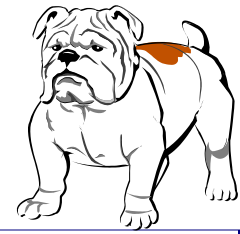


Birch Bark

September 3, 2010

Home of the Birch Bulldogs



Principal's Message

BIRCH BULLDOGS! WELCOME BACK! What a grand start we've all had this year!

Here at Birch, we're busy focusing on great reading and writing! Your children have begun the year with a structure called *The Daily Five*. This includes reading to ourselves, reading to a partner, listening to reading, working on writing, and word work. The first twenty days of school, all children are receiving reading and writing instruction from their classroom teacher. Students are learning how to build stamina as independent readers and writers!

After the assessment days on September 16 and 17, some students will receive reading and writing interventions from one of our specialists. If you hear the names "Mrs. VanDyke, Ms. Hamilton, Mr. Morreale, Mrs. Haseman, Mrs. Frakes, or Mrs. Witbeck", these are all members of our intervention team. If your child is part of an intervention group, classroom teachers will be letting you know through a note in your child's Friday Folder or through an email. If your child is currently on an Individualized Educational Plan OR on an Individualized Literacy Plan, s/he will certainly be receiving high quality interventions through our intervention team. If you have questions about this, please let me know right away.

It was GREAT to see so many of you at our Birch Educational Support Team meeting last night. We're excited about this combination of our School Improvement Team and our Parent Teacher Organization. If you couldn't make it last night, I invite you to join us at our meeting in October! Visit www.birchbest.org for more information. Finally, your child brought home information today about The Bulldog Jog. Please take some time to read through this important fundraising information. It's because of our two fundraisers this year that we're able to continue to program important events and experiences for your children like Art Club and Birch Choir. Additionally, your fundraising dollars go directly to support teachers' work in their classrooms. Thank you for stretching yourselves and helping us achieve our fundraising goals!

I invite your comments, compliments, and concerns... call the school or email me directly at tracy.stegall@bvsd.org. Together, we can make success for all students a reality here at Birch! All the best to you as you enter this long weekend!

Your principal,

Tracy Stegall

BIRCH ELEMENTARY

1035 Birch Street, Broomfield, CO 80020

24-Hour Attendance Line: 720 561-8802

Office: 720 561-8800

Fax: 720 561-8801 - www.bvsd.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:00 p.m.

Tracy Stegall, Principal





Birch Elementary Music

Welcome to a brand new year of music at Birch Elementary! My name is Mrs. Hohensee (Mrs. H.), and I am very excited, once again, to be part of the Birch community. Fourteen years ago, my daughter Mallory was a kindergartener at Birch, and my role at Birch was a parent. Now I am thrilled to be the music teacher at Birch. This letter will give you a little background about me personally, choirs available and general classroom expectations.

*17th year of teaching (Vermont, Adams 12 Five Star and Boulder Valley School Districts)

* Elementary, Middle and High School teaching experience

*Family – Husband, Jay; daughter, Mallory-Sophomore at Univ. of Wyoming, Laramie; son, Alex-8th grader at Aspen Creek

*Two dogs – Buddy & Koda.

*Interests/hobbies - shopping, water & snow skiing, travelling, listening to music, huge sports fan (GO BRONCOS/GO BUFFS!), hanging out with friends/family and so much more!

*Play piano, organ and a LONG TIME AGO, played clarinet in band.

BIRCHCHOIR (4th/5th Grades): This strong tradition will begin soon. Watch for more info in the BIRCH BARK and your child's/children's Friday Folders, and listen for announcements, too. A program will be scheduled for December.

BULLDOGS CHOIR (2nd/3rd Grades): 2nd Year! Rehearsals begin January 2011, with a program in April or May. Again, listen to announcements, check your child's/children's Friday Folders, and read the BIRCH BARK for more information.

