahtzee, Phase 10, Dominoes, Set, Sequence, Chess, etc) for the raffle at the end of the night; we'd love a few donations of veggies and dip crackers and cheese as well as a few desserts. We also will be needing 3-5 people to help set up at 2 pm on Saturday the 26th and 3-5 people to help clean up afterwards. Please contact Rachel Shelley (rachskye@gmail.com) if you are able to contribute and/or help with set up and clean up. We hope to see you all there!

SEEKING PARENT VOLUNTEERS FROM KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE CLASSES FOR SNEAK PEEK PIZZA NIGHT FOR INCOMING KINDGARTENERS, THURSDAY, JAN. 24, 5:30-7

We would love to have a few parents at this event to help answer questions and to give a warm welcome to incoming families. No special skills required! If you have students at the school, you are an expert! If you can help, please email Stacey Kelleher at staceyhk1568@yahoo.com.