

All the news from Birchwood Elementary for the week!

BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly Bulletin -- January 9, 2014



Start the new year off right with some practical parenting advice! The district's popular Coffee Talk series will continue on January 10th with "4 Weeks to a Quieter, Healthier Home" at Glencliff Elementary School (8:15am).

The presenter for these workshops will be Dr. Randy Cale. He is a licensed psychologist, author, speaker, and parenting expert.

These workshops are timely, focused, and filled with practical advice. See the [COFFEE TALK SCHEDULE](#) for more information.

The Community Forum and Board of Education Meeting took place this week.

Parents will receive an update on the process shortly.

Birchwood's After School Enrichment Program will begin at the end of the month.

Look for the winter program in your child's backpack early next week. Classes include new offerings and old favorites including: Painting, Cooking with the Chef, Boot Camp, Crazy Cupcakes, Zumba, and more!

Birchwood's Preschool Program for incoming Kindergarten students has begun!

The program began on Tuesday, January 7th, and end on April 8th. Children will enjoy story time at the media center and gym time. There will be a party at the end as well as the

much-anticipated practice bus ride. Children love getting to know their school! For more information go to the [Birchwood PTO Website](#).

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](#).

Need school information? Whether you're looking for a link, lunch menu, or Labels for Education sheet, you'll find it on the [PTO Website](#) (birchwood.niskypto.org). It's even searchable! Just plug in a key word to find what you're looking for. Wondrous Webmaster Kim McClive-Reed diligently keeps the site up-to-date.

Saw it in the Weekly Bulletin? Save past bulletins in a folder in your inbox for easy reference, or find current and past bulletins on the [PTO Website - Bulletin](#). Online sign-up sheets and email links minimize what you need to print and send in by "backpack courier." (Printable order sheets are still necessary when payment is required.)

We'd love every Birchwood family to read the Birchwood Bulletin!



There's Still Time!

Read Erin Hill's "Into the Wild," an exciting fantasy book loved by boys and girls all over! Then come to Birchwood's Book of the Month Club on January 15th for games, snacks, and book talk!

Birchwood's Book of the Month Club is for students of all ages. It's perfect for children who have read or are reading the book of the month, but everyone is welcome.

For a permission form and more information about the club and the book, please see the flyer [HERE!](#)

Are your kids looking for more books to read? If you have an e-reader, you can check out books online:

<http://capregboces.lib.overdrive.com>.

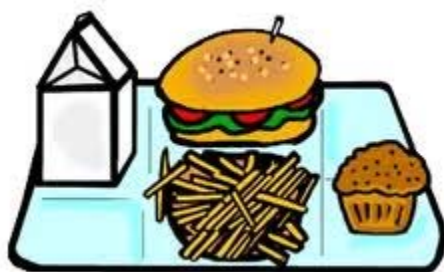
Just click "sign in" and select Niskayuna as your school district; then enter your child's library/lunch number. (Note: if their number is only 4 digits, add a zero (0) to the front.) If you have questions, [Mrs. Furey](#) would be glad to help. Once you're signed in, you'll find grade level links at the bottom of the "Browse Collections" column on the left. *Voila!* A new book to read.

Visit the [Birchwood PTO Media Center](#) webpage for more Media Center news and information.

Mark Your Calendar

- January 10: Popcorn Friday & [School Banking](#)
- January 10: [Coffee Talk](#) at Glencliff (8:15am)
- January 20: No School -- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 21: [Board of Education Meeting](#) (VA, 7pm) Community Forum (VA 6:30pm)
- January 24: Kindergarten Registration
- January 24: Popcorn Friday & [School Banking](#)
- January 28: [Birchwood Concert](#) at High School (7pm)

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



Winter Fun!

[Continuing Education's Winter Program](#) has been posted. District offerings include swimming lessons, scuba diving, exercise classes, financial planning, horseback riding, and more.

Have fun on the ice at [The Schenectady Country Recreation Facility!](#)

Check out winter recreation offerings from the great Town of Niskayuna [HERE!](#)

Looking for exciting (and free) things to do with your family this season? Want to know the best sledding hills, cool places to skate, and more?

Check out [Kids Out and About](#) for a whole



Birchwood's Holiday Shopping Event Final Update

This was such a fantastic fundraiser!

Totals include:

- Chipotle -- \$782
- Sweet Frog -- \$108
- Barnes & Noble -- \$178

Thanks, again, to everyone who helped make this event so successful!



Let's Keep Collecting Box Tops!

Send your kids to the recycling bin to search for boxtops! This fun treasure hunt yields real treasure -- for Birchwood! Our school gets 10 cents for each box top

lot of local fun!

turned in. Easy AND fun!

Use our [Snowman](#) and [Pirate](#) collection pages for extra fun! More Box Tops info and tons of different and fun sheets available [here!](#)

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](mailto: Birchwood@niskyPTO.org) by Sunday night of the week you want it to appear.

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