From the Principal – May 2018

Dear Parent(s), Guardian(s), and the Booth Hill Elementary School Community,

When discussing independent reading at home, inevitably, reading levels, complexity, topic, interest, and genre surface. However, impact on practice points to interest being the primary driver of independent reading to improve student performance (Shanahan, 2018). In fact, interest has shown to improve both comprehension and oral accuracy favorably.

What do you have the greatest interest in reading? I’m certain that you had to struggle through a topic, manual, article, or some book in school, college, or career. Yes, we all get through them, but were we motivated? Yes, we also need to learn how to persevere through tasks that aren’t our favorite, too. When it comes to child and adolescent reading, imagine being stuck on a level and disengaged with the topic. It’s no wonder children sometimes dread reading or hate it when finding themselves in this situation.

So what can we do about it? Literacy scholars posit that if we find the child’s motivation and interest we can meet their needs, improve their reading, and stop disengagement in its tracks. One suggestion is having students check out two books – one decided by the teacher or adult for practicing a particular skill (as this is important for kids to have literature that will advance their learning) and another book that they choose to read of interest. The next time you find yourself reading and choosing books with your kids, remember to take into account what genre or topic they want to read. There will always be a book of appropriate complexity to match this interest. As always, contact me, our reading specialist (Mrs. Burns nburns@sheltonpublicschools.org, or your child’s classroom teacher if you have questions.

Announcements

Thank you to Mrs. Recker for coordinating our Junior Achievement Day at Booth Hill School. This day gives an opportunity for our children to be taught about work readiness, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship. It is a great day for students to learn about how communities work and engage in activities with peers, adults, and community members.

I want to give a special thank you to our current PTO officers. They have dedicated countless hours to organizing and executing many of our events, gatherings, functions, and fundraisers over the past years. Mrs. Diana Guerra - President, Mrs. Michele Fernandes - Vice President, Mrs. Sara Widomski - Secretary, and Mrs. Marie Tillson – Treasurer are members of our current executive board. Only Mrs. Widomski will be returning to her role. On behalf of the school faculty and staff, I thank each of them for their service to Booth Hill School and its students. In addition, thank you to all the parents who have chaired an event, volunteered at an event and school, and contributed to the excellence of our school over the past year. Your service does not go unnoticed!

State Testing – In May, students in grades three and four will participate in Smarter Balanced Testing. English Language Arts and math are the two areas that students will be assessed on in each grade. These are important indicators of students’ understanding of grade level skills and concepts and their ability to apply them appropriately. We know that our students are well prepared for these assessments. Please make sure students have a good night’s sleep and breakfast prior to testing so they are alert and focused.

Screening – In addition to grade three and four assessments, all students will take internal assessments during the month of May. These help teachers prepare lessons and see how far students have grown since their first iteration of the same
test in September. If you are interested in the results, please contact your child’s classroom teacher once the assessments are complete in May for more information.

**Summer School Programming** – If you are interested in summer school programming and enrichment activities, please follow the link for more details: [https://sites.google.com/a/sheltonpublicschools.org/summer-program-2018/](https://sites.google.com/a/sheltonpublicschools.org/summer-program-2018/)

**Character at BHS**

The students of Booth Hill School came together as a Team during the month of March as they continue to follow our school motto of *Take Care of Yourself, Take Care of Each Other, and Take Care of Our School*. As part of the school Positive Behavior program students are rewarded with raffle tickets when they are caught following our expectations without prompting. The staff is also on the lookout for students who display the core values we hold important to their success.

The core value focus for the month of March was **Teamwork** - a cooperative or coordinated effort on the part of a group of persons acting together in the interest of a common cause. Students at Booth Hill School displayed these behaviors to achieve a sum of more than 425 raffle tickets during the month of March. Students displayed teamwork in every corner of the building from working together in class to working together on the playground during their recess as well as in the cafeteria. For their efforts, the whole school was rewarded with a game of whole school BINGO the day before leaving for April vacation. Not only did each classroom have a winner, but the students were truly excited for their classmates as the first winner of their classroom hollered out!

The following students were the Buddy Spirit Stick recipients for **Teamwork** across the month:

**Kindergarten**: Mylee A., Owen N., Julia W., Summer C., Max P., Scott C., Abby M., Casey M., and Lillian W.

**First Grade**: Sarah M., Kaitlyn C., Luca R., Jack G., Jack L., Aiden T., Isabella M., and Dana A.

**Second Grade**: Ekam M., C., Miya D., Leighton P., Joey R., N., L., and Brayden T.


**Fourth Grade**: Mia M., Eleni P., Ashlie Z., Elijah E., James Z., Matthew B., and Ayaan N.

Every step our school takes toward working together and embracing the opportunity to authentically show concern for one another makes Booth Hill School a more positive environment to learn in as well as nurture everlasting relationships with one another.

