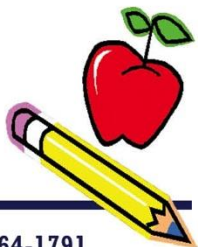


FRIDAY



FLASH

EDMUNDS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Date and Volume Number

## From the Principal's Desk

This Thursday, I introduced the concept of stewardship to our students at our Whole School Assembly. Stewardship is taking care of things. The idea of caring for things fits our school wide expectations of being safe, respectful and responsible and supports caring for our environment. Trash left on the grounds can end up in the lake as it washes down the hill. The energy it takes to replace lost or broken things adds to pollution in our environment that could be avoided by simply caring for what we have.

The students in third, fourth and fifth grade will be taking the lead on caring for our grounds by picking up any trash left behind from snacks or papers falling out of backpacks. Each grade has been assigned a day every week when they are the official stewards and will take some time to be in charge of picking up any trash they see. We will be adding the younger grades later in the year. We would like students to develop a sense of ownership of their campus and recognize that as stewards, they can take part in caring for their environment - whether their own room, their home, their school or their community.

This effort ties well into the **School Strike for Climate** that has been inspired by 16 year old, Swedish Climate Activist, [Greta Thunberg](#). Greta has spoken to the U.N and other large organizations of power, holding adults accountable for their failure to address the serious threat Climate Change has on the earth; a threat that will impact generations to come without immediate action. The symbolism of the school strike is articulated by Greta, "Why should we bother to learn facts, when facts don't matter in this society".

This coming Friday, Sept. 20 a global strike is planned. Students and all who support the need for immediate changes in environmental policies will be marching and striking to demand that politicians pay attention to the scientists and make serious changes to slow and reverse climate change. The march in Burlington will be starting at UVM and head down Main St. to meet at City Hall at 12.

Students from UVM, Champlain, and St. Michael's College will be involved as well as older students from Burlington and surrounding communities. While we support the effort, EES will not be joining in the march or strike as a school because of the ages of our students and

September 13, 2019

## Up Coming Events:

Sept. 13 - Welcome BBQ 5:30 PM - Free!

Sept. 16 - Picture Day

Sept. 19 - Open House &amp; Spaghetti Dinner - Free

Sept. 26 - Early Release Day, 11:30 Dismissal

Whole School Assembly  
September 19, 2019  
"Be Responsible"  
Ms. Palmer's Class Leading

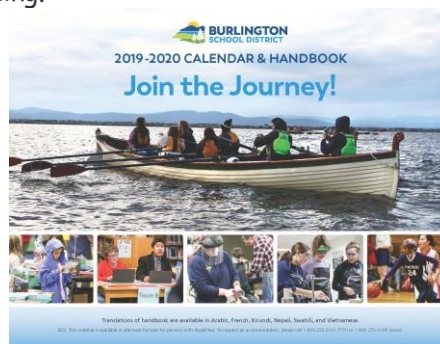
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the concerns about supervision in such a large crowd. Our students will be able to safely watch the march as it proceeds down Main St. from the playground or along the sidewalk in front of the horseshoe. Positive change takes activism and it is important that children see what activism looks and feels like.

I am sure that some of you may be planning to join the march with your children. If you are planning to take your child to the march and strike, please send a note with your child and a time that you will be picking them up so that we can facilitate their dismissal and have them in the lobby at the time you indicate.

**CALENDAR CORRECTION!**

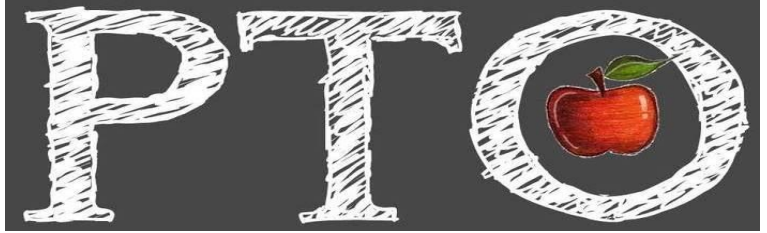
There is an error in the printed version of BSD's 2019-2020 Calendar. The calendar listed April 17th as part of Spring Break and a day off. **Please note that April 17th is a full day of school for students and teachers; it is not part of Spring Break.** Actual Spring Break dates are Monday, April 20th to Friday, April 24. We apologize that our BSD team missed this in proofreading.



CHEEZE



CHEEZE



**PTO LEADERS:** Kim Brockway, Kimberly Price & Stacey Kelleher

**PTO CONTACT:** [askeespto@gmail.com](mailto:askeespto@gmail.com)

### REMINDER! MONDAY IS PICTURE DAY!

Picture re-take day will be announced after you've received your first set of pictures!

### UPCOMING AUTHOR VISIT

The Fletcher Free Library is hosting Vermont author Ann Braden whose book *The Benefits of Being an Octopus* is currently on our Dorothy Canfield Fisher award list of outstanding books for 4th -8th graders. Braden's book tells of how one young girl finds the courage to speak up amidst her family's poverty and domestic violence. This is a great opportunity for you and your child to hear the author speak on parent-child relationships and the role parents play in empowering their children. This talk is for ages 10 and up and will be held on Monday September 23, 6:00-7:00 pm at the Fletcher Free Library.

### FOUR WINDS

Do you want to help teach a nature-based curriculum in your child's classroom? Can you commit to just four sessions this school year? The Four Winds Nature Program is a fantastic opportunity for parents, & grandparents to get involved and provide opportunities to learn about the natural world and get kids outside! The Four Winds trainer comes to the school and teaches us how to plan and deliver the class. No experience is necessary. We'll teach you what you need to know and offer a host of online resources and everything you'll need for the lesson. All you need is a willingness to get involved and being comfortable managing a group of kids. The trainings with the Four Winds instructors are Fridays 8-9:30am at EES: Oct 11<sup>th</sup>, Jan 10, March 13 & May 8. You can still be involved even if these times don't work for you. Email Jens Hilke [jhilke@gmail.com](mailto:jhilke@gmail.com) to sign up today!



### **Back to School BBQ - Tonight!**

Hope to see many of you **TONIGHT Friday, September 13 at our Welcome Back BBQ!** The weather forecast is looking great! **Some information about this event:** It takes place from **5:30-7:00 pm**. It is **FREE!!** Families with children in grades k-2 are asked to please bring a side dish or salad to share. Families with children in grades 3-5 are asked to please bring a dessert to share. \* Families with children in both groups, just choose one or the other. \*if it is not easy for you to bring a dish to share—PLEASE come anyway!! Also, a big bag of chips or Oreos counts and will be appreciated!

This event is all about community. Some of us are great at social stuff and relish the opportunity to mix and mingle. Some of us have to push ourselves outside of our comfort zone to approach a stranger and say hi. Whatever kind of person you may be, know you are not alone! Make it a goal to meet two new families if you can. Approach people who seem like they don't know anyone. We worry about our kids' social lives, but we parents and guardians like to have friends and feel included too! It's tempting and comfortable to hunker down with familiar folks and catch up. Definitely do that! But please remember that some people may be feeling nervous and uncomfortable, and would love to be included in a fun conversation with you and your Edmunds friends.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!**

We are in need of one more traffic circle volunteer for Wednesday mornings. If you can commit just 20-25 minutes once per week from 7:45-8:05, please email Stef Waite at [waite@burlingtontelecom.net](mailto:waite@burlingtontelecom.net) You'll get to make a big difference in the safety of our community AND sport a funky orange vest! win-win!!