

SMITH TIMES

C.P. Smith Elementary School
Burlington, Vermont

Amy Mellencamp, Principal
amellenc@bsdvt.org 802-864-8479

September 7, 2016



The school year is off to a great start! Thanks to students and families for your great welcome and support for your school. Look for the *Smith Times* each Wednesday to learn the latest news and updates about the school.

This Friday!

This Friday, September 9th we celebrate two C.P. Smith traditions:

- Kindergarten students will be formally welcomed into the Smith family by 5th grade students at a **Welcome Assembly/Community Meeting** at 8:10. Parents are welcome.
- All students and families are invited to the **Welcome Back Picnic and Barbecue** from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Bring a blanket or chairs and, if you wish, a dish to share. The PTO will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks, and dessert.

Info Snap

Please update your contact and emergency information, if you have not already done so, by logging into Info Snap, the school district's new student information system. Call 864-8479 if you need log in information.

Water Issue

The school lost water this afternoon (Wednesday, September 7) after a water main broke in the neighborhood. Thank you to the many people trying to resolve the issue as quickly as possible. While the After School Program had to be cancelled due to the lack of water, we expect school to be open tomorrow, Thursday, September 8 and run the regular schedule. We will use Connect 5 (the district's message alert system) and a message on our school web page at www.smith.bsdvt.org if we need to provide families further information. This will be our standard way of notifying parents and families about any emergency or unexpected situations at Smith during the school year.

Library News

Hello, I am Beth Lane, the new teacher-librarian at C.P. Smith. I've been a classroom teacher in Burlington for over 20 years and a teacher-librarian for the last three years. It's been a pleasure meeting the students and staff here at Smith, and I look forward to meeting you as well. Please know, parents are welcome to check books out in our library too.

In the past you were asked to sign a form before your child could check books out of the library to bring home. This year is different. I assume that you want your child to check out books.

Our 1st and 2nd graders wrote this great list on library book care expectations:

- Use clean hands
- Return your book
- Keep books safe from little siblings
- Keep books safe from pets
- Have a safe place for your book

In the event of a book getting lost (because sometimes that will happen) we ask that families:

search to find the book, send in money to replace it, or allow their child to work in the library to help out.

If you prefer your child to NOT bring books home at this time (maybe you're moving or they've lost books recently) please let me know. In this case we'll ask your child to keep their library books in their classroom during the week. My email is blane@bsdvt.org or you can call the Main Office at 864-8479.

Walking and Biking to School

The **Safe Routes to School Program** is starting next Wednesday. The program encourages students and families to walk or bike to school on Wednesday to get morning exercise as well as avoiding car pollution for a morning. Students will not be using walking cards this year. Instead they will put a popsicle stick in a bucket to help us keep track of the number of walkers and bikers. We will hand out incentive prizes as the weeks go by. More information to come.

Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) Meeting

All parents and guardians are welcome at the first PTO meeting of the year, this **Monday, September 12 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** Pizza and child care are provided. Among the topics to be discussed is the possibility of a school musical this year.

Be a Box Tops Hero!

Last year CP Smith students, staff, and parents blew our \$600 goal out of the water and wound up bringing in almost \$1,200 through the Box Tops Program. This year our goal is \$1,000. Box Tops money goes directly into the PTO account, to fund things like the Back to School picnic, an event photographer, Artists in Residence, and much more.

Anyone who turns in Box Tops before the end of September will get their name entered into a drawing. The winner (whose name will be drawn & announced on October 3rd) will get an awesome door alarm, perfect for securing your room while you are away.

You can turn Box Tops in to collection bin in the front office. You can put them in a ziploc bag or an envelope, or there are even some collection sheets in the lobby that you can attach them to. However

you turn them in, make sure that your name is on your submission! You don't want to miss out on getting your name in the drawing!

If you have any questions about the program, or would like to donate a prize or help with promotion, please contact Shy Lalumiere at shylmrl@hotmail.com

Yearbook News

5th Grade Yearbook Cover Art Contest

During the month of September, 5th graders are invited to enter the Yearbook Cover Design Contest! Here are the details on how to enter:

- Each entry should be drawn on an 8.5"x11" piece of white paper
- The student's name should be written on the back in pencil
- Entries must include the full name of the school (Charles P. Smith Elementary) and the school year (2016-2017 or variations of this)
- All text should be at least 1" from the edge of the paper
- Entries can be turned in to the front office until September 30th

The winning entry will become the cover for this year's yearbook, and the runners up will be featured on the back cover. If you've got any questions about the contest, please contact Shy Lalumiere at shylmrl@hotmail.com

Business Ad Sales

This year we are selling ad space in the yearbook to local businesses. Ad sales will be conducted throughout the month of September. If you own a business and would like to advertise in this year's yearbook, please contact Shy Lalumiere at shylmrl@hotmail.com for rates and to reserve your space!

School Pictures

School Picture Day is Wednesday, September 14. Look for more information sent home with students.

See You Friday Night for the School Picnic!