The focus core value for the month of April is **Resilience**. Once again the students had a lesson at the beginning of the month and teachers have recognized their students who display this trait. Stay posted to learn who these students are in next month’s newsletter.

**Additional Information**

**BigY** has started a school reward’s program. We currently have 19 BHS parents signed up. This is similar to Stop and Shop’s reward program for which you may have already signed up. Each time you scan your card, a percentage gets donated back to the school. If you shop at Big Y and can spare a few minutes, please go to: [www.bigy.com/rs/educationexpress](http://www.bigy.com/rs/educationexpress). Once on the site, click on the link and log-in and register your card number. Booth Hill School is already registered as an option to link to your card. Thank you in advance for supporting Booth Hill through this program.
Upcoming Information (please see calendar for the most comprehensive list)

**Student Council** – meets at 8:10 in the morning on May 11 and May 25 in the library media center.

**School Store** – Please see the calendar for dates for each grade. The school store opened on February 20th and has been rotating grades each week since that date.

**No School** – May 28, 2018 – Memorial Day

**PTO End of Year Picnic** – June 8 – more information to follow from the PTO.

**Next Year** – Do you have plans to move before the start of next year’s school year? If so, please make the main office aware of these possible changes. It helps us in making class lists. On that note, if there are any special circumstances or considerations regarding class placement, please let me know via email at JZavodjancik@sheltonpublicschools.org

**From Food Services:** Do you know you can apply for free or reduced meals for your children at any time during the school year? If a family member has been laid off or your work is seasonal, you may qualify. Applications are available on [www.sheltonpublicschools.org](http://www.sheltonpublicschools.org) under District Information > School Lunch Program – Family Application 2017-2018. All questions can be answered by calling 203-924-1023, extension 309.

**Change in pick-up:** Please make every effort to inform us of changes in pick-up as early as possible. We prefer that you send a note in with your child to the classroom teacher in the morning. It is difficult to change our dismissal lists to specific staff in the late afternoon once they have been distributed.

**Emergency Drill** – During May, we will have an emergency drill – i.e.: lockdown, shelter in place.
In addition, there will be an off-site evacuation drill at some point during May. This will be completed in conjunction with the Shelton Police Department.

**Attendance** – Please remember the following for tracking attendance:

a.) All late arrivals and early dismissals without formal documentation are considered unexcused.

b.) An absence becomes excused when the school receives formal documentation within ten days of the absence.

c.) A student is considered truant if he/she accumulates 4 unexcused absences in a month or 10 unexcused absences in a year. A student is considered chronically absent when he/she misses 10% of their school attendance for any reason.

d.) *Perfect attendance is awarded at the end of each trimester and once at the end of the year. Students are eligible for this distinction when they are present each day including an on time arrival and remaining for the duration of the school day.

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**Lastly, for the most up-to-date information and postings, please follow me on Twitter @BoothHillSchool**

*Take care of yourself, take care of each other, and take care of your school!*

Sincerely,

[Signature]

James Zavodjancik
Principal

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## Lunch Menu for May 2018

### Monday
1. **Chicken Nuggets**
   - Crispy breaded chicken nuggets
   - Perfect for dipping in your favorite sauce
   - Oven Baked Fries
   - Red Pepper Strips
   - Cinnamon Applesauce
   - Fresh Pear
   - Diced Pear Cup
   - Pineapple Cup

2. **Cheeseburger**
   - Burger topped with cheese on a freshly toasted bun
   - Baked Potato Wedges
   - Cucumber Coins
   - Cherry Tomatoes
   - Baby Carrots
   - Fresh Apple
   - May is National Hamburger Month

3. **Crispy Tacos**
   - Homemade spicy taco meat inside a crispy taco shell topped with cheese wrapped in a tortilla
   - Refried Beans
   - Fiesta Corn
   - Diced Peaches
   - Fresh Banana

4. **Cheese Pizza**
   - Crispy pizza dough topped with tomato sauce and melted cheese
   - Garden Salad
   - Green Pepper Slices
   - Diced Peaches
   - Fresh Apple
   - Celebrate School Lunch Hero Day on May 5th

### Tuesday
1. **Stuffed Bread Sticks**
   - Bread sticks filled with melted cheese
   - Sweet Corn
   - Cinnamon Applesauce
   - Fresh Pear
   - Pineapple Cup
   - Pineapple Cup

2. **Crispy Popcorn Chicken**
   - Crispy breaded chicken bites
   - Baked to perfection
   - Oven Baked Fries
   - Diced Tomatoes
   - Cucumber Coins
   - Cinnamon Applesauce
   - Fresh Pear
   - Celery
   - Pineapple Cup
   - Fresh Apple

