

FALCON FLASH

November 30, 2018

Upcoming Events:

12/1-Craft Fair – 10am – 2pm
12/4&5 – Brighter Maine Smiles
12/6-Gr. 4/5 Winter Chorus Concert@BCS
12/24 – Jan 1 – Winter Break
12/25-Merry Christmas

12/26-Kwanza Begins
12/26-Boxing Day
1/1-Happy New Year
1/2-Back to School (Late Start)



THE PRINCIPAL CONNECTION @mrlajoiebham

This week we welcomed back Mrs. Abby Mackenzie to her first grade classroom! Mrs. Mackenzie has been out on leave since the birth of her daughter, Kate, on August 4th. During the first third of the year, Ms. Sarah Klein filled in admirably. Mrs. Klein was a great – though temporary – addition to our Bowdoinham team. She will be working through the remainder of this school year as the grades 3-5 teacher at the Chebeague Island School, a place very much in need of the caring and skilled Mrs. Klein. We wish her well!

HOT TOPIC: FEEDBACK

Some of the most compelling research on how people learn has to do with feedback. Anyone who has competed on a sports team with a coach may relate. Specific and timely feedback on performance has one of the largest impacts on learning and improvement. That is why we communicate clear learning goals to students, and work hard to give them the right feedback at the right time to help them grow.

It works the same for organizations, like our school and district. Thank you for giving your feedback on our performance as a school, and in some cases specific comments that can help us grow even more. Of those who completed a survey at student conferences, 82% of parents “strongly agree” with our school’s approach to teaching and learning, and over 97% support it overall. At the same time, there are more concerns with the way we are reporting student learning to parents – only 66% of parents support our current approach to grading and reporting, with 21% of respondents “strongly disagree”ing.

The BHM Staff and I are encouraged by your support of our practice, and we also share some of your concerns with the way our report card works right now. It is not up to our high standards for communication, and in many cases is confusing to the parent. We have some frustration that it does not communicate the clarity we feel in each student’s learning and progress. We are continuing to work as a district to improve our reporting so that every parent can look at their child’s report card and feel confident that they understand where he or she is in their learning. Thank you for your feedback, and keep it coming.

Yours in meaningful learning that lasts,

Mr. Lajoie ☺

Individual student reports from the Spring 2018 Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) testing will be going home in envelopes to 4th and 5th grade parents next week. Please keep a look out, and be in touch with Mr. Lajoie if you have questions. Thanks!

Do you use **Shutterfly** to print photos, or create seasonal cards and calendars? Through our school’s partnership with Lifetouch, we are able to take advantage of a new fundraising source for the school. Start your project with the link BHM.ShutterflyStorefront.com – and 8% of your total purchase gets kicked back to the school. It’s that easy! Please spread the word about this funding opportunity for our school, as well as the ease with which a school supporter can donate to the school at enrichbhm.org. More funding coming into the school means more exceptional learning opportunities for our kids. Thank you for your support!



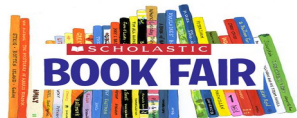
Bowdoinham Community School Craft Fair is December 1st from 10-2. There is still space available. If you would like to sell your craft items e-mail Katy Petrie at briankaty6108@gmail.com, she will make sure you have an application. **Craft Fair Volunteers needed for November 30th and December 1st.** help us setup, sell baked goods at the craft fair, sell raffle tickets, or simply donate some baked goods for the bake sale. All proceeds benefit the Bowdoinham Parent Partnership and fund enrichment and activities throughout the year. E-mail Katy Petrie at briankaty6108@gmail.com if you would like to help.



Chorus & Instrumental Music Concert– All Bowdoinham Community & Bowdoin Central 4th & 5th Grade Chorus members as well as selected 4th & 5th Grade instrumentalists will be performing on Thursday, December 6th beginning at 6:00pm in the Bowdoin Central School gym. All students performing should be at the school by 5:40pm.



We have our own “Meaningful Brewing” blend of Wicked Joe coffee. It’s a medium roast coffee and all profits go towards our Arts program here at school. One bag is \$10. It makes great Christmas gifts. Send your request and payment to the office in an envelope with your child’s name and teacher and how many bags and we will send it home with your child.



The Scholastic book fair will open Saturday, Dec 1 from 10am to 2pm at the

BHM Craft Fair. Come purchase your Christmas presents for your students!! Who doesn't love books!!



COMMUNITY NEWS



Holiday Giving Tree - The giving season is coming quickly and we have already started preparations here at the Town Office. There will be two different businesses hosting our giving tree. The Bowdoinham Country Store and the Bowdoinham Hardware Store. If you would like to help bring some holiday cheer to our fellow residents all you need to do is go to the Bowdoinham Country Store or the Bowdoinham Hardware Store starting November 19th and choose a gift tag from the tree. The gift tags will have all the pertinent information that is needed. We ask that you bring the unwrapped gift (along with the gift tag attached) back to the Town Office or Library **by Monday, December 17th**. The purpose of this tree is to help any resident, family, or elderly person who may be in need this time of year. Please know that the name(s) are kept strictly confidential. If you have any questions or know a family or someone who may need help this season, please call Pam at the Town Office at 666-5531.



Snow White

Snow White - A program of story and song for young audiences - Dec. 1, 2018 10:00am and 1:00pm. Admission Free. Curtis Memorial Library Morrell Meeting Room. FMI call MSMT 725-8760



FOOD
PANTRY

Bowdoinham Food Pantry's hours of operation. The pantry will be open from 4pm - 6pm every Wednesday and Saturday from 9am - 10am For more information please call 751-7779, Lily Montgomery.



Hello December

<http://TheFunnyPlace.net>