



BARRE TOWN MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

70 Websterville Road
Barre, VT 05641
(802)476-6617
FAX: (802)479-5723
btmes.org

April 2019

Lost and Found



Has your child lost a hat, mitten, ski pants, jacket, etc.? We have a collection of lost items looking for their home. Our Lost & Found items will be displayed on tables in our front lobby in hopes for you to find your lost items. Please take a moment to look through the display of items that will be set up the first Wednesday and Thursday (when school is in session) of every month.

Thank you!

We appreciate the donations to our
Camp Opportunities Fund!

North Country Federal Credit Union
Barre Town PTO
BTEA
Kiwanis Club



SAVE THE DATE

Barre Town 8th Grade Graduation
Thursday, June 20th
6:00pm



Student Arrival Information

- Middle school students in grades 5-8 may not be dropped off at school before 7:30 am.
- Elementary school students in grades PreK-4 may not be dropped off at school before 8:30 am.
- Students who are dropped off earlier than the stated times must be registered with the YMCA's Before School program. There is a fee associated with this program. This program is available to students K-8.
- If a student is dropped off before stated times and is not registered with the YMCA, families will be called to pick the student up until the school day begins.

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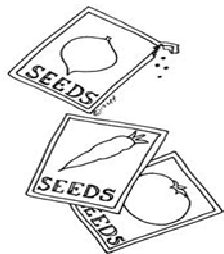
Donations Needed

Donations Needed for ECO

Spring cleaning?? The ECO (Educating Children Outdoors) program at Barre Town would love any and all donations! Every week several classrooms grades preschool through second grade, spend up to three hours in the forest learning science, math, literacy and much more! We would love to repurpose your unwanted items and incorporate them into our program. Please drop your items off at the front office marked for ECO. If you have any questions about an item, please email Lauralea Curavoo at lcurabte@u61.net. Thank you for thinking of us! Some of the things we are looking for include:

Metal kitchen utensils (nothing sharp)	Wool/fleece socks (not cotton)
Dishes, pots and pans (not glass wear)	Heavy fleece/jackets or wool sweater
Neck warmers or scarves	Long underwear pants
Gloves/mittens	Long underwear tops
Snow pants or wool pants	Winter or rain boots
Tarps	Winter coats
Buckets	Hats
Rope	Rain pants
Slackline	Raincoat with hood (not lightweight poncho)
Carabiners, pulleys	Snowshoes (all sizes)
1-2 person tents	Wheelbarrow
Hammocks	Butterfly/frog nets
Watering cans	Binoculars
Magnifying glasses	
Gardening tools- hand shovels, rakes, hoes, gardening gloves	

Crops by Kids



WOW! The fundraiser was a HUGE success. We made a little over \$2000.00! This is the largest profit ever. Thanks again to all of you, your families, friends and community members who bought seeds from High Mowing Seeds. There were a few mix ups and we appreciate your patience as the correct orders were delivered. We had over 900 seeds packets and gift boxes ordered.

If you are interested in workshops on gardening, birds, insects, recycling, tracking etc., contact the North Branch Nature Center at northbranchnaturecenter.org for a list of upcoming seminars and workshops. Many of them are free and open to the public.

Stay tuned for information regarding the upcoming activities relating to the garden.

Happy Gardening....

Deb Curtis, Garden Coordinator

From the desk of Dianna Fecher, Family School Coordinator

Do you have a “picky eater”?

As a parent, I have certainly faced the challenge of the “picky eater”! Not the right color, texture, smell, or familiarity? There are a host of reasons children “turn up their nose” to different types of food. Here are some quick tips for making mealtime nutritious and enjoyable for all:



DO:

- Involve your child in cooking meals.*
- Allow everyone to serve their own food.*
- Encourage small portions with the option of getting seconds.*
- Set a good example by trying new foods and eating nutritious foods.*
- Create rules for acceptable behavior at the table.*
- Consult with your doctor if you are concerned about your child’s eating habits.*
- Offer several different types of food at each meal along with bread.*
- Make mealtime a relaxing, enjoyable time for everyone.*

DON’T:

- Use food as a reward or bribe.*
- Become preoccupied with picky eating habits. They will pass.*
- Become a short order cook to please different tastes.*
- Mix foods together casserole style. Most young children like to see each food they eat.*
- Allow eating between meal and snack time for children over the age of three years old.*

Your active child will use up a lot of energy so they will need snacks between mealtimes. An excellent rule of thumb is:

Grain + Fruit or Vegetable or Protein = A Healthy Snack

Consider your family’s snack needs when you are shopping. Avoid pre-packaged snacks high in fat, salt, and sugar, as they do not satisfy, or have nutritional value.

