

B. J. H. S.

The Husky Herald

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 5

FEBRUARY 2018



Dear Parents and Caregivers:

Our second quarter has come to a close and your child received their report card on Monday. Our goal is to have a report card that matches what you are expecting—in other words, no surprises. We work hard to keep you up-to-date with Power School parent access to grades, our curriculum updates, and any individual communication that is needed. Please let us know if something does not look right on your child’s report card.

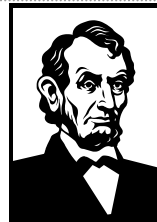
During the month of February, we will be promoting our Catch-A-Smile campaign. Our students will share what makes them smile, we will set up a photo booth to “catch” some of the great smile’s we have at BJHS, and we will post our messages and pictures. We will also share some of our messages on our morning announcements.

We know that engaged students have better experiences in Middle School. To help our students get involved in our afterschool programming, we are now offering an Activity Bus on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students who are staying after school for an activity of any kind (club, music, homework help, etc.) can catch a bus to locations throughout town that are near their homes. We hope to see in an increase in students getting involved in our many fun activities.

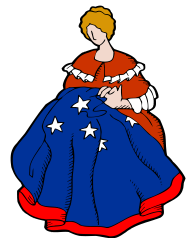
As always, if you have a school-related question or concern, please contact us at 319-1930.

Sincerely,

Walter Wallace
Principal, BJHS



Biography Day!



Eighth Graders to Bring History Alive on Biography Day!

On Tuesday, February 13th, history will come alive as nearly 200 great Americans from the past visit classrooms throughout our school to tell their stories. For the past two months, each eighth grade student has been researching and reading information on a character in American history, answering questions, writing essays, and creating an engaging Biography Day presentation for the sixth and seventh graders. It is an incredible sight seeing one-third of our school dressed as historical figures and acting in the role of heroes from America’s past. Now in its seventeenth year, Biography Day has proven to be an excellent way for students to learn from each other about the many great Americans who have made this world a better and more interesting place. For more information, please contact 8th grade social studies teachers, Ms. Blake or Mrs. Beede.



Notes From the Nurse!

The Maine CDC recommends following the “No Flu 4 You” guidelines which include:

- ♦ **Wash your hands:** Both the general public and healthcare providers should remember to wash their hands frequently to prevent transmission of influenza.
- ♦ **Cover your cough:** Use tissues, or cough into your sleeve.
- ♦ **Stay home when you are sick:** Symptomatic individuals should remain home until 24 hours after fever resolves without the use of medications.
- ♦ **Get Vaccinated:** Maine CDC recommends vaccination for everyone aged 6 months and older, especially for those people who are at high risk of serious complications from influenza. Influenza vaccine is provided at no-cost by the state of Maine for children under the age of 19 years. Vaccine is still available through vaccine clinics, healthcare providers, and many local pharmacies, and offers protection in 14 days. For questions about vaccination please contact the Maine Immunization Program at 800-867-4775 or through immunizeme@maine.gov.

Stay Healthy,

Helen Tetu, RN

Students Show off Geography Knowledge at 2016-17 School Geo Bee



Can you name the state where Thomas Jefferson’s home, Monticello is located, or which continent tree climbing alligators can be found? Well, if you were a finalist in the BJHS Geography Bee held on January 11, 2017, you most certainly did correctly answer both of these questions as well as many others. Twenty finalists were selected from classroom and team competitions that involved over five hundred students. After one and a half hours and several final round questions, eighth grader Adam Nussbaum prevailed in a hard fought contest. Sixth grader Thomas McCormick was this year’s runner-up. Congratulations to each of these outstanding geography scholars! Adam earns the top honor of representing our school at the state Geography Bee on April 1st. The entire BJHS community wishes Adam the best of luck as he takes his outstanding geography skills to the next level!



Math Team News

Upcoming math meets include Southern Maine Math League meets at the Holiday Inn by the Bay on Monday, February 12, for 6th, 7th and 8th grade math teams. There is a Central Maine Math League meet on Saturday, February 10, in Gardiner for 7th and 8th graders.

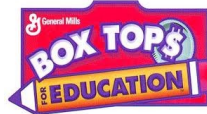




Many thanks to the parents and students that have turned in Box Tops. We have earned \$340.70 so far this year. This money goes toward classroom supplies and busses for field trips. We have a goal of reaching \$1,000.00 this year and we need your help! Please



continue to CLIP Box Tops!!



Yearbooks

Yearbooks are a great way to remember your time at Brunswick Junior High! Yearbooks are available for a limited time. Be sure to reserve yours before they are sold out. You can purchase a yearbook by following the link on our school website. Please make sure you include your student's grade and Home-room Advisor's name.



