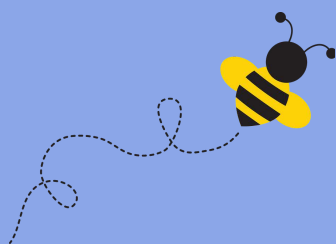


The Buzz



“Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others”
– Marcus Tullius Cicero

I hope that everyone had a restful Thanksgiving break. Thanksgiving is a great time to pause and remember all the things we are “grateful” for, that we often take for granted. I remain incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with such an outstanding faculty, our community and most importantly our students.



--December 9: District Professional Learning Day
(Students have google classroom meeting from 8:00 - 8:30 only)

During this holiday season, if you are looking for an opportunity to give to a family in the EES community, consider purchasing a gift card (book store, department store, grocery store, etc.) to donate anonymously. This year, Ms. Hathaway (EES School Counselor), Tyler Sessions (P.E. Teacher), and Celia DeVoe, (School Based Clinician) are working to connect EES families in need of some extra financial support, gift cards for the holidays. Please send any gift card donations to school in an envelope addressed to Melissa Hathaway. In order to reach families before the December break, please send in gift cards no later than Friday the 18th of December. Thank you EES community for your generosity during this holiday season.

Everyday I am reminded of the fact that the kids are indeed watching us. Our students are having conversations, listening to our conversations and sharing their wonderings. The pandemic has revealed much about our lives. As the racial divisions and inequities grow sharper and more painful, our work of creating a community where all are welcome continues to be a work in progress. The Burlington School District (BSD), is committed to ensuring both excellence and equity in all that we do. I believe that we must begin that work in our homes, schools, and communities with our children.

In September, the BSD School Board directed all schools to raise a BLM flag. Last year the students and staff of Edmunds Middle School raised a Black Lives Matter flag after many months of learning, exploration and classroom discussions. Their work resulted in an incredibly poignant and moving ceremony led by EMS students. Many students at Edmund Elementary were able to attend and witness the ceremony. However EES students have not had the opportunity for ongoing exploration to learn about or develop an understanding and need for raising the BLM flag.





The Buzz

(continued)

As a school community, we play a crucial role in shaping how and what students learn about race. I would like to invite you to learn along with your children. On a weekly basis during our morning announcements our fifth grade students will be sharing facts and information about people of color.

I will also include in The Buzz some starting points for parents and guardians to help you continue the conversation in your home. Our goal is that together we can raise children who can be thoughtful, informed, and race-brave community members in our multiracial community.

Drop Off and Pick Up Reminders



When you pull into the horseshoe:

- Please pull up and around, allowing the bus to enter for drop off and pick up of students safely.
- Do not pass vehicles (including buses) waiting to discharge children.

If you need to park:

There are two visitor's parking spot and one handicapped spot on the inside of the horseshoe.

- **DO NOT park in the handicapped spot unless you have an approved license plate or tag.**
- If the visitor spots are full, you may park for free for 15 minutes on the south side of Main Street. There are long-term meters on the north side of Main Street.

If your child is meeting an Education Specialist:

- Please pull all the way over in the fire lane toward the fence out of the flow of traffic.
- Wait with your vehicle. Do not enter the school.
- Once the Education Specialist has greeted your child, carefully merge into the flow of traffic and exit the horseshoe by turning right onto Main Street.

Please help us keep all our students safe. pleasant transition for your child. Thank you for helping us keep all our students safe.

December 9, 2020 (Teacher In-service Day)

It is a remote learning day for students (as usual), but the schedule will be adjusted slightly. There will be no office hours. Across the district, each homeroom will host a morning meeting from 8:00-8:30am to check-in and review asynchronous learning activities for the day.

Music News

Music has been an adventure this year. The pandemic has limited our singing to the outdoors and with the weather becoming increasingly cold, I wanted to share some resources with families who would like to support their children's vocal development. I have been building and sharing virtual classrooms with the K-2 students in their SeeSaw classrooms that have many music activities that are fun and easy! We really focus on developing singing, maintaining a steady beat and moving artfully in response to music. The classrooms are built in google slides and can be accessed from any device that has the internet.. I also have resources on my web page for students in grades k-5 which include songs, recorder resources, and online music enrichment games and activities. Music is a great way to pass the time during what is sure to be a long winter. It's good for brain development and fun for the whole family! Singing in the bathtub and dance parties in the kitchen are my regular homework assignments for vacation, so get ready to make some music!