The Child Care Resource includes many articles with fabulous parenting tips, covering a myriad of subjects on their website, <http://www.childcareresource.org>. The following excerpts are taken from an article written by Andrea Van Hover, and reprinted by permission.

National Geographic Geo Bee



Congrats to Grace Berry (8th grade) who participated in the State Geo Bee in Bennington, Vermont. She missed advancing onto the next round by one point but represented Barre Town very well.

Girls and Boys Running Club

Barre Town School is offering a **Girls and Boys Running Club** for 3rd and 4th graders. The program will meet once a week beginning the week of April 8th through the week of May 13th. There will be no practice during April break. On May 18th there will be a culminating 5k race on the Barre Bike Path. Students should be able to attend all practices and the 5k race. Each after-school session will begin at 3:30 p.m. and end at 5:00 p.m. During each session, exercise games and running will be required. Students should enjoy running to sign up, as this is a running club. A snack will be provided at the end of each practice. Girls Running Club will practice on Monday's and Boys Running Club will practice on Wednesday's. Permission slips can be retrieved from the classroom teachers.



Spelling Bee Champions

Top Barre Town spellers competed in a school spelling bee in February to determine our school champion. Runner-up was 8th grader Abigail Lindhiem, and school champion was 7th grader Ryan Allen. Congratulations to ALL of our spellers! Ryan went on to represent Barre Town School at the state championships on March 19th at St. Michaels College. We are so proud of them both!



SBAC Testing Schedule for Grades 3 through 8



Barre Town Schedule Spring 2019

Week of:	Testing:
April 1-5	Grade 5 SBAC (ELA) (Mon-Thurs.)
Apr. 29-May 3	Grade 8 SBAC (ELA) (Mon-Wed)
May 6-10	Grade 3 SBAC (ELA) (Mon-Thurs) Grade 4 SBAC (ELA) (Mon-Thurs) Grade 6 SBAC (ELA) (Mon-Thurs) Grade 8 Science (Wed.)
May 13-17	Grade 3 SBAC (Math) (Tues-Thurs) Grade 4 SBAC (Math)(Tues-Thurs) Grade 5 Science (Wed-Thurs) Grade 8 SBAC (Math)(Tues-Wed.)
May 20-24	Grade 5 SBAC (Math) (Mon-Wed) Grade 6 SBAC (Math) (Mon-Wed) Grade 7 ELA (Mon, Tues.) Grade 7 Math (Wed., Thurs.)

Instagram

More and more of our #BTMES staff have started classroom Instagram pages. Check out the following #BTMES teachers sharing our school's story with our community: -- PK Teachers: [mrslaperlespreschool](#), [@mrscpreschool](#), [@mrstromblypk ms.ks_prek](#) --3rd Grade: [@rousseauroombte](#) -- 5th Grade: [mrswoodsclass](#), [@mrsajasclassroom](#), [@mshiebertsclass](#) -- 6th Grade: [@skingzettsclassroom](#) [@mrsanbornscuriosities](#) [@mrsvsclassroom](#) 7th/8th Grade: [@missvv203](#), [@ms.bonesscience](#), Specials : [@btmesdesignlab](#) [@btmes_spanish](#) Drama 7/8: [@btmes_drama](#) and follow [@BTMESmusic](#) to see what's happening in Peg Mehuron's music class or [@PEinVT](#) to see what's going on in 6th-8th grade with Dani Kehlmann!



