

BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly Bulletin

September 26th, 2013

The weekly bulletin will be sent by email when our database is up-to-date for 2013-2014

From Principal Berndt's desk... What a wonderful Back-to-School BBQ we had! The food, the weather, the families, and the fun all contributed to a perfect night! The Nature Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony made it extra special. Thank you to everyone who played a part in making our first event of the year so very wonderful! Check out our website to see pictures of this fun-filled event at <http://birchwood.niskypto.org/>

Birchwood online... Bookmark these websites for Birchwood info anytime at a click!

- <http://www.nisk.k12.ny.us/birchwood/index.shtml> -- **Birchwood Elementary School**
This site is for curricular information like classroom links, special subjects, policies, programs, etc.
- <http://birchwood.niskypto.org/> -- **Birchwood PTO**
This site is for co-curricular information like Birchwood clothing sales, school-wide events such as the BBQ, calendar of events, homeroom parent lists, etc.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BBQ A HUGE SUCCESS!

The Back-To-School BBQ was a HUGE success and everyone had a terrific time at the event. The weather cooperated with us and we had rave reviews on the food catered by Center Stage Deli. We served 330 meals for the event. On behalf of the PTO and Co-Chairs Lori Lembo and Rick Mizenko, we would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to all of volunteers who made this event successful. We would especially like to recognize the efforts of the teachers who volunteered to setup and serve food to the Birchwood Elementary families. We couldn't do it without you!

What's Happening at Birchwood?

Birchwood's After School Enrichment Program begins next week! Make sure your calendars are marked! Please be sure to pick up your children in their ASEP classrooms at 3:15pm. Forgot where your child's class is located? Maps and signs will be posted to help everyone out!

Birchwood Directories will be distributed by mid-October. Order yours for \$5 at Curriculum Nights.

The Media Center is always looking for help! No experience necessary! Tasks may include helping students select and check out books, stamping date-due cards, shelving books, mending, and other special projects. Parents, grandparents, and folks from the neighborhood are welcome to volunteer. What a nice way to connect with students and be part of the Birchwood community! You can visit the PTO Media Center webpage for more information. If you have questions, please contact Francesca Hill at francesca.hill@yahoo.com.

School Banking will begin on Oct 4th. There will be a CapCom rep at the K-2 Curriculum Night on 9/26. If you have any questions, please contact Francesca Hill at francesca.hill@yahoo.com.



Entertainment Books

The 2013 Entertainment Book went home with students on September 18th. This is one of our most successful fundraisers—the PTO earns 40% of all sale proceeds. The coupon book is loaded with high-value coupons for local businesses and national retailers at a reduced price of \$25 this year! Please consider purchasing the Entertainment Book for your family and asking friends and family if they would like to buy one. The books make great holiday gifts too! From college students to grandparents, everyone appreciates the gift of savings! For every 5 books you sell or buy, you get one free! We have other great incentives for young salespersons including movie and iTunes gift cards. Questions? Contact Kim Lewis at klewis628@gmail.com. (Note: Orders are due by 10/7. If you do not wish to participate, please return the book intact to school by that date as well.)

Birchwood's Yearbook Committee is debating adding a 1st day of school page to the yearbook and would like your assistance. We need photos you have taken of your kids, waiting or getting into or off the bus, individual or group shots from the first day back! Please forward them to Sonya Ward at mward22@nycap.rr.com to be added to the yearbook page. Hopefully we receive enough pictures to make it work. Please help and make this another memorable and fun yearbook! Thank you for your support.

Last Year's Yearbooks Available: We still have a limited supply of 2012-2013 yearbooks available for purchase. They are \$10 each. Contact Millie Gnatek at bradleycleo@gmail.com if you are interested.

The Bulletin is Going Paperless! Starting soon, this newsletter will be sent via email. Kindergarten parents and families new to Birchwood can provide their email addresses through the Directory link on Birchwood's homepage. Don't miss out!

Mark Your Calendars!

- ▶ **K – 2 Curriculum (Back-to-School) Night** will be Thursday, September 26th, 6:30pm. Curriculum nights are meant for parents only. Be sure to bring your calendars so you can sign up to help at parties.
- ▶ **Picture Day** is coming Thursday, October 10th! Volunteers needed! If you would like to help out on picture day, please contact either Millie Gnatek at bradleycleo@gmail.com or Tiffanie Wood at woodiesroundup@hotmail.com.
- ▶ **Birchwood's Staff Appreciation Breakfast** will be October 21st. This is when we show our appreciation – with food -- for all that Birchwood teachers and staff do for our children! If you can help, please fill out the attached volunteer form. You know they deserve it!
- ▶ **Get ready for Monster Mash 2013 -- Carnival Craziess!!!** This super fun extravaganza will run from 6-8 pm on Friday, October 25th. The Monster Mash committee is looking for families to plan and run carnival-style game booths at the Monster Mash. Contact Tara at taralmckenna@gmail.com if you can help!



Staff Appreciation Breakfast!!

When: Monday, October 21st

Where: Staff Lounge

If you would like to donate goodies, please e-mail Tiffanie Wood at woodiesroundup@hotmail.com or you can send this form in to the main office. We are hoping for the following items: ice tea /lemonade, bagels, butter/cream cheese (both softened in tubs), various muffins, yogurt parfaits, mini quiches, foil, baggies, fruit salad, chocolates, cookies, breakfast potatoes or hash browns, bacon, or any other breakfast style item you can think of. Cash donations are also appreciated as well. Thank you for supporting this event to honor our

Beloved Birchwood Staff!

Sincerely, the Breakfast Committee

Child's Name/Grade _____ Phone # _____

Your Name: _____

Item(s) you wish to bring in: _____



Bulletin information is online at:

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

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 (write "bulletin item" in the subject line).

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