

All the news from Birchwood Elementary for the week!

# BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

## Weekly Bulletin -- February 27, 2014



**Save the Date:** [Birchwood's Fun Fair](#) will be **March 14!** Join friends for games, treats, and our traditional staff raffle. (March 21 will be the snow date.)

**THE FUN FAIR NEEDS YOU!** Please consider working a one hour shift for this year's Fun Fair on March 14. Sign up to sell tickets, food service, assist with staff raffle sales, sell 50/50 tickets, or supervise the games in the gym. Pick your hour: 5:30, 6:30 or 7:30 (first shift helps to set up while the last shift assists with clean up). Please contact Paulette at [pkdoudoukjian@gmail.com](mailto:pkdoudoukjian@gmail.com) to volunteer today!

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**Don't Forget Your 2013-2014 BIRCHWOOD YEARBOOK!** Kids love to see the year all wrapped up in one book! Order yours now! Please use one order form per student. The cost is \$18 per yearbook. Cash, check, charge are all accepted. Please make checks payable to Birchwood PTO. You can also order online at [YBPay.Lifetouch.com](http://YBPay.Lifetouch.com) (enter ID code: 10694314). **The last day to order is March 24, 2014.**

Make this year's yearbook extra special for your child with a personal ad from your family! Order forms for personal ads have been sent home in backpacks. Be sure to return your completed order form to the main office and email [Amy Jasiewicz](mailto:Amy.Jasiewicz) your child's name, photo, and message. Ads are \$15 each. Note that not all photos from camera-phones are

high-resolution for print. **Deadline for order forms, payment, messages, and photos is March 10<sup>th</sup>**, but please do not wait until the deadline -- we would like as much time as possible to design your ad. Thanks for supporting the yearbook!

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**EXTRA! EXTRA! Read all about it!** Birchwood's teachers are "Souper"!! We are asking for your help to recognize our amazing staff at our annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon. And because our staff is so "Souper," we're having a soup and salad buffet for them on Wednesday, March 12th. Please sign up to bring a crock pot of soup, salad, or dessert. We can also use help setting and cleaning up, so all volunteers are welcome. Please contact Suzanne Brooksby at [suzierunsl8@gmail.com](mailto:suzierunsl8@gmail.com) or Joni Bonilla at [ionisdoggietrain@yahoo.com](mailto:ionisdoggietrain@yahoo.com) with any questions. Sign up with ease at: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/70A0B4FABAB29A57-staff](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/70A0B4FABAB29A57-staff)

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#### **Fifth Grade Announcements...**

This year is a special year for you and your 5<sup>th</sup> grade child(ren). To recognize and celebrate this, we ask for your assistance. Kate Brownsey and Sonya Ward are designing the 5<sup>th</sup> grade "Class of 2014" pages for the yearbook this year.

Please send them any school pictures you may have taken throughout school years from Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. They can be individual pictures, group shots, or class photos. All we need is for every parent to share one or two photos per grade (K-4).

You can send your digital photos to the following email

address: [birchwoodyearbookpics@gmail.com](mailto:birchwoodyearbookpics@gmail.com), or send the hardcopies/cd in an envelope to school where there will be a mailbox in the front office. Your email or hardcopy photos should have the name of your child and which grade your son/daughter was in at the time of the photos. It would be very helpful if you could send digital photos of at least 1mb, as the photos would otherwise come out grainy in the yearbook.

The deadline to submit those photos to us is **March 10th**. This may seem far away but going through 6 years' worth of photos may take some time.

**Who doesn't love a good flapjack breakfast? Especially when it's served to you by Birchwood's very own 5th graders!** [The Second Annual Flapjack Breakfast](#) will be held on March 9, from 8-10am, at the Applebee's in Latham. The fifth grade classes will be using this as a fundraiser to help them leave a legacy to the school. So please support the class of 2014 by purchasing your \$5 per person ticket today! Just click the link to complete your RSVP form (all reservations required by Feb. 28). Buddy the Beagle says, "YUMMY!"

