

# SMITH TIMES

Friday, May 16, 2014

Volume 22, Number 33

## The Principal's Corner

Greetings!



We are so proud of our school Spelling Team of Macey Allard, Helen Argraves, Nash Barlow, Rory Stein, Nation Tyler, and Heath Walker,

and their coaches, Mr. Joshua Safran and Mrs. Kim Hamlin for winning the recent Burlington School District Spelling Bee! Smith received a whopping 40 points, beating Flynn with 33 points, Edmunds with 32 points, and the Sustainability Academy with 20 points. The trophy they won for our school is proudly on display in the main lobby. This event is an annual celebration of academic excellence, and we were pleased to host it here at Smith this year. We were pleased that Superintendent Jeanne Collins was able to visit the Spelling Bee and congratulate all participants for striving to be the best learners they can be.

Our school conducts an Arbor Day Assembly each year. It is a short ceremony at which we talk about what Arbor Day is, sing a song or two, and then plant a tree in our school yard. This year's assembly will be on Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. on our school grounds, weather permitting. We will gather in the gym if the weather is not good.

June 6<sup>th</sup> is going to be an exciting day for our school community! We have our annual Field Day (weather permitting) during the school day, and that evening, our wonderful P.T.O. is planning a Smith School Community Picnic. (This replaces the one previously scheduled for May 29<sup>th</sup>.) We have our fingers crossed for good weather for that day.

You will find attached to next week's newsletter a copy of our Family Satisfaction Survey. We invite

you to complete and return the survey to our main office. We value your input about how we can make our school better and better. Thank you for offering your ideas about that. Please also refer to the separate article about a district survey.

Teachers across the school asked me to please express their thanks to all those who brought in delicious treats for the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast which our P.T.O. sponsored last week. That was very kind and generous of you, and we all thank you very much.

Thank you for all you do to make our school a community of respectful, responsible, and safe learners.

## Calendar of Events



**5/16:** Deadline for Summer School Applications

**5/23:** Arbor Day Assembly (2:00 p.m.) -- School Grounds

**5/26:** Memorial Day -- (No school.)

**6/6:** Field Day (Raindate: 6/9)

**6/6:** School Community Picnic Sponsored by the P.T.O. (5:30-7:00 p.m.)

**6/11:** Last Student Day: Farewell Assembly at 8:30 a.m.

## News from Around the School



Ms. Kerrin Flanagan's students are reading more stories by author Eric Carle. They also made their own book about how they would like to be like other animals.

The class is observing and recording how their sunflower seedlings are growing and changing. They transplanted their vegetable seedlings to the outdoor planters.

Mrs. Patty Kissell's students are hard at work on geometry, continuing problem solving, subtraction with regrouping, and multiplication.

Mr. Dale Pecor's Grade 4 students and Ms. Sarah Minkler's and Mr. Joshua Safran's Grades 4-5 students will soon be sailing! More about that later . . .

Many teachers recently participated in Mindfulness training, provided by the Center for Mindful Learning. The instructor was Mary Woodruff, a former area principal. What is mindfulness? It is a way of helping children (and adults) relax and focus. Many schools who incorporate mindfulness into their Morning Meetings or during other parts of the school day see increased academic engagement and higher test scores for students.

## Donations of Children's Books?



During field day the Learning Center will be hosting a station for students to choose a used book to take home. In the past the Reading Is Fundamental program has supplied these books for free. This past year the qualifications for this program have changed and BSD schools are no longer eligible. I am inviting parents to donate children's books, that their children have outgrown, to our Field Day book giveaway.

Please bring books in good condition to the Learning Center (or drop off in the Office). We will take books up to June 3rd. Thank you for your help.

## T-Shirt Weather is Here

You've seen them on your friends, now get your CP Smith T-shirt. Only \$12 a shirt. Available in youth, adult and women's fitted sizes - 100% cotton. Come into the office and see Tina to pick yours out. Hurry before they're all gone! Write checks to CP Smith PTO.



## News from the PTO



The PTO is planning an end of the school year celebration for the evening of June 6. There will be food, games, music, and fun. If you would like to pitch in on planning and organizing this event we have a great crew. Join us on Monday, May 19 at 5:30 in the C.P. Smith cafeteria. We'll be eating pizza as we plan. Kids welcome. Please call or email Karen for more information at 315-369-8966 or [kmitchell2ruben@yahoo.com](mailto:kmitchell2ruben@yahoo.com).

## End of the Year BBQ



Come one, come all to the C.P. Smith end of year BBQ. On Friday, June 06, 2014, from 5:30 to 7:00pm, C.P. Smith will hold a BBQ outside near the playground.

Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be served. We are asking those who attend to bring a side dish or salad to share with our Smith community. Also, please bring your blankets or chairs for seating. We hope to have music and games for kids, beginning at 5:00pm. Food will be served between 5:30-6:30pm. We are also looking for volunteers to help organize and anyone with DJ skills is welcome. We sincerely hope you can make it that day. Happy end of year everyone!

## **BSD Climate Survey**

Dear Parents,

Burlington School District believes in celebrating diversity and providing equitable, welcoming environments for every student and family. To measure our success and strive for improvement, we are launching an Equity, Inclusion, and Respect Parent Survey on May 15<sup>th</sup>. This survey will be accessible via a link on the District website ([www.bsdyt.org](http://www.bsdyt.org)) and will be open through May 29<sup>th</sup>.

Designed by independent and technology and communications firm K-12 Insight, the survey seeks your views on critical issues such as discrimination, staff respectfulness, and student safety during school activities. While addressing these topics can be difficult, it is essential to helping students reach their highest intellectual and personal potential.

Separate Equity, Inclusion, and Respect Student and Staff Surveys will be conducted at school. Please be assured that all feedback is confidential, with responses anonymous to Burlington School District staff.

Thank you for your participation, which will guide the District's work to end disrespect, stereotyping, and discrimination at school. We value your opinions and commitment to drawing great strength from our differences.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Collins, Superintendent