I always look forward to meeting the parents and getting to know them. I also realize how important parent involvement is to a student's success in school. Therefore on occasion, I will be asking for parent volunteers. Some examples of where volunteers may be needed: programs, choir celebrations, and every once in awhile, I may have some need for a parent volunteer to do some simple work that's classroom related, to name a few. I will send a note home specifically requesting volunteers when the time comes.

COMMUNICATION: Sent either in the Birch Bark, emails, and/or notes home with students in Friday Folders. So please check your son/daughter's Friday folder, planner, the Birch Bark or your email for any updates, news and changes in schedules. I maintain an open door policy and realize how important communication is between school and home, and I ask that parents reciprocate on the communication also. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or comments. The fastest way to communicate with me is email; however, if you do not have access to email, my phone is listed. But as of this letter, my voicemail is not set up.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT: School wide PAWS program (Personal Responsibility, Accepting Others, Wise Choices, Safety) will be implemented in my classroom, as well as the BIRCH DISCIPLINARY PROCESS. All students will be treated with respect, kind but firm words (when needed), and treated fairly. I also expect all the Birch kids to participate, listen and follow directions to the best of their ability; come prepared to learn how to sing, move & groove to the beat, play instruments, and how to read music (music literacy). I also use the district's music standards to guide my instruction, while integrating math, social studies, writing, spelling, science and reading into my daily lessons. However, it may not be obvious to a student those subjects are being integrated. Bottom line to success in my class is for *ALL STUDENTS TO HAVE FUN, FUN, AND MORE FUN! When students are having fun, I'm having fun, too!!!!*

My door is always open and I look forward to meeting and getting to know all of you, as well as your son/daughter. I especially look forward to giving your child/children a fun, positive and wonderful experience in music.

Singing Off J

Kim Hohensee

Birch Music Teacher

Phone: 303-469-3397

Email: kim.hohensee@bsvd.org



Birch Elementary Music

BIRCHOIR IS COMING! BIRCHOIR IS COMING!

If you're interested, sign up outside the music room.

***LAST DAY TO SIGN UP WILL BE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 3:00
P.M.***

***Those who sign up will be given a
CHOIR INFO PACKET AND PERMISSION FORM
In their Friday Folder, September 10, 2010!***

***FIRST CHOIR REHEARSAL:
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2010
3:00-4:00 P.M. (AFTER SCHOOL)***

***WHERE: STAGE
WHO: ALL 4TH AND 5TH GRADE STUDENTS
WHY: TO HAVE LOTS AND LOTS OF FUN!***

What do I need to do to join?

Complete the permission page in the choir packet

That WILL BE in your Friday Folder!

Bring the PERMISSION PAGE COMPLETED AND SIGNED with you

To the first rehearsal: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2010.

THANK YOU FOR FOLLOWING THE TRAFFIC FLOW!

Bulldogs – Many of you might be dropping off your children in the circle drive... or driving on in to pick them up. We'd ask respectfully that you drive in, drop off, and drive on out... or drive in, pick up, and drive on out. In keeping 435 children safe during these times, it's important that the circle drive NOT be used as a parking lot. This clogs traffic for all parents and creates safety concerns. Also, please do not drop students off at the 4-way stop as this is also poses a safety hazard. Thank you in advance for your respect of procedures that keep all Birch Bulldogs safe!

OCTOBER COUNT

At Birch, we strive to have our students at school learning everyday. We understand that on occasion illness and appointments come up. Perfect attendance is our goal. Please make every effort to have your student at school and on time. The BVSD official count period this year is September 24th through October 8th . This is the period used by the State to determine attendance and school funding. Please make every effort not to schedule any appointments on **October 1st**, official attendance count day. If you know that your child will be absent or tardy during this period, please contact Anna at 720-561-8802. Thanks for your assistance.

Messages at School

It is important to make arrangements with your student in advance regarding how they are to get home after school. Please develop a back up plan that you have discussed with your child if regular plans change at the last minute. In the event of an **emergency**, the office will **attempt** to get messages to students. We appreciate your cooperation.



Fifth Grade Art Club Schedule 2010-11

Wednesdays from 3:00-4:00.

