

Dear Parents,

This week I had the pleasure of attending a day of 5/6 camp with your children. Students had the opportunity to hold snakes and frogs, create art projects and plays, climb the rock wall and the ropes course, and swing through the forest on a zip line. Each of the kids trooped through the trees and swung through the air to push themselves outside of their comfort zone. The level of support given through clapping, cheering, and positive words shouted to each other as some students faced their biggest fears was truly amazing!

Unfortunately, kids are not always this supportive of each other. Sometimes students tease each other by making comments that may be unkind or hurtful. Many of these situations are one or two-time events that while painful, do not reoccur and can be handled through a conversation. In some instances these situations occur again or repeatedly and may require further intervention. There is a difference between a student teasing another and a student being bullied by another student. Teasing can turn into bullying when the behavior is repetitive and is done with the intent to hurt the student.

As parents and educators we encourage the supportive and caring words that we hope our children will use at all times and when they do not, we are scared that they have been hurtful or are being hurt. We need to continue to model for our children those words and behaviors which we want to see from them and encourage acceptance of all people regardless of who they are. When we empower our children to problem solve these situations, including asking for our help when necessary, we give them strength that will stay with them for years to come and allow them to face their fears with confidence.

Have a G.E.E.K.ed week,

Patricia

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.” - Ralph Waldo Emerson

WEEK AT A GLANCE – November 8-12, 2010

(Disclaimer: Please check all your calendars and bconline.info in case we missed something)

To submit an item for next week's "WAG", email nb01bps@birmingham.k12.mi.us by **FRIDAY 7AM**.

Monday, November 8

Lockdown Drill

Basketball try-outs will start next Monday

Picture retakes distributed to homerooms today

2nd Quarter Begins – New Choice Hour classes begin today

9:15AM 3/4 Room Parent Meeting – Media Center

9:30-1:00PM 3/4 Field trip to Cranbrook for Davis, Seley, Burns, Harvath homerooms. Students should bring a disposable bag lunch with drink.

Tuesday, November 9

8-8:20AM – Bagel sale in front of the media center by the 8th grade celebration committee

10:00 AM Energy Conservation Assembly for 3-6 grades - Gym

3:15- NO School store today- closed for inventory

7-9:00PM – Semi-annual Athletic Update at Seaholm - all BPS Parents/guardians welcome

7-9:00PM BLAST Committee Meeting – Media Center

Wednesday, November 10

POPCORN Day – freshly popped popcorn is sold during choice hour for \$1 in the main hallway

6:30PM Technology Committee Meeting – Innovation Station West

7:00PM BCS Proud Dad's Snow Club Parent Meeting – Media Center

Thursday, November 11

6:30PM Pizza with the Principal – Media Center

7:00PM PTSA Clearinghouse Meeting – Media Center

Friday, November 12

Trash Free Friday

9:30-1:00PM 3/4 Field trip to Cranbrook for Parkin, Wallington, Frishman, Butzin homerooms. Students should bring a disposable bag lunch with drink.

Lunchtime - Proud Dad's Eat & Run – Please get a nametag at the sign-in table and join your child for lunch in the cafeteria during the normal lunchtime.

Lunchtimes: 3/4 - 11:00 – 11:40 AM

5/6 – 11:55 – 12:35 PM

7/8 – 12:35 – 1:15 PM

4:00PM Forensic Team Practice – Cafeteria

Hot Entrée menu for the week: (subject to change, if necessary)

Available everyday: Salad Bar, Hamburgers, Chicken Patties, Pizza & Cheese Breadsticks

Monday – Baked Chicken, Drumstick, Au Gratin Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Wheat Dinner Roll, Zesty Beef Burrito

Tuesday – Sweet & Sour Chicken, Choice of Breaded or Diced Chicken, Steamed White or Brown Rice, Fortune Cookie, Meat Lovers Pizza

Wednesday – Popcorn Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Corn, Supreme Pizza

Thursday – BBQ Chicken, Side of Baked Mac & Cheese, Steamed Broccoli, Nacho Supreme

Friday – Texas Grilled Cheese or Grilled Ham & Cheese on Wheat Bread, Cup of Chicken or Tomato Soup, Sliced Carrots, Chicken Fajita Pizza

NOTES:

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mr. Johansson's PE classes will be swimming during the 2nd Quarter. (Mr. Manchester's PE classes will be swimming during the 3rd quarter.) Would the following classes please be sure to bring swim suits, goggles, towels, etc.?

PE Elective 7th

PE Elective 8th

PE Concepts

Fitz/Mali 5th & 6th graders

Brown/Burdick 5th & 6th graders

Bishop/Cook 6th graders

3/4 Swim Schedule: Butzin, Davis, Harvath and Parkin will SWIM from Monday, November 8th through Friday, December 10th.

Please send a swimsuit and towel with your child on their PE day.

3/4 GYM Schedule: Burns, Frishman, Seley, and Wallington will be in GYM from Monday, November 8th through Friday, December 10th. Please send tennis shoes in with your child on their PE day.

REPORT CARDS

Report Cards for Marking Period 1 will be released on Monday, 11/15.

