From the Principal....

December 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the year wraps up, I hope you will take some time to reflect upon all that has occurred in our busy lives over the past 12 months. It is sometimes difficult to see the growth children make from day to day – but much easier to realize when we think about where they were last year at this time and where they are now.

As you think about all the progress your children have made, I hope you will plan with them and in conjunction with your child’s teacher for the year’s progress ahead.

I know that I have witnessed the successes and triumphs of our BHS students. I hope you have, too.

Happy Holidays,

James Zavodjancik, Principal

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPORTANT DATES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Half Day Schedule – Students</td>
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<td>released at 1:50</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of Trimester 1</td>
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<td>December 5</td>
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<td>PTO Meeting at 7PM – LMC</td>
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<td>December 8</td>
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<td>Breakfast with Santa 9:00-12:00</td>
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<td>December 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Report Cards Issued</td>
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Drop-off and Pick-up

Students are expected to be in class at 9:00 AM when the day commences. Late passes will be issued at the back entrance if a student arrives beyond this time.

When dropping off, it is okay to let your child off (weather permitting), two cars at a time, prior to arriving to the side entrance.

Thanks to everyone who gets to school on time each day. We appreciate your efforts in supporting our learning environment.

Lunch Payments

If you send in cash for lunch payment, please make sure it is in an envelope with the student’s name on the front. This will allow us to make sure it is input in the correct account.
Important Dates (continued)

December 4, 2018 –
Author Visit – Library
Media Center

December 6, 2018 –
Lion’s Club Vision
Screening – Grade K & 1

After School Program Dates:
December 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 17,
19, 20

December 7, 2018 –
Student Council

December 14 at 9:45 –
Holiday Concert
Snow Date December 18

December 21, 2018 –
Early Dismissal at 1:50

Winter Recess begins on
December 24

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Reading At Home Makes A Difference!

Choose books at the appropriate level for your child. You can ask your child’s teacher, but if you need to know in a hurry, use the five finger rule. Open a book to any page and ask your child to read it. Count each time he/she does not know a word. If you have five fingers up before the end of the page, the book is probably too difficult. Also, make sure your child’s books match his/her likes and dislikes.

Here are some other ways to make reading a part of home:

- Read bedtime stories together
- Play board games
- Visit the library
- Have your child be in charge of grocery or other lists that you make
- Plan a meal, read the recipe, and cook
- Create areas in your home for reading only – comfortable corners or places in his/her room.
- Get caught reading. Children need role models and experiences to look up to. It should be seen as something we do all the time.
**Did you know…?**

“Success in literacy learning during the primary grades is more indicative of later literacy achievement. Seventy-four percent of children who perform poorly in reading in third grade continue to do so into high school, further underlining the importance of preparing children to enter school ready to learn. (Fletcher & Lyon, 1998, p. xiv).

**Research**

Oral Reading Fluency – or the ability to read text accurately and with appropriate speed and expression is the best predictor of reading comprehension abilities in lower grades (<2). Rereading text and reading lots of accessible text is a good way to improve a student’s oral reading fluency.

Comprehension activities should include summarization, questioning, monitoring, and visualization.

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**Good Character Matters – Mr. Chavez**

Throughout the school, the students have been working diligently to do their personal best in their learning! The BHS staff has witnessed so many acts of kindness and support among the students that it is truly inspiring to be in the building. Since the whole school assembly, we have witnessed more care and concern on the playground. The number of students receiving PAWS raffle tickets has increased each month, and we are getting closer to our goal of reaching 500 tickets in one calendar month. The students showed a great deal of Respect to our recent visitors for a performance by Poetry in Motion! We are growing each day in our awareness for others. Keep up the good work!