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**Birchwood's After School Enrichment Program is Underway!** Children are loving their exciting classes! Don't forget, no ASEP on half days. For all class dates, please refer to the [Winter ASEP Booklet](#). Remember, pick up is at 3:15 at the ASEP class location. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Ober at 785-8729.

**Date Changes:** All Wednesday ASEP classes will go one week later as a make-up. Boot Camp did not meet on 2/11 and will be made up on 3/25. Mr.Parisi's Basketball class will not meet on March 10. That class will meet on March 17 instead. Thursday's ASEP classes will be made up on March 27. SO MUCH SNOW!

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**Thank you for attending the Cale Coffee Talk Series.** Dr. Randy Cale has offered us another time to answer specific questions about strategies that we have been discussing in the previous workshops. We are pleased to be able to offer this opportunity on Tuesday, March 11th, at Hillside School in the Media Center from 1-2pm. Anita Andersen, Niskayuna elementary counselor, and Allison Nunez, Niskayuna district social worker, will also be present to provide articles and resources from the previous coffee talk topics. Please join us!

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**This month's Birchwood Book Club (2/28) has been cancelled.** But keep reading and keep an eye out for our spring meeting!

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#### **Mark Your Calendars!**

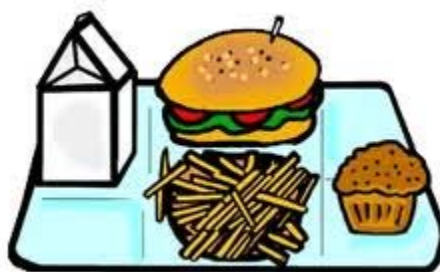
- February 28: Popcorn Friday & [School Banking](#)
- March 4: [Board of Education](#) Budget Meeting (7pm, VA)
- March 5: [Birchwood PTO](#) Meeting (6:30pm, Birchwood)
- March 5: Report Cards!
- March 6: Conference Day (10:45am dismissal)
- March 9: [Fifth Grade Fundraiser](#) at Applebee's
- March 11: Coffee Talk Q&A (1-2pm, Hillside)

- March 12: Conference Day (10:45am dismissal)
- March 12: Staff Luncheon
- March 14: Birchwood's Fun Fair

Check out the comprehensive calendar including all Birchwood and District events [HERE!](#)

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

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



## Try Hockey for Free!

**Saturday, March 1st, 4-6pm at the  
Scenectady County Recreational  
Facility in Glenville.**

**Register at [www.tryhockeyforfree.com](http://www.tryhockeyforfree.com).**

**Bring bike helmet, skates, winter  
gloves, and a stick (if you have one).**



## Romeo & Juliet

The NHS Department of Music is proud to announce a romantic and imaginative re-telling of the classic tale "Romeo & Juliet" in song, word, and dance performed by our accomplished students. Performances of "R&J" will be on February 28 at 7:30pm and March 1 at 2pm & 7:30pm. Tickets now on sale in the HS Box Office. Ticket order form [here!](#)



## BOX TOPS!!!

Collecting Box Tops is like finding a pot of gold for Birchwood! Our school gets 10 cents for each box top.

Easy AND fun!

Use our [Shamrock Page](#) for even more fun! More Box Tops info and tons of different and fun sheets available [here!](#)

And... check this out: By saving labels you can earn Birchwood 40 new books from [Scholastic!](#)

Take part in a Behind the Scenes Tour of our production of "ROMEO & JULIET." With a special Backstage Pass you gain access to a fun pre-performance experience! The package includes: an up-close look at our unique set, a chance to be on-stage in full lights, a visit to our make-up and dressing rooms, and the chance to work with cast members and learn a dance from the show. This will be followed by Matinee Magic in our lobby -- refreshments, balloons, and face painting featuring "Lady Bug" the Clown. Students ages 6-13 are welcome. A Backstage Pass is \$5 per student. One parent or guardian may accompany his/her child free of charge. Order your Backstage Pass [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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<http://birchwood.niskypto.org/>

**Birchwood school homepage:**

[www.nisk.k12.ny.us/birchwood](http://www.nisk.k12.ny.us/birchwood)

**Niskayuna School District:**

<http://www.niskayunaschools.org/>

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