3. **Meatball Hero**
   - Freshly baked meatballs mixed in a rich tomato sauce inside a soft roll topped with melted mozzarella
   - Baked Sweet Potatoes
   - Cucumber Coins
   - Fresh Pear
   - Celery
   - Fresh Apple
   - Cinnamon Applesauce

4. **Homeade French Toast**
   - Slices of bread soaked in an egg mixture, with cinnamon and vanilla
   - Baby Carrots
   - Pineapple Cup
   - Fresh Banana
   - Celery Sticks
   - Apple 100% Juice

### Wednesday
1. **Grilled Cheese Sandwich**
   - Golden-brown bread with melted gooey cheese pressed and prepared in-house
   - Tomato Soup
   - Sweet Corn
   - Baby Carrots
   - Pineapple Cup
   - Fresh Banana

2. **Mac & Cheese**
   - Whole grain pasta smothered in creamy cheese sauce
   - Chili Roasted Garbanzo Beans
   - Baby Carrots
   - Pineapple Cup
   - Fresh Banana
   - 100% Orange Juice Blend

3. **Pancakes & Sausage**
   - Light and fluffy pancakes served with a sausage patty
   - Baby Carrots
   - Pineapple Cup
   - Fresh Banana
   - Celery Sticks
   - Apple 100% Juice

4. **General Tso's Chicken**
   - Breaded chicken smothered in General Tso's sauce
   - Beans & Rice
   - Fiesta Corn
   - Diced Peaches
   - Fresh Banana
   - Chicken available with or without sauce

### Thursday
1. **Mozzarella Sticks**
   - Mozzarella sticks filled with gooey cheese, perfect for dipping into your favorite sauce
   - Cheese Tomatoes
   - Cucumber Coins
   - Diced Pear Cup
   - Fresh Apple

2. **Pasta & Meat Sauce**
   - Freshly cooked pasta with meat sauce
   - Garlic Bread
   - Baby Carrots
   - Pineapple Cup
   - Fresh Banana
   - Apple 100% Juice

3. **Crispy Chicken Sandwich**
   - Warm, crispy breaded chicken on a bun prepared in-house
   - Baked Sweet Potatoes
   - Cucumber Coins
   - Fresh Pear
   - Cinnamon Applesauce

4. **Chicken Corn Dog**
   - Juicy chicken hot dog surrounded with corn dog crust
   - Baked Potato Wedges
   - Baked Beans
   - Baby Carrots
   - Pineapple Cup
   - Fresh Banana

### Friday
1. **Fluffy Waffles**
   - Warm whole grain waffles
   - Baby Carrots
   - Pineapple Cup
   - Fresh Banana
   - Celery Sticks
   - Apple 100% Juice

2. **Bacon Hot Dog**
   - Hot dog on a bun with bacon, mustard, and onion
   - Baked Potato Wedges
   - Cucumber Coins
   - Cherry Tomatoes
   - Baby Carrots
   - Fresh Apple

3. **Soft Tacos**
   - Freshly prepared flour-style meal with melted cheese wrapped in a warm soft taco shell
   - Refried Beans
   - Fiesta Corn
   - Diced Peaches
   - Fresh Banana

### Lunch Prices
- Full Price Lunch: $2.75
- Reduced Lunch: $0.40
- All lunches come with fruit, vegetable and milk selection.
- Milk variety includes skim, 1% white milk and fat free chocolate.
- Questions, comments?
- Contact Linda Stanisl @ 203-934-1055

### Alternates Available Daily
- New - Grilled Cheese - Back by popular demand!
- Chicken Nuggets - Whole grain breaded chicken nuggets
- Bagel Lunch - Whole wheat bagel, low fat yogurt, w/choice of side
- Garden Salad Entree - Mixed greens, tomatoes, cucumbers and low fat cheese w/ whole grain roll

### Meatless Weekly Alternates:
- Week 1 - Organic Yogurt and Fruit Parfait with Granola
- Week 2 - Veggie Burrito
- Week 3 - Hummus Plate with Veggie Sticks and Pita Bread
- Week 4 - Organic Yogurt, Rice and Feta with Granola

*Consume meat or undercooked meat, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of food borne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions. Menu subject to change, prices posted when available. This establishment is an equal opportunity provider.*
From the PTO
Help Support the Booth Hill School PTO at Bella Rosa Pizzeria Ristorante
500 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe, CT 06468

Monday April 30th
11am – 10pm

Dine-In, Take-Out or Delivery. Please be sure to mention Booth Hill School Shelton or bring in this flier.

Check out www.bellarosapizza.com for a listing of menu choices.

Bella Rosa will donate 10% back to Booth Hill School PTO. Money raised will be used to help fund the various programs sponsored by the PTO throughout the school year.

Thank you for your support.