News from the Nurse

Spring is on its way, at least, I am pretty sure it is! As the snow melts and the temperatures start to rise, we are all looking forward to getting out and doing some of our favorite warm weather outdoor activities. Many kids, and lots of adults, will soon be back on their bikes. Biking is not only fun, but is great exercise, and a great family activity. See the attached sheet for some important safety tips to keep in mind, courtesy of **Safe Kids Worldwide**.





Bike Safety Tips

Everything you need to know to keep your kids safe when biking.

There are so many great reasons to ride your bike: It offers fun, freedom and exercise, and it's good for the environment. Here are a few tips so that you will be as safe as possible while you're doing it.

Wear a Helmet

- We have a simple saying: "Use your head, wear a helmet." It is the single most effective safety device available to reduce head injury and death from bicycle crashes.



Find the Right Helmet Fit

- Make sure your child has the right size helmet and wears it every time when riding, skating or scooting. Your children's helmet should meet the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) standards. When it's time to buy a new helmet, let your children pick out their own; they'll be more likely to wear them for every ride.



More children ages 5 to 14 are seen in emergency rooms for injuries related to biking than any other sport. Helmets can reduce the risk of severe brain injuries by 88 percent - yet only 45 percent of children 14 and under usually wear a bike helmet.

- **Make sure the helmet fits and your child knows how to put it on correctly.** A helmet should sit on top of the head in a level position, and should not rock forward, backward or side to side. The helmet straps must always be buckled, but not too tightly. Safe Kids recommends kids take the [Helmet Fit Test](#).

- **EYES check:** Position the helmet on your head. Look up and you should see the bottom rim of the helmet. The rim should be one to two finger-widths above the eyebrows.



- **EARS check:** Make sure the straps of the helmet form a "V" under your ears when buckled. The strap should be snug but comfortable.



- **MOUTH check:** Open your mouth as wide as you can. Do you feel the helmet hug your head? If not, tighten those straps and make sure the buckle is flat against your skin.



Use Appropriate Helmets for Different Activities

- Children should always wear a helmet for all wheeled sports activities.
- A properly-fitted bike helmet is just as effective when riding a scooter, roller skating or in-line skating.
- When skateboarding and long boarding, make sure your child wears a CPSC certified skateboarding helmet.

Proper Equipment and Maintenance Are Important

- Ensure proper bike fit by bringing the child along when shopping for a bike. Select one that is the right size for the child, not one he or she will grow into.
- When children are sitting on the seat of the bicycle, their feet should be able to touch the ground.
- Before the ride, make sure the reflectors are secure, brakes work properly, gears shift smoothly, and tires are tightly secured and properly inflated.
- Long or loose clothing can get caught in bike chains or wheel spokes. Dress young kids appropriately to ensure a safe ride.

Keep an Eye Out

- Actively supervise children until you're comfortable that they are responsible to ride on their own.
- Every child is different, but developmentally, it can be hard for kids to judge speed and distance of cars until age 10, so limit riding to sidewalks (although be careful for vehicles in driveways), parks or bike paths until age 10. No matter where you ride, teach your child to stay alert and watch for cars and trucks.
- Children should be able to demonstrate riding competence and knowledge of the rules of the road before cycling with traffic.

Model and Teach Good Behavior

- You'd be surprised how much kids learn from watching you, so it's important for parents to model proper behavior. Wear a helmet, even if you didn't when you were a kid.
- Teach your kids to make eye contact with drivers. Bikers should make sure drivers are paying attention and are going to stop before they cross the street.
- Tell your kids to ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, not against it. Stay as far to the right as possible. Use appropriate hand signals and respect traffic signals, stopping at all stop signs and stoplights. Be predictable when riding.
- Stop and look left, right and left again before entering a street or crossing an intersection. Look back and yield to traffic coming from behind before turning left.



Be Bright, Use Lights

- When riding at dusk, dawn or in the evening, be bright and use lights – and make sure your bike has reflectors as well. It's also smart to wear clothes and accessories that have retro-reflective materials to improve biker visibility to motorists.
- Most states require a front light but allow the use of a rear reflector. Headlights aren't so much for bicyclists to see where they are going but for others to see them. Riding without a headlight means drivers won't see you, and surprising motorists is never a good idea.



