



BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly Bulletin December 1, 2016

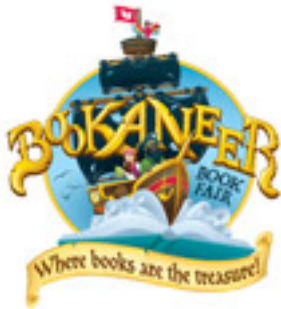
A message from Principal Berndt

We all, here at Birchwood, hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with your family. It is always nice to have a break from the routine to relax and spend time with family. We are happy to see all of your children's smiling faces as they returned to school this week.

I want to share with you some highlights from our WIN (What I Need) block work in grades 1-4. This is part of our Professional Learning Community work. Students are spending 30 minutes three times a week to work on various skills to strengthen them moving forward. Some skills include, spelling/word families, phonics, and math facts. This work is done in a fun, hands-on manner providing students with other opportunities to interact with students from the other grade level classes. One class is playing "Beat the Calculator" to practice math facts. Another class played a game called "I have, who has?" Students seem to be enjoying these meetings.

Debra A. Berndt

Fall Book Fair



Bookeneer book fair in full swing this week. If you can come in during your son/daughter buying time (see below) it would be greatly appreciated!! We are adding 1000 Book Kid to our wishlist this year. Let's help build up those green bags!!

	Thur Dec 1	Fri Dec 2
8:10-8:40	2-C	K-Bi
8:45-9:15	1-M	4-L
9:20-9:50		4-C
9:55-10:25	K-Be	
10:30-11:00	5-I	3-0
11:10-11:40	5-D	

11:45-12:15	1-L	1-C
1:00-1:30	2-M	K-P
1:30-2:00	3-S	



Everyone's invited to the PTO's
Cool Kids READ
Open House Night!! 

On Fri., Dec 2nd from 5:30-7pm in the gym

 Wear your comfy clothes, pj's or sweats!
 Bring a blanket, bean bag or pillow
 and of course some books to read!

Our PTO Scholastic Book Fair will also be open that night
 for you to make book purchases!


At 6:30pm enjoy listening to a story shared by Mother Goose



 Members of our 3rd grade class will have a bake sale to honor the memory of Lynn Gasorowski, grandmother of their classmate Stella, who recently passed away due to cancer. All proceeds will be donated to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. 

Capital Project Vote

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, voters will head to the polls to decide on \$5,614,000 in capital improvements that focus on health, safety and infrastructure projects identified in last year's Building Condition Survey. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Niskayuna High School that day. The proposal is timed with the retirement of existing debt, and it carries no projected tax increase.

Here is a link to the capital project video: <http://www.niskyschools.org/news/2016-17/Dec6-Capital-Project-Video.cf>

Dear 5th grade parents:

With the Holidays coming up fast and (maybe) some snow days... perhaps there will be some time to reflect, relax and go through some photos of your child(ren). If so, please remember to email some of those photos to the 5th grade Yearbook Committee for your child to be represented fairly in those special pages. The photos should be larger than 1 Megabyte in size and uncropped and not size restricted. They can be emailed to [Birchwoodyearbookpictures@gmail.com](mailto: Birchwoodyearbookpictures@gmail.com). This is the last year in Elementary school, lets capture some of the special memories for our kids.

Did your child join Birchwood at a later grade? No problem, we welcome photos from the earlier grades from other schools. What photos should you send? You can email us photos of your child during school activities, playing sports or fun family time, vacations, pursuing hobbies, etc. Do you have additional questions? You can reach us at [Birchwoodyearbookpictures@gmail.com](mailto:birchwoodyearbookpictures@gmail.com).

We look forward to adding your child to our Yearbook pages. Thank you!

KidStuff Coupon Books

Anyone who ordered a KidStuff Coupon book and has NOT received it, please contact JoMarie Ethier (jomarie828@gmail.com).

Mark your calendar!

- December 2 - Popcorn Friday and School Banking
- December 2 - Cool Kids Read and Family Shopping at the Book Fair (5:30-7pm – in the gym)
- December 6 - Capital Project Vote (7am-9pm – at the high school)
- December 7 - Arithmatickls (8:15am [3-5] 9:15am [K-2])
- December 16 - Popcorn Friday and School Banking