

# SMITH TIMES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Volume 22, Number 4

## The Principal's Corner

It was great to see such a wonderful attendance for last evening's Curriculum Night at the school. Teachers appreciated the opportunity to meet with parents and guardians to talk about the academic programs which take place in our classrooms, and we hope you found this to be a valuable experience, too.

Our school is fortunate to have the support of curriculum coaches such as Karyn Vogel (Math), Jane Miller (Literacy), and Betsy Patrick and Colleen Cowell (Science) to help us bring research-based information and innovations into our classrooms. Our teachers work closely with these coaches and actively participate in many other professional development opportunities, as well.

Our School Leadership Team (composed of six teachers and administrators) is in the process of planning an I-Block (the "I" is for intervention) time for students to receive additional instruction in areas in which they would benefit from this extra support and for others to participate in enrichment activities. This instruction would be provided in the last half-hour of the school day each Wednesday, and students would likely receive it from a teacher other than their own classroom teacher. There are a lot of details that need to be worked out, but we wanted you to know that this is in the works. We will keep you posted.

Would you like to learn more about such things as NECAP (New England Common Assessment Program) tests which our Grades 3-5 students participate in and also the Common Core, which is the structure for how schools across the state (and those in many other states) are aligning their curricula?

We are in the process of planning an evening session for parents/guardians about curriculum-related issues and will let you know when that has been arranged. Information sessions such as these for parents/guardians are the work of our

Parent-Teacher Organization and Family-School Partnership Teams. (See below.)

In addition to a very vital Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), our school has (as do others in the district) a Family-School Partnership Team (FSPT), which has the following mission statement: **"It is the mission of the Burlington School District's Family-School Partnership Teams to unite parents, teachers, and administrators of every school to work together to support the success of EVERY Burlington student. The Family-School Partnership Teams help create welcoming, inclusive, and culturally-responsive schools as part of our commitment to diversity and equity. We conduct an extensive search to create a team that ensures ALL voices of our school community are heard and shape, lead, evaluate, and improve how we strengthen partnerships between teachers and families."** For more information about the FSPT or to become more involved with it, please contact me at the school.

Workers will soon plow over the field of buckwheat in the area nearest Farrington Parkway, which will become our apple orchard. The buckwheat will act as a fertilizer for the ground during the winter, making the soil ready for the apple trees to be planted there in the spring. We expect to have more than a dozen sizable trees planted in that area, helping us have an orchard before too long.

Please consult the Calendar of Events for other important activities related to our school community. You will notice on the calendar that no school will be held on Yom Kippur, which is Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. As is the case with Eid and Christmas--other holy days celebrated by many in our area and throughout the world--our district closes school on days we know will be impacted by lower attendance because many students will be absent on those days.

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

## Calendar of Events



9/26: Yom Kippur  
(No School)

10/8: PTO Meeting (6:30-  
8:00 p.m.) – Ellie B. McNamara Memorial  
Library

10/17: Parent-Teacher Conferences (School will  
be dismissed at 11:30 a.m.)

10/18: Parent-Teacher Conferences (No School)

10/19: No School

10/19 – 10/26: Book Fair

11/6: Early Release Day for Teacher Inservice  
(School will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m.)

## Parent-Teacher Conferences

Our first Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming up soon. They are great opportunities for parents and guardians to talk to us about their children and to hear what is happening in their classrooms. Mrs. Tina Desautels, our Administrative Assistant, is in the process of scheduling these conferences for families. If you have a specific conference time which you would like to request, please call (864-8479) or email Mrs. Desautels ([tdesaute@bsdvt.org](mailto:tdesaute@bsdvt.org)) on or before Thursday, September 27th. Information about conference dates and times will be sent home with students on Wednesday, October 3rd. Conferences will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 17th (school will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m.) and all day on Thursday, October 18th, when there will be no school. This is also a reminder that there will be no school on Friday, October 19th, as well. We look forward to meeting with you during the conference times for your children and at other times and in other ways, too. We hope you will always feel free to contact us by telephone, email, or note, whenever you have information to share or a question or a concern to bring to our attention. Our doors are always open to you.