The November core value is Respect; forty-three children have received recognition from their teachers for consistently showing respect to their peers, the teachers, and the learning process. We would like to congratulate the following students:

**Kindergarten**- Taylor Brzoska, Keira Glendening, Zoe Turner, Lilyana Clemente, Robert Colgan, Caitlin Brown, Hayden Page, Timothy Dancy, & Adriana Pannella

**First Grade**- Molly McCullah, Jeylani Brea, Scarlet Ma, Julia Wirth, Ethan Rodrigues, Casey Martin, & Emma Murtishi

**Second Grade**- Noah Kramarczyk, Aubrie Glendening, Mina White, MaKayla DaEira, Sofia Strazza, Noah Augustin, Sofia Naqvi, Aleeeza Khan, Luca Rizzo, Tessa Boutellier, Zachary Wilbur, Nadia Chirila, & Lakshanya Rajesh

**Third Grade**- Sara Wicker, Olivia Montefusco, Leah Cruz, & Avalynn Nichio

**Fourth Grade**- Elaina Brivitch, Caio Oliveira, Addie Leonard, Luciano Basile, Sam DeMartino, Eva Badas, Aneilyn Aleman, Luke Recker, Kirsten Costanzo & Andrew Brotherton

Our Core Value for the month of December is Diversity. The teachers feel that this is a spectacular month to discuss diversity with our students as it is a month in which so many events occur that are specific to different groups of people.
**Holiday Concert**

BHS’s traditional holiday concert will be on December 14, 2018. Mrs. Lazdauskas has been working with each grade to prepare a song and presentation for the school’s concert. We hope you will be able to join us. Seats are first come first served. We will allow parents in the gym beginning at 9:30AM. We ask that you do not save seats/rows for those who are not with you.

**Evacuation Drill**

December’s Emergency Drill will be a Fire Evacuation. We make every attempt to choose a day that is mild, but sometimes the weather does not work in our favor.

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**Twenty First Century Skills**

“It is no longer enough simply to read and write. Students must also become literate in the understanding of visual images. Our children must learn how to spot a stereotype, isolate a social cliché, and distinguish facts from propaganda, analysis from banter, and important news from coverage.”

~Ernest Boyer – Carnegie Foundation for Advancement of Teaching.

**Informational Literacy**

We live in a digital and informational age. The Internet and technology have fostered a new type of learning. This learning is no longer about memorization, but about being able to find, use, analyze, and evaluate information for multiple causes.

The three skills for informational literacy include:

a.) Access information efficiently and effectively.

b.) Evaluate information critically and competently.

c.) Use information accurately and creatively.

Part of the curriculum is learning how to manage and create different types of communication. For example, the design of a website versus a print document are different and each have different characteristics that communicate messages. Moreover, students must learn how to evaluate sources for credibility and evidence that something is true and right.
Parent Teacher Organization – PTO

This month, our PTO, has generously donated funds to support our music program. New speakers and other equipment for our gym and music classroom. On behalf of the faculty and staff at BHS, I would like to thank all of the parents who are involved in the PTO efforts to support our school.

Box Tops for Education

This past month, Mrs. Flores’s grade three classroom was the recipients of the Box Tops Trophy. Which will be next? Remember to clip the box top from participating items and send in to enter the classroom drawing. Look for announcements from our PTO when the next contest begins.

Booth Hill School’s Mission

It is the mission of Booth Hill School to provide a safe and supportive learning environment with high academic standards for all students. In partnership, with staff, parents, and community, we are committed to educating each child academically, socially, and culturally.

Do you know a business or organization that will partner with us to support our District Vocabulary Project Word of the Week? The commitment includes hanging the word in their business each week when sent to them. If you know someone or would like to participate yourself, please email me at JZavodjancik@sheltonpublicschools.org

Remember to follow us on

TWITTER
@BoothHillSchool

For the latest and most up-to-date happenings and information!

Our Past Words of the Week for November:

- Adventurous – Given to adventures or to running risks; inclined to take risks
- Standards – A level of quality or attainment. An idea or thing used as a measure, norm, or model in comparative evaluations.
- Exaggeration – A statement that represents something as better or worse than it really is.
- Distortion – The act of twisting or altering something out of its true, natural, or original state.
Rewards Program

Please consider joining our Rewards Programs through Stop and Shop and Big Y Supermarkets. Moreover, invite family and friends of Booth Hill to do the same.

*Stop and Shop –*
Visit [www.stopandshop.com](http://www.stopandshop.com) and select SIGN IN at the top right to log into your rewards account. Once logged in, select MY ACCOUNT, MANANGE MY ACCOUNT, then REWARDS AND SAVINGS.

*Big Y –*
[www.bigy.com/rs/educationexpress](http://www.bigy.com/rs/educationexpress)
Please go to the above link and log-in and register your card number.

At each organization, when your card is scanned, a percentage will be sent back to Booth Hill School. We hope you will consider joining the rewards program.