BCS CONFERENCES

BCS Conferences are on Wednesday, November 17 from 5-8PM and Thursday, Nov. 18 from 1-4 & 5-8 PM. There is a half-day for students on Thursday. Conference sign-up sheets are posted for 3-6th grades. Conferences for 7-8th grades are held in the cafeteria on a first come, first served basis for each teacher.

YEAR BOOK PURCHASES

Monday, November 15, 2010, is your last opportunity to purchase a BCS 2010-2011 yearbook at a discounted rate. Online purchases can be made through www.jostensyearbooks.com. If you prefer to write a check, order forms can be found under the Parent Resources section of the www.bcsonline.info website. Yearbooks can still be purchased after November 15, but the discount will not be available. Save money and reserve your yearbook now!

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

All parents are invited to attend the next Technology Committee Meeting on November 10 at 6:30pm in Room 100. The major project for the Technology Committee is to organize a Technology Showcase in May 2011. This all school event will celebrate the amazing projects, programs, wikis, robots and more that BCS creates. Please join us for the planning meeting. Anyone with a Technology question, need, idea or opportunity is welcome to join the Technology committee. Questions? Contact the committee co-chairs Pam Graham, John Rivard, Ross Kaplan by email to tech@bcsonline.info

GOT CANDY?

Do you have leftover Halloween candy and want to get it out of your house and into the hands of someone who will really appreciate it? Did your child come home with more Halloween candy than they can possibly eat and would like to donate their extra candy to someone in need of a treat? Then, please consider participating in the BCS Halloween Candy Collection taking place over the next two weeks, Monday, November 8th thru Friday, November 19th. Bring your extra Halloween candy (individually wrapped candy or bags of candy are fine) to the office, put it in the collection box, and it will be distributed to Gleaners Food Bank. Questions, please contact Becky Bachand at bachandfamily@att.net. Thank you for your support!

2ND QUARTER CHOICE HOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS

2nd Quarter Choice Hour classes begin Monday November 8th. Choice Hour selections are posted on the Choice Hour board in the main hallway and in each homeroom.

The deadline for requesting a Choice Hour class change will be **Friday November 19th by 4:00 PM**. Choice Hour class change request forms will be available in the main office after 4:00 PM on Friday November 12th. Classes with openings will be listed on the back of the Choice Hour class change request form. Please read the change form very carefully. Students requesting a change must attend their originally assigned classes for the first 2 weeks of the new quarter. **ALL** Choice Hour changes that are approved will go into effect on Monday November 22nd. You will receive timely notification if your Choice Hour change request is denied.

Choice Hour drop refunds will be processed for classes dropped during the Choice Hour change period which ends at 4:00 PM on Friday November 19th. No refunds will be processed after the Friday November 19th deadline.

No Choice Hour drops, adds and/or changes will be accepted over the phone or via email. All Choice Hour change requests require a parent's signature. Please pick up the proper paperwork at the front desk in the office.

There are still several families that have not returned their student's QII selection sheets. We understand that you may have sent a selection sheet and payment to school with your child but the choice hour office has not received them.

Choice Hour is not optional! Students are required to attend Choice Hour three days per week. If you are requesting that your child is waived from the Choice Hour program then visit www.bcsonline.info for a waiver form. Waivers require signature approval from Mr. Hartley or Mrs. Chinn.

Thank you for supporting the Choice Hour program!

BCS GARDEN CLUB

BCS is starting a lunchtime garden club and could use your help! We're collecting any garden gloves, small shovels, or other tools that could be used by our 5/6 students. Items don't need to be new...just any extras that are lying around your garage. A collection box is in Mrs. Roberts' room. THANK YOU!

ATTENTION PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF SKIERS AND SNOWBOARDERS:

Proud Dads is once again sponsoring the ever-popular Snow Club this year! If your child plans on participating, please attend the informational meeting on Wednesday, November 10th from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Media Center. Tom Dabaldo, BCS Proud Dad, and his wife Laura will share the details of the application process, and lessons/rental details will be addressed by a representative from Pine Knob.

BAKE SALE DURING CONFERENCES:

Calling all bakers! The first bake sale of the year will take place during conferences on November 17th and 18th. We are asking for donations of *homemade* cookies, brownies, crispy treats, cupcakes, granola, dipped pretzels, etc. We are also looking for donations of water bottles, washed apples and grapes and baby carrots. Don't worry about individually wrapping your treats. Please drop off your baked goods to the carts located in the front office on Tuesday night, November 16th or first thing in the morning on Wednesday, November 17th.

BAKE SALE STAFFING NEEDED

8th grade parents and students are needed to sell baked goods during conferences in the main hallway and in the cafeteria. Two hour shifts are available are detailed below. Proceeds from the bake sale benefit the 8th Grade graduation celebration. Please email Susan Kaplan at kaplandesign@comcast.net or "bethann933@aol.com" if you and your child are able to volunteer.