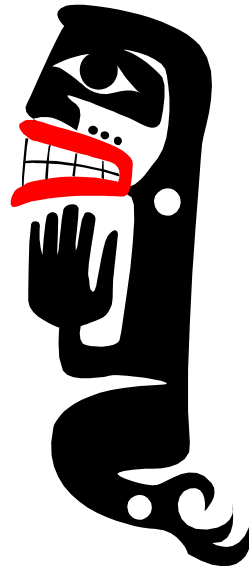
8 weeks in the fall and 8 weeks in the spring.

Fall session

- 10/6
- 10/13
- 10/20
- 10/27
- 11/3
- 11/10
- 11/17
- 12/1

Spring session

- 4/6
- 4/13
- 4/20
- 4/27
- 5/4
- 5/11



BULLDOG JOG

The 2nd annual Bulldog Jog will take place on Friday, September 24. The first wave of joggers will head North on Birch Street at 10am! Our goal is to promote safety, fitness and fun while raising funds for our school! Students will walk, jog, or run a one-mile course (grades 1-5) or a 100-yard course (grades PreK & K).

If each child raises \$50, this could be our only fundraising event for the year. Bulldog Jog pledge money will help generate funds for teacher and classroom resources, PAWS programming, library books, computers, software, and much more. Sponsor your student jogger and ask your neighbors to do so as well!

Come cheer on the kids and help out at the same time: contact Sharon Robinson to volunteer (937-369-3953).

Don't Forget!!

BROOFIELD DAYS PARADE on Sept 18—March and show our support for Birch!
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW SOON FROM B.E.S.T. (Birch Educational Support Team)

Coming soon... TAG Potluck

When: Wednesday Sept. 22nd

Time: 6-8:30 pm

Where: Birch Elementary Gazebo (*In Cafeteria in case of bad weather*)

Why: Kick off the year and go over 2010-2011 agenda

Please be on the look out for an email with more details!

Preschool News . . .

Preschool will have normal school hours on Thursday September 16th during Assessment Days. **We will not have school on Friday, September 17th.**



REMINDER

Assessment testing will be held on September 16th & 17th. Please bring your child for his/her scheduled testing time. School is not in session during these assessment dates. Also, there is no school on September 20, 2010, this is a Professional Development Day.



Thanks to our wonderful volunteers for your help in the following areas.
We couldn't have done it without you!

- Kindergarten Assessments
- Staff Appreciation
- Channel 7 TV Show Segment
- Stuffing Back to School Folders
- Bulldog Jog
- Ice Cream Social & Ribbon Cutting
- Student Council—for tours of the new building!
- Birch families for your commitment to volunteer this year. We had over 129 families turn in 3 for me sheets to volunteer at the school!

Personal CD Players Needed!

If you have a personal CD player (i.e. discman) that you no longer use, please consider donating it to Kindergarten!

We will use the CD players during our reading time to listen to great books and poems!

The Daily 5

Your children are working on *The Daily 5* here at Birch. These five things are: reading to self, reading to another person, listening to reading, working on writing, and word work.

Make sure that you are helping your child with THESE *Daily 5*. In reading right now, 'kids are building their stamina'. Ask them what that means!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SEPTEMBER 2010			1	2 6:00 BEST General Mtg	3 School Picture Day	4
			5	6 Labor Day NO SCHOOL	7	8 5-F Field Trip Wetlands
11	12	13	14 First Birch Rehearsal 3-4	15 5:00 BEST DIN- NER NIGHT OUT 2nd Grade F/T - Butterfly Pavilion 11-2	16 No School/ Assessment Day	17 No School/ Assessment Day
18 Broomfield Days	19	20 No School/Prof Dev.	21 7:45am Student Council Birchoir Rehearsal 3-4	22 Tag Potluck 6-8:30	23 Birchoir Rehearsal 3-4	24 M/W Full Day 8:30 Bulldog JOG
25	26	27	28 Birchoir Rehearsal 3-4	29 3T F/T to Eco-Cycle 9-2	30 Birchoir Rehearsal 3-4	

BIRCH ELEMENTARY