

FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

From the Principal's Desk

March 28, 2019

The level of importance attached to very unimportant things by children is always interesting. I had two, 5-year old girls in my office because they had gotten into an argument about who walked faster, which ended with one child head-butting the other. Declaring oneself to be better at something is always an interesting thing to do. Unfortunately, comparisons often result in arguments and sometimes physical fights. When I ask children why they need to compare themselves to others, they have no answer. It leads me to believe that we need to spend more time talking about perspective and what we value.

The need to claim some kind of advantage over another (whose taller, faster etc..) may be rooted in the need for attention. Helping children who do this, to understand that it's perfectly fine to know something, but it isn't necessary to share what they think with others. They probably already know. Claiming some kind of superiority can be interpreted as bragging or felt as threatening. Often the claimed "superiority" is not even earned. Who hasn't known a character like Draco Malfoy (from Harry Potter) who brags about what his family has. Wealth isn't created by the children and our height is a function of genetics. Claiming superiority for unearned "attributes" is hollow at best.

Children need to know better ways to respond when someone makes a comparison that feels annoying or threatening. When we are offended, it is we've chosen to place importance or value on the thing being compared. Being first in line is a prime example. When everyone is going to the same place, and the only difference is in seconds between arrival time, why care about who gets there first? It's not like we're on the Titanic headed to life boats (although sometimes you wouldn't know that looking at the way some push and shove to get to the front of a line). It's up to us to help our children develop healthier ways of interaction - what's ok to say and how to put what we value in perspective. Using humor is a great way to get the idea across that we are not thinking

Up Coming Events:

Mar. 29 - PTC **-NO SCHOOL**

Apr. 9 - PTO Meeting 6 -7 PM

Apr. 11 - Spring Concert K-2, 6:30 PM

Apr. 12 - Skate Night 6-8 PM

Apr. 22 - 26 Spring Break

Whole School Assembly
April 4, 2019
Sing Me Another
Mr. Styles Class Leading

(con't)

things through when we allow ourselves to get upset by someone making a comparison. "What's the worst that can happen if you're not first in line?", Does the first person in line get a pot of gold? Do you get to take the week off from school if you're first to arrive? Do you get a ticket to the Superbowl? I'm sure you can think of others. Getting them to start thinking about perspective will serve them well.

Diversity in our classroom adds perspectives from around the world.



First grade class building literacy and vocabulary:

Mrs. Quinn: "Who can give an example of good luck?"

Student: "Going to the fair."

Mrs. Quinn: "Who can give an example of bad luck?"

Student: "Getting eaten by a lion."

When you come from Somalia and you've seen lions, it makes a lasting impression!

PTO NEWS

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

The PTO website and email are still down. We hope to have this resolved soon. In the meantime, please direct all your PTO questions to Stacey Kelleher at staceyhk1568@yahoo.com

PTO LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are seeking volunteers for next year's PTO leadership squad! We have had one person step forward and are absolutely delighted to welcome Kimberly Price to the crew. Ideally, we have three people as leaders, but imagine how amazing it would be to have a couple more? Come to the next PTO meeting on April 9, or contact Stacey Kelleher at staceyhk1568@yahoo.com with questions.



SKATE NIGHT!!

Friday April 12 2019 6-8 pm at Leddy Ice Skating Rink - Make plans to attend this year's Skate Night. It's a great tradition and lots of fun. Free Pizza and skate rentals. Please bring a beverage, snack or dessert to share if you can!

PTO MEETING: APRIL 9, 6-7 PM

Please join us as we discuss Mayfair and the Silent Auction, end of year activities and future PTO leadership opportunities. Plan an extra hour for some socializing afterwards if you can!

FROM THE COMMUNITY



Sunday, May 5, 2019

The annual COTS Walk is a 3.5-mile trek (a shorter 1-mile route is available) around downtown Burlington that starts from Battery Park and follows the path a person experiencing homelessness might travel to connect with COTS shelter and services. This is the one day of the year COTS opens our program spaces to the community so people can see how their support makes a difference. Click here to [register!](#)



PACK 678

**South Burlington, Vermont
Boys and Girls – Grades K – 5**

Informational Meeting

Where: Tuttle Middle School Cafeteria
500 Dorset Street, So. Burlington
When: 6:30 PM, Wednesday, April 10th

Our Cub Scout Pack is a year round family oriented, volunteer organization that combines fun with educational and lifelong values. **Can't make the meeting? Call Lorie Clark (802) 318-0792 or Pack678vt@gmail.com**

Here are a few things our pack does!

Race Pinewood Derby Cars ◊ [Overnights in Museums](#) ◊ Community Service ◊ [Work as a team](#) ◊ Meeting New Friends ◊ [Learn Skills](#) ◊ Earn awards ◊ [Camping and s'mores](#) ◊ GaGa Ball ◊ [Building Self-Esteem](#) ◊ Meeting New Friends ◊ [Experience New Adventures](#) ◊ Space Derby ◊ [Day Camp](#) ◊ Developing a sense of belonging ◊ **AND SO MUCH MORE**