Time slots available:

Wednesday, Nov. 17: 4:30 – 6:30 & 6:30 – 8:00

Thursday, Nov. 18: 12:30 – 2:30, 2:30 – 4:30, 4:30 – 6:30, 6:30 – 8:00

FALL BOOK FAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

If you love books and have 2 hours to spare, please contact Shiva Motlagh (shivamotlagh@comcast.net) to volunteer for the upcoming Fall Book Fair! If you have an upper class high school student who needs community service hours, we would welcome their help too! **Helping at the Fair is lots of fun and 25% of the proceeds go directly to the Media Center to buy books, iPods, materials, and furnishings!!**

2 hour shifts are available during the following times:

Monday, November 15 - book fair set up - 8:30 am to 2:00 pm

Tuesday, November 16 - student preview times - 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Weds. & Thurs. November 17 & 18 - student preview/public sale - 8:30 am to 8:30 pm

Thursday November 18 - book fair pack up - 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

SPECIAL EDUCATION BUILDING COFFEE AT BCS – Thursday, Nov. 18 at 9AM

You are cordially invited to meet with Mr. Hartley and Special Education Administrators, Ms. Kelly Lovik - Executive Director, and Wendy Albanese - Supervisor. Join us for coffee, meet other parents who have students receiving special education services in our building, and ask questions. This is a great opportunity to network within our building community! The coffee is hosted by BCS in collaboration with Friends of Different Learners.

JINGLE BELL RUN

Save the Date! On Saturday, November 20 the Arthritis Foundation will be hosting its 23rd annual Jingle Bell Run. The run will start and finish at BCS. Chris Manchester and BCS Proud Dad's are working together to get the BCS community involved – their goal is to have 150 members of the BCS community sign-up. To register for the event, go to www.bcsonline.info. If you are interested in helping you can contact David Stone at DSTONE1@US.IBM.COM.

Any student interested in helping out with this event can earn community service hours. Please contact Chris Manchester for more information.

ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS:

The 8th Grade Celebration Committee is looking for a Professional Photographer (or Photo Enthusiast) who can take pictures at the various sporting events throughout the year. The pictures will be included in the 8th Grade Celebration DVD. If interested or for questions, please contact Peggy Kassab at peggykassab@gmail.com

BCS ATHLETICS UPDATES

Please visit the website for more information about Athletics and Proud Dad Sports: <http://bcsonline.info/Athletics.html> .

Boys basketball try-outs will not start this week as originally stated on the website. Try-outs will start **11/15** at 6:45 AM and will be held all week. The parent meeting for boys that make it onto the team will be held Monday 11/22 at 3:20 PM.

Girls swim season starts on Monday 11/15 at 6:35 AM. Practices will be held Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 6:35-8:00AM and Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:15-5:00PM.

BPS ATHLETIC UPDATES

All BPS parents/guardians are invited to attend the semi-annual ATHLETICS UPDATES on Tuesday, November 9 from 7-9PM at Berkshire Middle School. Tom Flynn, athletic director at Groves and Aaron Flynn, athletic director at Seaholm, will discuss the following topics: fall sports review, winter sports review, and the work of the athletic advisory board. There will be time for Q's & A's.

FALL INTO BIRMINGHAM

Fall into Birmingham is about raising money for our community's educational, athletic and charitable organizations and keeping those dollars in our local economy. We have enjoyed many prosperous years with our local businesses generously supporting our programs without question. A strong local economy readily translates into stable home values and is very attractive to new businesses looking for a profitable location. For \$35 you can purchase a card to support the Birmingham Bloomfield Community Coalition and save 20% while you shop downtown! Please visit the site listed here to learn more: www.fallintobirmingham.com

ROBOTICS

On Thursday November 11th, the combined robotics team from Seaholm and Groves, and the Engineering Technology Department will be hosting the "Seaholm OCCRA Regional" in the Seaholm gymnasium at 6:00 pm. OCCRA stands for Oakland Country Competitive Robotic Association. Seaholm High School, along with 20 other HYPERLINK "https://owa.birmingham.k12.mi.us/wiki/High_school" high schools in Oakland County will be participating.

OCCRA is a local association formed to increase the number of students involved in competitive robotics. This is a full contact robotics competition, where students will control 120 pound robogladators as they clash on the field of play. The robots will try to score points by placing balls into goals while their opponents try to stop them. OCCRA robots play rough and some damage will surely occur, but unlike "Battlebots" the rules prohibit teams from intentionally damaging another machine.

OCCRA generates enthusiasm for technical and academic disciplines such as design, engineering, physics, and electronics. These competitions provide recognition and encouragement for students who devote their energies to these areas of studies. OCCRA participants will also have the opportunity to learn more about the diverse technical career options available in our county and state.

OCCRA is supported by the Oakland Schools Education Foundation (OSEF), whose support is made possible through the generosity and support of area businesses and individuals. Unlike the FIRST competitions, OCCRA requires the entire robot be student-designed and built. The rules of the competition will allow for and encourage corporate partnerships but will not allow precise machining or processes that cannot be carried out in the schools.

The Engineering Technology Department and Robotic Team for Seaholm and Groves High School is led by instructor Bernie Simms and his assistant coach, Jim Crosby. For more information, feel free to contact Bernie via email at: HYPERLINK "<mailto:bs03bps@birmingham.k12.mi.us>" bs03bps@birmingham.k12.mi.us.

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