Science Club



Science Club - February's Science Club will meet on Tuesday, February 13th after school until 4:00. The topic this month is "Shapes in Nature". We will explore why snowflakes, minerals, Romanesco broccoli, and viruses have their particular shapes. We also show how fractals determine many shapes.

Meet in Room 108 after the walker bell and have your rides ready at 4:00. Please let Mrs. Lamdin know if you will attend by Monday, February 12th.



UPCOMING FREEDOM TOUR DATES:

Here are the upcoming Freedom Tour Meeting dates and topics. Meetings are at 6:30 in the BHS Café for 8th graders signed up for the tour.

- 2/7- The topic will be to Identify Teams/ Team Expectations.
- 2/28- The topic will be Conflict Resolution.
- 4/4- The topic will be Immigration and 9/11.
- 5/9- The topic will be Monuments/ Museums.
- 5/16- The topic will be the Holocaust.
- 6/13- The topic will be final prep, parent Q&A.

Freedom Tour – June 21-27



Happy President's Day!



Clothes Bank In School

Parents, high school students/staff and BJHS staff have donated items for an in-school Clothes Bank located in the back of the Health Room. If you have, or know of, a student in need of hats, jackets, shoes, pants, shirts, boots, etc.. Some items are brand new, some gently used, all in great shape! These items are here for anyone to go through and take what they need.

A parent volunteer to help keep the donations organized would be greatly appreciated. This could be done on a monthly, or an as-needed basis.

For more information, contact Sarah Bingham:
sbingham@brunswick.k12.me.us



Homework Club!

Meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays for an hour after school in Room 107. Join us for some quiet, guided homework time.

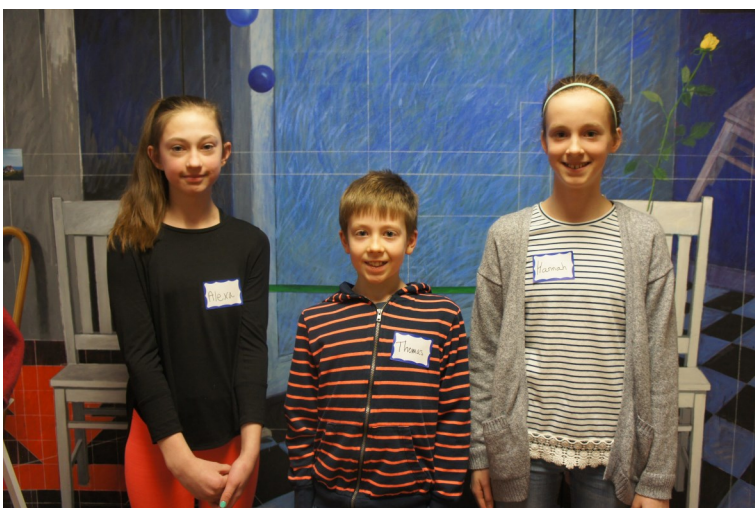
Snacks provided!

Walk, arrange a ride or catch the 3:50 late bus. All are welcome.



The BJHS Chess Club meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 308 from 2:50 until 3:50 with all rides arranged for no later than 4:00.

It is open to all ability levels and all grade levels at BJHS and students may come on both days a week, one day a week, or even occasionally as they can. Please contact Mr. Higgins at 319-1930 or e-mail him at jhiggins@brunswick.k12.me.us with any questions.



Brunswick Jr. High spelling champions include (L to R): Alexa Scott (co-champion), Thomas McCormack (co-champion) and Hannah Wilkoff (alternate).

B.J.H.S Spelling Champions

On January 9, students from grades 6, 7 and 8 participated in the Brunswick Jr. High School Spelling Bee. The school co-champions who will represent B.J.H.S. at the Cumberland County Spelling Bee are seventh grader Thomas McCormack and sixth grader Alexa Scott. Hannah Wilkoff, grade 7, is the alternate.

Other grade-level finalists include the following:

GRADE 8 - Joey Valliere, first; Emma Thoits, second; Logan Brown, third.

GRADE 7 - Thomas McCormack, first; Hannah Wilkoff, second; Kai Gillespie, third;

GRADE 6 - Alexa Scott, first; Emily Wallace, Loring Boak and Quinlan Repetto, tied for second.

What do these codes mean?

