

All the news from Birchwood Elementary for the week!

BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly Bulletin -- December 4, 2014



Message from the Co-Presidents:

Please join us tomorrow night, Friday, December 5th at the annual Birchwood Open House from 5:30-7:30 PM. **You definitely don't want to miss out on all the action!** Classrooms will be open, allowing you and your child to spend some time talking about what they are currently working on in school and see any new additions to the classroom décor - highlighting current unit topics. You can browse the collection of books for sale at the Sir Readalot Scholastic Book Fair happening in the gym and the kids can chose to purchase reasonably priced gifts for friends and loved ones down the hall in the Art Room at the Holiday Shop. Birchwood's first Wellness Fair, being held in the cafeteria, will also be staffed with many local experts - you and your child will likely benefit from the knowledge they share. In addition to table exhibits, students and parents can experience a free yoga, boot camp, or meditation mini-session. See below for more details on the Wellness Fair and other Open House activities happening tomorrow night. We look forward to seeing you there!

With Birchwood Pride,
JoMarie and Deb

WHAT'S GOING ON AT BIRCHWOOD...



December 5th Birchwood [Open House Extravaganza!](#)

Why come to [Open House](#) on Friday, December 5th from 5:30-7:30 PM? The answer is...because there are so many fun and amazing things going on that night. You can read more details about specific Open House events further down in the bulletin, but here is a little overview and 4 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD COME:

1. **Visit your child's classroom:** Teachers will not be present, but classrooms will be filled with projects your children have worked hard on this fall.
2. **Our First Ever Interactive Wellness Fair:** Visit exhibits to learn great ways to stay healthy and safe and enjoy, participate in a scavenger hunt, and try out some mini fitness classes. It's all FREE!
3. **Scholastic Book Fair:** The last night to get all sorts of great deals on good books... just in time for the holidays!
4. **Holiday Shoppe:** A low-key shopping opportunity for Birchwood students. Small, inexpensive items will be available for children to purchase for holiday gifts!

See You There!

The [Gift Card Fundraiser](#) through Great Lakes Scrip was a great success. The cards have arrived and can be picked up at Birchwood Friday between 5-6pm. We thank all who participated.

We have sent out an additional order form for those last minute gift cards with a deadline of December 5th so that we can get the cards back in time for Christmas. These cards are purchased at face value, but the PTO will receive the corresponding rebate percentage. You can purchase as many cards as you like for yourself or to give as gifts - they are great for teachers, bus drivers, friends and family. Look [HERE](#) for a complete list! Simply complete the order form and send in payment by December 5th. Please make checks payable to BIRCHWOOD PTO. Contact [Millie Gnatek](#) if you have any questions about this program.



It's Snowing! It's Snowing! How will you know if it's a snow day? Cancellations, delays, and early releases will always be posted at the [District Website](#), on local TV and radio stations, and on the district's [FaceBook](#) page. Closing information can also be sent directly to your email account via the district's School News Notifier (SNN) system if you have signed up for the closings and delays notification option. It will also be sent directly to your cell phone via text message if you have signed up for text message alerts. Sign up for School News Notifier (SNN) [HERE](#).

Mark Your Calendars!

- December 2- 5: Birchwood Book Fair (see details above)
- December 5: Birchwood's [Open House, Wellness Fair, and Holiday Shoppe](#) (5:30pm)
- December 5: Popcorn Friday & School Banking
- December 16: Board of Education Meeting (VA, 7pm)
- December 24 - January 4: December Break
- January 19: Macaroni Grill Fundraiser (4pm) -- SAVE THE DATE!

For more upcoming Birchwood events, please click [HERE](#).

Birchwood's Lunch Menu is posted [HERE](#).



Birchwood Elementary School

Look It Up On Our
[PTO Website!](#)



Help Birchwood and HAVE FUN!

Don't know what's for lunch, or can't remember where to make school lunch payments? Your school calendar isn't handy, and you can't remember when the next half-day is? Not sure when to pick up your Frozen Foods order? Forgot what days the Book Fair runs? Can't make PTO meetings, but want to know what was discussed?

You can find all that information (and much much more) by visiting the [Birchwood PTO Website](#). It's even searchable! Don't forget to bookmark the site for repeat visits.

Thank you to Kim McClive-Reed and Pennie Cuevas for all the work they put into our website!



Have a Submission for the Bulletin?

Have something for the next newsletter?

Just email [Pam Ober](mailto:Pam.Ober) at oberstone3@yahoo.com

by Sunday night and she will do her best to include it in that week's newsletter.

Feedback? [Click here](#)

Add/update an email address? [Click here](#)

The Birchwood Bulletin is produced by the PTO Communications Committee in cooperation with the Birchwood principal and staff.

To submit information for the weekly bulletin, please email Birchwood@niskyPTO.org by Sunday night of the week you want it to appear.

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You are receiving this email because you are listed in the Birchwood directory and have not opted out.

Our mailing address is:

Birchwood Elementary School PTO
897 Birchwood Lane
Niskayuna, NY 12309

Congratulations to William Kruggel, 2Q who won (2) passes to laser tag at Zero Gravity, all for sending in his box tops! Submit your Labels for Education and Box Tops to the Main Office by Friday December 5 to be entered in the December drawing for a \$5 TCBY gift card.

[Box Tops for Education](#) -- collect and turn in box tops from select products to earn money for our school

[Labels for Education](#) -- each "Labels for Education" product you purchase earns points Birchwood can redeem for merchandise

Please visit our webpage for instructions (it's simple!) or just [email us](#) and we'll send them to you.



Contact us:

Birchwood@niskyPTO.org

Birchwood PTO homepage:

<http://birchwood.niskypto.org/>

Birchwood school homepage:

www.nisk.k12.ny.us/birchwood

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