

All the news from Birchwood Elementary for the week!

BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly Bulletin -- June 12, 2014



Students, parents, teachers, and staff are needed to join Birchwood's Relay For Life team. Don't wait any longer to help Birchwood raise awareness and support those affected by cancer. Go online now to our [team page](#) to join and/or donate in support of our team and help us reach our goal. You can also help by continuing to support our Coin Drive by sending in your change to school and visiting our Relay For Life table at the Ice Cream Social. Thank You!

Birchwood's Relay for Life will take place at 6 pm on June 20th. For more information, contact [Deb Foley](#).

Join us for a Birchwood Nature Club Stream Exploration & Garden to Kitchen Event

Biology professor and Birchwood parent, the amazing Stephanie Vernooy, will lead students in discovering what kind of creatures might be living in our Nature Park stream! Many insects (mayflies, stoneflies, caddisflies, midges...) are aquatic in their larval form. We'll use nets to scoop out samples from the stream, and see if we can identify the insects that we find. Perhaps we'll also see worms, snails, or salamanders! If you have rain boots, bring them to school - you can wade into the stream and help stir up the water to make sure that we find anything that's hiding!

Lori Lembo, another lovely Birchwood parent will lead students in an activity that will help demonstrate what can be grown in a home garden and transformed into something yummy in the kitchen. We'll use veggies and herbs that can be grown at home and turn them into simple snacks and sides. Students participating in this program will be able to take samples and recipe cards home with them.

The event will take place on the following days:

Grades K-2 on Wednesday, June 18

Grades 3-5 on Thursday, June 19**Both programs will be held from 2:15-3:30 PM****and will meet and dismiss in the Art Room.****Flyers and registration slips were sent home in backpacks.**

Birchwood's Ice Cream Social was a BLAST! Thank you to everyone who helped make it happen this year. A big shout out to Al, Maria, Chef Ryan, Suzanne Wixom, Deb, and Carole. We really couldn't do it without you! Thanks also to our community sponsors: Stewart's, Target, Hannaford, Trader Joe's, Niskayuna Co-op, Price Chopper, Sycamore Creamery, Shop Rite, and Starbucks.



WANTED: Parents Who Can Make a Difference! Without the time and talents of our parents and friends, we cannot provide the number of quality PTO enrichment activities that are part of the Birchwood Elementary experience. We still have a number a critical 2014-15 co-chair and committee positions that need to be filled. Without your help we won't be able to offer these programs that enrich the school experience, provide support to our amazing teachers and staff, and bring smiles and joy to our children. Arts in Education, Media Center, Nature Park, PAALS, Homeroom Parents, Back-to-School BBQ, Monster Mash... just a few of the programs we may not be able to offer without your help. Go [online](#) today to see what you can do to make a difference. Life is crazy and everyone is busy, but before we know it our days as elementary school parents and the opportunities that presents will be in the past. Don't miss this chance to be part of this crazy ride from K thru 5! Thank you.

This week's Volunteer Reception was amazing! And what a nice tribute to all of Birchwood's dedicated volunteers!

**Mark Your Calendars!**

- June 13: Field Day (6/20 - Rain Date)
- June 20: Relay for Life (6 pm)
- June 23: Fifth Grade Moving Up Ceremony (12:30pm)
- June 24: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL! (10:45 dismissal)
- June 24: BOE Meeting (VA, 7pm)

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

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



Summer -- The perfect time to READ!

Check out Birchwood Media Center's Catalog at [OPALS!](#) Families can take out lots of great e-books! Learn how at [Birchwood's Media Center Page.](#)

Head to the [Niskayuna Library](#) for lots of exciting events and activities planned for summer reading fun.

Check out [Open Door Bookstore's](#) excellent summer program [HERE.](#)

But before you head out for the summer.....

Please return all of your library books by June 6 (except things needed for projects).

You can check out new ones for the summer (with parental permission) during



Lunch accounts

School Lunch Account Balances will carry over to next year, even if your child is moving to a new school within our district. If you owe money on your child's account, please settle up before the end of the school year. For more information about lunch accounts, visit the Niskayuna Schools [Food Services](#) webpage.



Box Top Fun!

The last Box Top Drawing will be held on Friday, June 13. Thank you to all of the families who collected Box Tops for Birchwood all year long! It's a great fund raiser!

Summer Book Checkout!

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.

Copyright © 2013 Birchwood Elementary School PTO, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are listed in the Birchwood directory and have not opted out.

Our mailing address is:

Birchwood Elementary School PTO
897 Birchwood Lane
Niskayuna, Ny 12309



Contact us:

[Birchwood@niskyPTO.org](mailto: Birchwood@niskyPTO.org)

Birchwood PTO homepage:
<http://birchwood.niskypto.org/>

Birchwood school homepage:
www.nisk.k12.ny.us/birchwood

Niskayuna School District:
<http://www.niskayunaschools.org/>

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)