If you've been checking your child's attendance in PowerSchool and you aren't sure what the attendance codes mean, here is a simple explanation of codes:

- EA = Excused Absence (absent and received an excuse note)*
- ED = Early dismissal*
- ET = Excused Tardy (came in late with excuse note)*
- FT = Field Trip*
- PA = Prearranged Absence (2 or more days of planned absence)*
- PE = Parent Excused (parent phoned in student, but no excuse note received)*
- PU = Prearranged but unexcused*
- UA = Unexcused Absence (absent, no excuse note received)*
- UT = Unexcused Tardy (came in late, no excuse note received)*

Good attendance helps children do well in school, and eventually in the workplace. Good attendance matters for school success, starting as early as prekindergarten and throughout elementary school. By middle and high school, poor attendance is a leading indicator of dropout. Developing the habit of good attendance prepares students for success on the job and in life. If you have any further questions about your student's attendance, please call the BJHS main office at 319-1930.



Volunteers at BJHS

The Brunswick School Department has updated the way we use volunteers district wide. We ask all our volunteers to fill out the "Application for Volunteers." This will allow us to make sure all volunteers meet our requirements for keeping our school safe, and we will be better equipped to meet the needs of our teachers and students.

Once approved, volunteers will be added to our volunteer list. This listing will allow teachers to request volunteers via email based on task and/or availability. You can get an Application for Volunteer from Mrs. Duffy at the Main Office, or request one via email at aduffy@brunswick.k12.me.us Please return the completed application to Mrs. Duffy at BJHS. We look forward to helping you help us!

BJHS to BHS Transition

8th Grade Students & Parents Please Take Note!

The transition to Brunswick High School is fast approaching!

Please mark your calendars with the following dates:

March 2, 2018 - Representatives from the High School will be at BJHS to present to students about choosing courses, class requirements and community service. There will also be a question and answer session with current high school students.

March 9, 2018 - High School Counselors will be at BJHS to sign 8th grade students up for classes.

April 11, 2018 - Spring Fling at BHS at 6:00pm

June 1, 2018 - Step Up Day for 8th graders to BHS.

This will include a tour, a student panel, presentations, and lunch in the cafeteria.

The Art Department is excited to announce the 12th Annual Family Art Night! Join us Friday, February 9th for an exciting evening of free art activities for the whole family, and support the art program by bidding on Silent Auction items. Family Art Night will be held in the Brunswick Junior High cafeteria on Friday, February 9th, from 5:00-7:30. Dinner concessions of soup, salad, and sides will be available for purchase.

Want to help out? Click on the SignUp Genius link below, and select the way you'd like participate, make a soup or salad for the dinner concessions, serve food to hungry artists, or assist at one of the activity tables or at the silent auction.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944afa82babfa7-12th>

Have an item you'd like to donate to the Silent Auction? Contact Cory Bucknam or Kari McCarthy. We are looking for auction items of all shapes and sizes, and for all ages!

Questions? Contact Cory Bucknam (cbucknam@brunswick.k12.me.us) or Kari McCarthy (kmccarthy@brunswick.k12.me.us)

Thank you for supporting the arts, and we'll see you at Family Art Night!

Creative Writing Club:

The Creative Writing Club meets after school every Monday in room 204 to write, read, and discuss your latest creations. All are welcome to attend.

This spring we will be publishing our annual literary magazine, *Husky Prints*. All club members will sit on the editorial board to design and edit our book. See you there!



Friday, February 9th 5:00 - 7:30 pm
Brunswick Jr. High Cafeteria

Free Arts & Crafts activities
\$3 Soup Only; \$5 Soup/Salad/Side

Silent Auction

Free event for all Brunswick students and their families
Snow date: February 13th

The PE department would like to thank all the students that participated in the annual Hoops for Heart challenges in PE class. The records for the challenges are posted



outside the PE offices, take a look! Five 6th grade students raised \$263! This money is used by the American Heart Association for education and medical research. Hopefully our students got the message that exercise is good for their hearts and donating is good for the soul.

Winter and Spring Sports:



Basketball is coming to a close and wrestling is just beginning. Wrestling will continue our partnership with Mount Ararat and a meet schedule will be posted soon.

Although the weather outside doesn't feel spring-like, the spring sports season will be here before we know it. As a reminder, here are the spring sports offered:



Lacrosse: Girls & Boys for 7th and 8th graders
Baseball/Softball: Open to 7th and 8th graders
Track and Field: Open to 6th, 7th and 8th graders
(events including running, jumping and throwing).

If your child has not participated in a fall or winter sport they must have an Athletic Permission Form signed by their PCP before they can participate.

All athletic paperwork can be found on the athletic webpage.

More spring sport information to come Mid-March. For updates, continue to check the athletic website.

