

# BCS Elementary School Newsletter

April 13, 2018

Gwen Bacon, Principal



## Principal's News

At Belgrade Central School, we expect all members of our school community to Be responsible, Communicate respectfully, and Spread kindness. This school wide theme is what we reference as teachers choose our students of the month.

I am proud to share with you the following students that have been selected as students of the month this school year. Students are listed grade K - grade 5.

**September:** Faith Moody, Isabella Castner, Anthony Parisi, Paytin Lastella, Deirdre D'Amico, Jade Eastman

**October:** Hailey Jones, Nathaniel Burton, Bella White, Brady Dickens, Cameron Chabot, Abigail Worcester

**November:** Landon Dunbar, Finleigh Wedge, Alexa Cummings, Eleanor Fairfield, Emma McDowell, Ethan Miller

**December:** Landon Ware, Ashley Stoddard, Benedict Cracolici, Emma Brann, Parker Blaisdell, Spencer Brittner.

**January:** Blake Tibbetts, Gabriel Stocco, Gage Fitcher, Avery Vallee, Roselyn Martin, Brynne Barron.

**February:** Blake Osterhoudt, Mackenzie White, Makayla Truman, Blaine Simmons, Christopher McLaughlin, Nicole Solis.

**March:** Easton Claudel, Josiah Gagne-Sengendo, Annika Loranger, Parker Grant, Adelle MacLeay, Evan Putnam.

Congratulations to everyone and a big thanks to Mrs. Wade, our school counselor, for organizing this each month along with our Eagle Awards.

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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ 5/17 District Budget Meeting (6:00 pm PAC)
- ◆ 5/22 Early Release Day (12:00 pm)

## Dear Parents

**ATTENDANCE MATTERS:** Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day. We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. However, we also know that when students miss too much school - regardless of the reason - it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is chronically absent - which is defined as missing 18 or more days over

the course of an entire school year. Research shows that starting in kindergarten, too many absences (excused and unexcused) can cause children to fall behind in school; missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) increases the chance that your student will not read or master math at the same level as their peers; students can fall behind if they miss just a day or two every few weeks; being late to school may lead to poor attendance; and absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up. Let us know how we can support you and your child.

## Attendance Procedures



*Eagle Pride*

*“Please help keep our attendance records accurate by contacting the school when your child is absent”*

Maine law requires daily attendance of all students ages 7-17. Personal illness, health related appointments, religious holidays, family emergencies, and specific planned purposes are considered excusable absences provided that the parents call the school or provide written documentation. Unexcused absences will result in a student being classified as truant. Truancy at the elementary level has to

be reported to the Superintendent of Schools and the Maine Department of Education and is defined as follow; “when a student is at least 7 years of age and has not completed grade 6 and has the equivalent of 7 full days of unexcused absences or 5 consecutive school days of unexcused absences during a school year. Please help keep our attendance records accurate by contacting the school when your child is absent.

## Nutrition/Wellness Expectations

RSU 18 has a Wellness Policy that is committed to providing a school environment that supports student wellness, healthy food choices, nutrition education, and regular physical activity. A goal at BCS is to make sure that all students receive a consistent nutrition message throughout the school, including classrooms, cafeteria, and school-home communications. In order to meet this goal of consistency, students should be reminded that when food is provided to

other students at parties, celebrations, meetings or just to classmates for no particular reason, choices should include items that are whole grain rich, or have a fruit or vegetable as the primary ingredient. Providing donuts without other nutritional options first thing in the morning to classmates is not supporting our nutritional message. Please refrain from sending in these items so that our message remains consistent. Additionally, beverages high in sugar and caffeine (soda and coffee) should not be brought to school.

## Appropriate Dress for Spring Weather

As warm weather is quickly approaching we would ask that you remind your student(s) about proper dress for school. All students are expected to dress appropriately for a K-5 educational environment. Any clothing that interferes with or disrupts the educational environment is unacceptable and students will be required to cover the inappropriate clothing or may be sent home to change

such clothing. Shoes should be worn at all times as flip-flops or sandals may limit certain activities because of safety reasons. Skirts, shorts, and dresses should be mid-thigh or longer in length (finger-tip rule). Immodest clothing is prohibited at school (bare midriffs, undergarments exposed). We ask parents to see that their children are dressed and groomed properly to encourage cleanliness and good health.

## As another year comes to an End

Each year our school calendar includes snow days. This year, at BCS we had a total of six snow days with only four being included in our calendar. As a result of these additional days, our last day of school for students and teachers will change. The last day for students

will now be June 21st with a dismissal at noon. The last day for teachers will be on June 22nd, which is an in-service day.

Enjoy your summer break!!!!

## Kindergarten News

If you live in Belgrade or Rome and your child will be 5 by October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 please call Belgrade **Central School 495-2321** to set up your Kindergarten Screening appointment with Mrs. Stevens!

(This only applies to students that have not been previously screened to attend PreK at RSU 18.)

Pre-k applications are available at the BCS office. Students need to be 4 by October 15th, 2018 in order to qualify

All BCS Kindergarten students will be transported to the Performing Arts Center at Messalonskee High School to see *The Frog Town Mountaineers* puppet performance on May 15th.

## Grades 2-4

Students in grades 1 and 2 will be transported to the Performing Arts Center at Messalonskee High School to see *The Frog town Mountaineers* puppet performance on May 15th.

All students at BCS will attend a performance by *The Theater at Monmouth* on May 16th. This performance will take place at Belgrade Central School sponsored by our PTO.

Students in grades 1 and 3 will attend the NELE Kids Day on May 17th.



*BCS Field  
Day/picnic/video  
June 18th.*

## Grade 5 News

All students in grade 5 will participate in the MEA Science assessment the week of April 30th-May 4th. Please encourage your student to be in attendance to avoid make-up testing.

Our grade 5 chorus students will be performing at the high school PAC at 7:00 p.m. on May 29th.

Our grade 5 Promotion Ceremony is tentatively scheduled for Friday, June

15th. This event will start at 9:00 a.m. here at BCS.