Food Services

Do you know you can apply for free or reduced lunch for your children? Applications are available on [www.sheltonpublicschools.org](http://www.sheltonpublicschools.org). Please follow the links – District Information>School Lunch Program >Family application. All questions regarding the program can be directed to 203-924-1023, ext. 309

Student Lunch Accounts

Please log-in to Infinite Campus to find out your child’s lunch account balance. Money can be submitted through Infinite Campus. You can also continue to send it in with your child. Please make sure it is in a sealed and labeled envelope. Checks can be made out to Shelton Lunch Program.

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Attendance Protocol

All late arrivals (after 9:00AM) and early departures (before 3:45) are considered unexcused. A doctor’s note can excuse a late arrival and/or early departure. It will still be marked in attendance as an excused tardy or early dismissal.

An absence is considered excused when a doctor’s note is received by the school within ten days of the child’s absence.

A student is considered truant when he/she has accumulated four unexcused absences in a month or ten in a year.

A student is considered chronically absent when they have missed ten percent of their enrolled school days.

All absences should be called in by the parent/guardian each day that a child will not be in school. Our phone number is 203-929-5625. Calling in the absences does not mean that it will automatically become an excused absence.

Each trimester the school awards Perfect Attendance Distinction to students who have no absences, late arrivals, or early dismissals. Students must be in school each day, be on time, and never leave early. There can be no excused and/or unexcused codes on the child’s record.
“Everybody in this country should learn how to program a computer... because it teaches you how to think.”

Steve Jobs

We don’t expect every student to become a computer programmer, but learning how to code teaches computational thinking: the process of identifying problems and creating solutions. It uses logic, is simple to understand and can be applied to anything.

Here are the computational thinking skills our K-4 students will be learning this month:

- **DECOMPOSITION:**
  Break a problem down into smaller parts.

- **ABSTRACT REASONING:**
  Focus on important ideas and leave out unnecessary ones.

- **MODELING:**
  Create representations of data or ideas.

- **PATTERN RECOGNITION:**
  Find similarities or patterns in the problem.

- **ALGORITHMIC DESIGN:**
  Create the steps to complete a task.

- **ASSESSING:**
  Use effective methods to test and evaluate.

BHS will once again kick off Computer Science Education Week, December 3-9 with the Hour of Code™. Students will have the opportunity to explore the limitless world of computing throughout the month of December.

For more information on coding, computer science, and specific activities by grade see the BHS LLC coding page. Or stop by the library and see what we’re doing!

The ‘Hour of Code™’ is a nationwide initiative by Computer Science Education Week and Code.org to introduce millions of students to one hour of computer science and computer programming.

Questions? Comments? Contact Mrs. Clark, Library Media Specialist, arclark@sheltonpublicschools.org
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<th>Day</th>
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**December 2018**

Booth Hill School Parent Calendar
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<td>Chicken Corn Dog</td>
<td>Crispy Tacos</td>
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<td>Or Pepperoni Pizza</td>
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<td>Cucumber Coins</td>
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<td>Applesauce</td>
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<td>Diced Pear Cup</td>
<td>Strawberry Cup</td>
<td>Applesauce</td>
<td>Black Beans</td>
<td>Fresh Orange</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fresh Apple</td>
<td>100% Juice Fruit Punch</td>
<td>Fresh Pear</td>
<td>Fresh Banana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Or Yogurt Parfait</td>
<td>Lucky Tray Day</td>
<td>Rice Krispy Treat Squares</td>
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<td>Weekly Alternate:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chef Salad with a Dinner Roll</td>
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<td>10 Crispy Popcorn Chicken</td>
<td>Homemade Mac &amp; Cheese</td>
<td>Meatball Hero</td>
<td>Whole Grain French Toast</td>
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<td>Sweet Potato Fries</td>
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<td>Or Pepperoni Pizza</td>
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<td>Oven Baked Fries</td>
<td>Pineapple Cup</td>
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<td>baked to perfection</td>
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<td>17 Baked Chicken Tenders</td>
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<td>Fluffy Mashed Potatoes</td>
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<td>Weekly Alternate: Ham and Cheese Sandwich</td>
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<td>25 Winter Recess</td>
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**Lunch Prices**
- Full Price Lunch $2.75
- Reduced Lunch $1.40

