

All the news from Birchwood Elementary for the week!

BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly Bulletin -- March 27, 2014



*"The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
-- Dr. Seuss*

Check out Birchwood's Media Center Catalog at [OPALS!](#) Mrs. Furey recently added many new titles. It's easy for your children to get accounts and take out lots of great e-books! Learn how at [Birchwood's Media Center Page](#). Questions? Email our lovely librarian, [Nancy Furey](#).

Helping your children enjoy reading is one of the most important things you can do as a parent and it's well worth the investment of your time and energy. Want more information on how to help you child be a reader? Check out [Reading Is Fundamental](#).



[Let's Grow Together](#) AND earn money for Birchwood! Do you shop at the local kids consignment sales? Ever think of becoming a consignor at one of these sales yourself? Well, you can shop and/or sell at the Let's Grow Together Sale May 2-4 at Afrim's Sports

(636 Albany Shaker Road) and support Birchwood PTO at the same time! The Birchwood PTO will earn 5% of your total purchase when you present this [flyer](#) at checkout. We also earn \$5 for each person that registers as a consignor and enters Birchwood PTO in the referral line. See [this link](#) for more info on consigning at the sale. This could be a great opportunity to save a little money when outfitting your growing kids or even make a little if you decide to sell some of your outgrown items...all while helping Birchwood!

Parents of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders... Remember that New York State Assessments in the areas of English Language Arts and Math take place next month. These are not tests students can study for, but you can prepare your child by encouraging sustained reading (30-60 min) at home on most days. This builds their stamina for test-taking as well as supportx their growth as life-long readers. Please avoid planned absences on these dates:

- ELA: April 1, 2, 3
- Math: April 30, May 1, 2

A good night's sleep before and a healthy breakfast on test day will go a long way! Contact [Principal Berndt](#) if you have questions or concerns.



NISKAYUNA SCHOOLS NEED YOU! Please be an advocate for funding for our school district. Follow these links to review [information](#) regarding the state and district budgets, what you can do to help, and take a minute to [write your legislators](#) to let them know that our schools are important to you! Up-to-date budget planning information also available at the [Birchwood PTO Website](#).

The District has also posted contact information for the governor and our federal representatives, a sample letter, and other helpful information on a new "Budget Advocacy" webpage [here](#).

Mark Your Calendars!

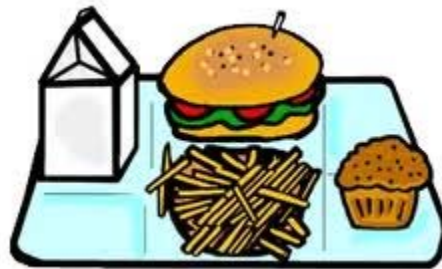
- March 28: [School Banking](#) and Popcorn Friday
- April 1: [BOE Budget Work Session](#) (VA, 7pm)

- April 1-3: NYS Grades 3-5 ELA Test
- April 9: [Birchwood PTO Meeting](#) (6:30pm)
- April 11: [School Banking](#) and Popcorn Friday
- April 12 - 20: Spring Vacation
- April 30, May 1, 2: NYS Grades 3-5 Math Test
- May 2 - 4: [Let's Grow Together](#) Fundraiser

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

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

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



BOX TOPS!!!

It's spring! Let's keep collecting!
Our school gets 10 cents for each box
top.

Easy AND fun!

More Box Tops info and tons of fun
sheets available [here!](#)



This just in...

Mrs. Furey says the top books this month
were: the Warrior Series, Geronimo
Stilton, Mo Willem's books, and anything
LEGO!

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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