

Happy New Year, January calendar, earn \$15 for winter reading, yearbook family ads, PTO meeting tonight, and more!

BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly bulletin -- January 3rd, 2013



Welcome back!

Don't forget to send your child to school with winter clothes every day, including snow pants & boots!

PTO meeting tonight (Thurs.) at 6:30pm in the Birchwood conference room. The monthly PTO meetings are run by co-presidents Deb Foley and Sonya Ward, and attended by Principal Berndt, teacher liasons Mrs. Azer and Mrs. DiRienzo, a liaison from the Board of Education, and executive committee members Amy Jasiewicz, Tracy Lasek, and Jenn Sargent. Coordinators of [PTO committees and programs](#) are asked to attend and give updates. Meetings are open to all parents--come provide input on upcoming programs and fundraisers.

[PTO Meeting Agenda -- Jan. 3rd](#)

[PTO Meeting Minutes -- Nov. 7th](#)

Popcorn Friday tomorrow! 50 cents for popcorn at snack time.

Your child can earn \$15 with the school banking winter reading program! For each book report your child writes (a book-related drawing will do for children under 8), CapCom will deposit \$3 into their accounts. You can turn in reports by mail, email, fax, or in person from now until March 31st. **School banking is tomorrow (Fri.), 7:45-8:30am!**

[MORE INFO](#)

Questions? [Francesca Hill](#)

Niska-Day is May 18th, and we need a volunteer to coordinate Birchwood marchers! If you'd like to help Birchwood students participate in this annual town-wide parade, please let us know at birchwood@niskypto.org. There's a district-wide meeting on Mon., Jan. 14th to get things started. A neat opportunity to collaborate with other parents and get involved in the community!

Make the 2012-2013 Birchwood Yearbook a truly personal keepsake! Purchase a family ad (approx. 3"x3") with a special message to your child. We'll customize and design it according to your requests and incorporate your photos*.

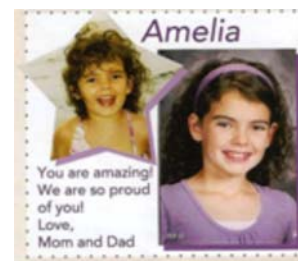
\$15 per ad (limit 2 per child)

[ORDER FORM](#) (print & return to the main office with check payable to Birchwood PTO)

Email your message and child's name & photo(s) to:

birchwood@niskypto.org

More info: [PTO programs](#) (yearbook)



Deadline for order forms, payment, and photos is March 7th, but don't wait! We've sold out of ad space the last 2 years--first come, first serve. (Parents of graduating 5th graders, take heed!)

* Photos should be 300KB or higher in resolution. Images from cell phones usually don't work. (They are compressed to low resolution for sending.) Also, no need to crop your image—this also reduces resolution. We can crop it for you if needed. (*To check the resolution of your image, right click on the image and select "properties."*)

After School Enrichment Program (ASEP) is back! Look for a schedule and registration form in your child's backpack.

What's next for the Birchwood School Nature Park? While we're awaiting final results on the Clorox grant competition, we're moving right ahead! A planning meeting will be announced shortly. You can be sure there will be a fun work day for nature trail clean-up in the spring! We'll also be seeking other funding opportunities and strategizing next steps. Want to take part? Let us know: birchwood@niskypto.org

Note from Iroquois PTO... Thank you to everyone who made donations to the Smiths, the Niskayuna family who lost their home and belongings to fire just before the holidays. The gifts were given to them on Dec. 21st, and they send their sincere thanks. Additional donations (checks to "Jim Smith") can be sent to Iroquois Middle School, 2495 Rosendale Rd., Niskayuna, NY 12309. [READ MORE](#) on our homepage.

January at a glance

TONIGHT, Thurs., Jan. 3rd--PTO meeting, 6:30pm

Tues., Jan. 15th -- 10:45 dismissal (professional development)

Thurs., Jan. 17th -- Birchwood concert at Niskayuna High School (1626 Balltown Rd.)

Mon., Jan. 21st -- NO SCHOOL (MLK Day)

See all events on the [school calendar](#) or [PRINT](#) the January school calendar (pdf).



[January Lunch Menu](#)

Contact us:

Birchwood@niskyPTO.org



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



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Birchwood Elementary home:

www.nisk.k12.ny.us/birchwood



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Niskayuna School District home:

<http://www.niskayunaschools.org>

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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 by Sunday night of the week you want it to appear.

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