**Alternates Available Daily**
- Grilled Cheese - American Cheese melted between 2 slices of Whole Wheat Bread
- Chicken Nuggets - Whole grain breaded chicken nuggets (Chicken Nuggets Not available on Fridays)
- Bagel Lunch - Whole wheat bagel, low fat yogurt with cheese stick

**Questions, comments?** Contact Jennifer Syrowitz at 203-924-1055

We are Simply Rooted™ in food and family so our menu options are healthy, nutritious, flavorful, and made from wholesome, all-natural, organic and non-GMO ingredients, wherever possible. Check us out at www.whitsons.com or scan the QR code.
PTO Information
December Newsletter

- Visit boothillschoolpto.org for reminders and information

- December PTO Meeting is Wednesday, December 5th at 7 PM in the BHS Media Center

- Breakfast with Santa and Holiday Vendor Fair is Saturday, December 8th from 9 AM to Noon

- Toys for Tots drive runs through Monday, December 10th

- Box Tops contest will be held December 10th thru 21st

- Mixed Bag Designs orders can be placed online through 12/31/18 - http://www.mixedbagdesigns.com/booth-hill-school-shelton
Looking for a quick and effective way to earn FREE dollars for Booth Hill School?

Simply clip and submit Box Tops for Education labels!

This year we will run 4 collection drives and the winning class will receive a class trophy filled with a surprise for each student.

These are the dates of the collection drives:

October 15th-26th
December 10th-21st
February 11th-22nd
May 13th-24th

Your child may send in Box Tops at any time and your teacher will keep them safe until the next collection drive. Help us surpass our goal of $1000 to support our students. Don’t throw away that dime! Clip it and submit it!

I’ll be bundling all the Box Tops. **This is all I need from you:**

- Check expiration dates. Unfortunately, I cannot submit expired Box Tops.
- Place Box Tops into a sealable bag or envelope and ask your student to give them to their teacher.
- The top classroom will receive a traveling trophy to keep until the next submission drive along with a special prize!
- Keep collecting Box Tops for the remainder of the school year and send them in at any time!
- Ask your family, friends and neighbors to clip Box Top labels, too, or pass out the additional flyer to them.
- If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, feel free to contact me at markandstacy2005@yahoo.com or (203) 926-0240. Thanks for your help and support!

Stacy Andrejczyk
BHS Box Tops Coordinator

www.BTFE.com
Booth Hill School PTO is hosting
“Breakfast with Santa”

Booth Hill School, Saturday December 8th, 9am-Noon*

Admission $7 per person
Serving breakfast and morning beverages
Sit down with Santa for holiday season photos
✓ Breakfast served 9am-11:30am
✓ Entertainment provided by
  ‘Bring the Hoopla’
✓ Letters to Santa
✓ Craft Stations
✓ Vendor Fair & Raffle
✓ Santa arriving via Fire Truck

RSVP by December 5th. The BHS PTO can only accept checks and online payment - NO CASH.
Please make checks payable to BHS PTO and send along with this form ATTENTION: Breakfast with Santa
or visit https://squareup.com/store/BHS-PTO to RSVP and make online payments.

Family Name:__________________________________________________________________________

# of Attendees:____________ x $7 per person = Total $______________________________

Phone:____________________________ Email:__________________________________________

Breakfast Selections (one per attendee): Side Selections (one per attendee)
# of Orders of Plain Pancakes: _______ # of Bacon Sides: _______

# of Orders of Chocolate Chip Pancakes: _______ # of Sausage Sides: _______

# of Orders of Allergen Free Pancakes**: _______ # of Tater Tots Sides: _______

Please use this link to sign up to volunteer: https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/5080a4da5ab2ea7fc1-breakfast
Any questions, please contact Jenna Manion at jennacmanion@gmail.com.

*The BHS PTO reserves the right to change the event date or cancel due to inclement weather
** Allergen Free Pancakes by pre-order only
The Booth Hill School PTO is collecting new, unwrapped toys for the United States Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign from Monday, November 26th until Monday, December 10th. Collection boxes will be set up outside of the cafeteria.

The Toys for Tots program collects new, unwrapped toys and distributes those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in our community. We know from the smiles on children’s faces that the simple gift of a new toy can make a tremendous difference in the life of a child.