## PTO Halloween Costume Drop and Shop

Love Halloween, but hate spending lots of money on a costume your child will just use for a few hours? Do you have a collection of characters collecting dust in your closet? Make this a Green Halloween® by participating in the CP Smith PTO costume drop and shop! Join us to recycle your gently used Halloween costumes and select low cost costumes to outfit your kids this year!

### **How it Works:**

#### **Drop...**

There will be a box in the lobby of CP Smith for costume donations starting **Monday, October 1st**. Drop off costumes you'd like to donate any weekday between 7:30-5:30 up until Friday, October 12.

#### **Guidelines:**

Kids costumes sizes 0-12 will be accepted.

Sizes should be clearly marked.

Costumes should be complete and must be clean, with no stains, rips or tears (unless part of the costume).

Accessories are also welcome!

#### **...and Shop!**

Come to CP Smith on **Saturday, October 13th between 10-12** to shop for gently used, low cost (\$3-5) costumes.

All proceeds will benefit the CP Smith PTO.

Due to limited dressing areas, please dress kids ready for public try-ons.

Refreshments will also be available for sale.

Leftover costumes will be donated to Goodwill.

Contact: Amy Livingston at [amyliv22@gmail.com](mailto:amyliv22@gmail.com) or 355-4514





## **INNISBROOK GIFT WRAP FUNDRAISER**

The CP Smith PTO  
Innisbrook gift wrap  
fundraiser will run from  
September 24th through

October 9th, all proceeds from this fundraiser will go to support the CP Smith PTO and the school community. Information regarding the fundraiser as well as a permission slip will be sent home to families this week. In order for your child to participate in the fundraiser the signed permission slip will need to be sent back to the school. Once we have received the permission slip a fundraiser packet will go home with your child. this is always a fun fundraiser for our school and we hope that you will participate. If you have any questions please contact me at [jlecuyer7@gmail.com](mailto:jlecuyer7@gmail.com) or 660-9669. Thank you for your support.

Jennifer L'Ecuyer  
C.P. Smith PTO

## **Get ready for your basketball season the Saint Michael's way!**



The Saint Michael's College Men's Basketball team will be running a Turkey Day Basketball Clinic Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. The clinic will run from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM on both days and is open to children between the ages of 7 and 17. Price: \$15 for one day and \$25 for both days. This is a chance to learn the game of basketball from Saint Michael's coaches and players in a fun and friendly environment. For registration information please email Coach Mike Larkin at [mlarkin@smcvt.edu](mailto:mlarkin@smcvt.edu).

The dissemination of this material is intended to be for community service. The Burlington School District does not endorse or sponsor this organization.

## **Burlington Park and Recreation**

### Let's Sing Vocal Class

Ages-10-18

Mondays-6:00PM-7:00PM

Miller Community Recreation Center

Beginning Monday September 24-October 29th-  
Session 1

November 5-December 17-Session 11

\$75.00 Resident/\$85.00 Non-Resident

### Quick Start Tennis Workshop

Ages-5-14

Saturday, October 6

Leddy Park Tennis Courts

\$10.00 Resident/Non-Resident



### Cheer Team-by Ila Sewall of GymKids Academy Inc.

Ages-5-14

Wednesdays-6:15PM-7:30PM

CP Smith Elementary Gymnasium

Beginning Wednesday, October 3-January 16

\$140.00 Resident/\$160.00 Non-Resident

Please contact the Burlington Department of Parks and Recreation to register or register on line at [www.enjoyburlington.com](http://www.enjoyburlington.com)

## **From Ms. Souliere**

Needing sneakers for my sneaker box. If you have any sneakers that are still in good shape that your child has outgrown please feel free to bring them into school.



Also, looking for a volunteer to help with the construction of a new pre-fab shed we will be getting for Wellness/PE equipment. I will be able to give you the delivery date soon. It would require no experience just extra sets of hands to assist the builder. Many thanks.