Barre Town Middle and Elementary School
70 Websterville Road
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(802)476-6617

March 29, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

An important responsibility of the school staff each year is to assign students to a class for the upcoming year. We start the process of completing tentative class groupings in late spring.

Barre Town Middle and Elementary School places students in ways that best meet their needs. Our goal is to provide equitable opportunities for all students in a balanced classroom environment while accommodating their academic, emotional and social needs. Our staff members consider all of the following points when placing each child.

- a. Students in each classroom who have a positive influence on each other in learning.
- b. A balance in the number of boys and girls.
- c. An equal distribution of children enrolled in special programs.
- d. A need to keep classes approximately equal in size and stay within the BTMES Board's class size policy.
- e. Parent input.

We invite you to give us specific information about the learning needs of your child that we may not be aware of, on the back of this letter. You may wish to share information about your child's needs: academic, social, emotional, physical. The information will be considered in conjunction with school information on each child and with the broader needs listed above to complete student placements. This information will be shared with the current and next year's teacher.

Parent information on student placement should be submitted to the front office, no later than Friday, April 12, 2019. Please use the form on the back of this letter for this purpose.

Sincerely,


Jennifer W. Nye
BTMES Co-Principal


Scott Griggs
BTMES Co-Principal


Erica Pearson
BTMES Assistant Principal


Don McMahon
Special Services Director

BARRE TOWN MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PARENT/GUARDIAN PLACEMENT INFORMATION FORM
2019-2020 School Year

This form is designed to provide the teaching teams and administration with parent input regarding the needs of your child. It is not required.

STUDENTS NAME:

GRADE IN 19/20 SCHOOL YEAR:

NAME OF CHILD'S CURRENT TEACHER:

Completion of this form does not determine or guarantee placement of a student with any specific teacher. Please do not specify the name of a particular teacher. Please return this form to the front office no later than Friday, April 12, 2019. Thank you.

1. What are your child's greatest academic, social and emotional strengths and needs?

Strengths:

Needs:

2. Describe a learning environment in which your child can be most successful.

3. What additional information would you like to share with us, which we may not be aware of, that you feel would be relevant to your child's class placement?

This form was completed by:



Music, Art, Theater, Singing, Dance, Hiking



Music, Art, Theater, Singing, Dance, Hiking



Music, Art, Theater, Singing, Dance, Hiking



Music, Art, Theater, Singing, Dance, Hiking



Music, Art, Theater, Singing, Dance, Hiking

For students entering Grades Three through Eight

Date: July 15—19, 2019

Time: 9 a.m.—2 p.m.

Location: Barre Town Music Room and the Barre Town Campus

Cost: \$185 per week, art materials included

Please plan to bring snack, lunch, sunscreen, walking shoes, and a water bottle

Enrollment deadline: May 3, 2019

For an application contact:

Tamara Cooley at tcoolbte@u61.net 476-6617 ext. 5162 or

Peg Mehuron at mmehubte@u61.net or 476-6617, ext. 5287

Scholarships available—Please contact Diana Fecher at 476-6617, ext. 6188



Music, Art, Theater, Singing, Dance, Hiking



Music, Art, Theater, Singing, Dance, Hiking



Music, Art, Theater, Singing, Dance, Hiking



April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3 School Board Meeting—6 p.m. Library	4 No Preschool—Screenings Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences—1/2 Day for Students	5 Staff Development—No School for Students
8	9 PTO Bookstore—Lobby 8am-12pm	10	11	12
15	Spring Vacation			19
22	23 PTO Mtg. 6:30pm in Library	24	25	26
29 Kindergarten Screening	30			



May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 School Board Meeting—6 p.m. Library 5th/6th grade Spring Concert—6:30pm	2 7th/8th grade Spring Concert—6:30pm	3 Student Council Dance—Gr. 6/7/8
6 PreK Conferences	7 PreK Conferences PTO Bookstore—Lobby 8am-12pm	8 Walk to School Day VT All-State Parade	9	10
13	14 PTO Mtg. 6:30pm in Library	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24 Memorial Day Observance Program 10:00am
27 No School—Memorial Day	28	29	30	31