



The Buzz



*A Message from our Principal,
Bonnie Johnson-Aten*

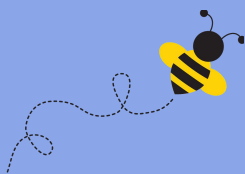
Ending 2020!

I want to end 2020 with a deep appreciation for the EES community. Thank you for your warm welcome and your continued messages of support for our faculty and staff. This has been a time of challenge and together I believe we have done a terrific job. Your children have been incredibly resilient and have responded to the changes beautifully. I have enjoyed getting to know all our students and have especially enjoyed the times we have been able to laugh together. I look forward to in-person meetings. I have great stories to tell. My favorite thus far, is of the kindergartener who said "Mrs. J-A you look like a teacher when you put your glasses on."

As we move into the new year, additional challenges will arise. Based on my experience I have no doubt that this community of committed parents, educators, and students will ride the wave, still standing.

I look forward to seeing you in 2021.

Stay well,
Mrs. J-A



Calendar Dates to Remember

--December 23 thru January 1: Winter Break
No School!

Many Thanks to our PTO!

Thank you to the EES PTO for your support of the holiday gift card drive. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

Thank you

Music Kits

You hopefully have seen some musical instruments and other music supplies coming home in students' backpacks this week. These are music kits for in school and at home use. They were purchased for students across the Burlington School district in August and have finally arrived. The intention is to have individual supplies for students to reduce sharing during the pandemic and to ensure that students have some supplies at home in the event that their pod moves to remote learning. I've asked students to have these items live in their bags so we are prepared when we need them at school and if we have to do music at home. Thanks for supporting our young musicians! Betsy Nolan, EES Music Educator.

Meal Kit Distribution Over Winter Break!

The Burlington School Food Project and our community partners will be distributing Meal Kits over break. The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday December 23rd and 30th 3:00-4:30

BHS

Sustainability Academy

Champlain

Boys and Girls Club (this is a new time for the Club, for break weeks only)

Wednesday December 23 and 30th

Bobbin Mill 11:00-11:30

Franklin Square 11:00-11:30

South Meadow 11:45-12:15

Northgate 11:45-12:15

Wednesday December 23rd and 30th

Riverside Apartments 5:30

Salmon Run 6:00



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(continued)

Celebrate with Safety!

As you know, we work closely with the Vermont Department of Health (VDOH), to keep our community healthy. The VDOH conducts necessary contact tracing for positive cases by phone call. Please pick up the phone if the VDOH is calling you! And please, call them back as soon as possible if you receive a message from them!

In-person learning is immensely valuable for the academic, social and mental health of our students and school community. As we approach fall and winter school vacations please plan thoughtfully and with the health of our school community in mind. It's hard to balance the desire to celebrate the holidays or vacation time with loved ones and the growing risk of COVID-19 infection. Travel and gathering increase your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19, so please think about how you can make your holiday and vacation plans safer.

Make safety a priority for your family and take these steps:

1. Check the map to find out the risk of COVID-19 infection at your destination,
2. Decide if the risk is worth it for your family,
3. Plan to have a safe trip or gathering, remain flexible and get your flu shot and
4. Quarantine when you return.

You can celebrate the holidays and vacation time, but like other aspects of our lives right now, they will likely look different. Take extra precautions when attending or hosting an event and insist that people wear masks, keep gatherings small, and cancel if anybody in your family or group is sick.

More information can be found on the Health Department website and you can email with questions: AHS.VDHPublicCommunication@vermont.gov

Please also don't hesitate to call or email our school nurse with any questions.

