



## BARRE TOWN MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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btmes.org

November 2019



### BTMES Blackout of 2019



Last Friday, November 1, was the "perfect storm"...literally. With strong winds and large quantities of rain in the forecast, we were confident that the day would run as "usual". Before 8:30 arrived, the lights had flickered a few times, with nothing to report being out of the ordinary. The day went on as planned with the exceptions of having recess inside due to the extreme winds, enacting our emergency lights "just in case" and reminding staff that flashlights were in each of the emergency backpacks that each homeroom has.

Around 11:15 is when the power went out again...and stayed out and continued to stay out, we immediately sprung into action to contact STA regarding buses and drivers, to make sandwiches to ensure that all students had lunch before going home, a robo-call was made to families and contacts, moving students to locations that had a bit more light, and ensuring our students that they were safe.

We have received information from families commending us on our quick response along with constructive feedback as to what we can do better next time. In short, we welcome all feedback. The only thing that could have made things flow a bit easier was to have modern technology working. With no internet, no landline phones, and cell towers down, communicating with all of you was rather tricky.

A HUGE shout-out to the BTMES staff who went above and beyond to make a tricky situation one that many of our students will never forget. In fact we're told that last Friday's blackout just might be the first one in our school's history...and hopefully, the last! Kudos to our students who showed the BTS Way (**B**e Respectful, **T**ake Responsibility, **S**tay Safe) each and every moment that we were in the dark. And a thanks to all of our families for your patience, understanding and help as we work together to ensure that when/if such an event ever happens again, we'll be smarter based on what we now know!

With much gratitude,  
Erica and Jen  
BTMES Co-Principals

**Picture Retakes**  
**Wednesday, November 13**

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
Library News	2
Holiday Gift Drive/Picture Day	3
PTO	4
Crops by Kids	5
Other Events and Happenings	6
Calendar of Events	7

# Library News

## Reading Is An Investment



Barre Town Middle and Elementary school is one of over 140 Vermont elementary schools participating in a statewide program called Reading is an Investment. The goal of the program is to teach elementary-aged children personal finance concepts. The program is managed by the Vermont State Treasurer's Office. Participating schools are sent three new books each year that highlight a specific personal finance theme. Through lessons and activities in the school library and personal reading, students are introduced to basic financial concepts. The 2019-2020 personal finance theme is "Make a Plan to Spend, Save, and Share."

There are two parts to this program- personal reading and school instructional activities. You have the opportunity to help your child complete a reading log that will then be entered into a drawing for a \$250 college savings account. Last year, a record 6,688 students statewide completed logs and entered the drawing. Twenty prizes will be awarded this year. In order to complete a reading log, a student must read three books from a recommended money reading list and complete additional free reading requirements. Students in grades K-4 will begin their reading logs in their library classes, and complete them at home. The reading logs and recommended money reading list are available through our school library. You also may print a reading log and reading list by going to [www.MoneyEd.Vermont.gov](http://www.MoneyEd.Vermont.gov). The deadline to complete a reading log and mail it into the State Treasurer's Office is March 15, 2020.

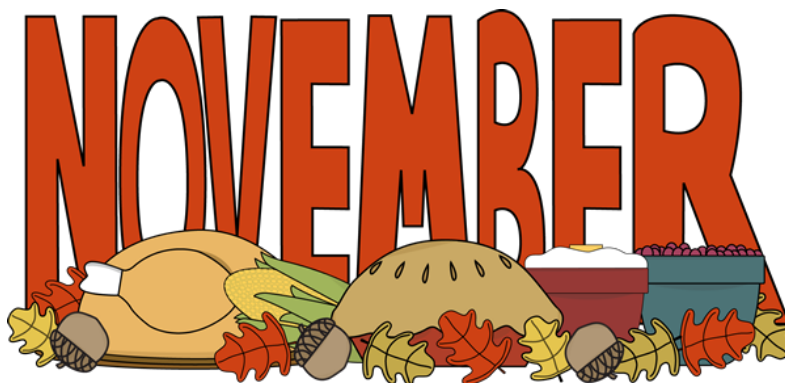
The titles and authors for the 2019-2020 school term are: *The Four Money Bears* by Mac Gardner, *It's Not Fair* by Caryn Rivadeneira, and *The Squirrel Manifesto* by Ric and Jean Edelman.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Nicole Fuller, Librarian at x5401 or [nfullbte@buusd.org](mailto:nfullbte@buusd.org)

Thank you!

## Unloading PreK and Kindergarten Children From The Bus

We want to send a reminder regarding the new expectation for unloading our youngest students, those in prekindergarten and kindergarten. The parent or caregiver must meet the child at the bus steps upon arrival. The bus monitors will not leave the bus. We understand that this may be different than you have experienced in the past, but it is necessary for student safety.





**David Stefaniak Memorial  
Holiday Food and Gift Drive  
2019**

The planning for the David Stefaniak Memorial Holiday Food and Gift Drive is now underway. Our goal is to provide food, winter clothing and gifts for Barre Town families who need a bit of help this holiday season. Years ago, Barre Town parent, David Stefaniak, brought community attention to the needs of some of our families and friends for assistance, particularly at Christmas time. Since David's death, volunteers have continued his work allowing his efforts to live on.

If you are **a family in need** and are not participating in another community holiday program, please contact the school's coordinators, Bridgett Apfel or Kim Benson, **prior to November 12, 2019**. Our goal is to provide a winter clothing item and a toy for each child who attends our school. ***\*\*Please know that there will be changes coming to this program next year. You may need to be prepared to utilize outside agencies in the future for gift drive support. \*\****

If you are **willing and able to help**, we would really appreciate your support by adopting a family or individual child. We welcome donations of food, money, and holiday gifts if you are unable to adopt a family. If your family, friends or business would like to donate, please contact the holiday drive coordinators, Kim Benson or Bridgett Apfel at 476-6617 by November 12th.

Thank you for reaching out to families in our community in this wonderful holiday season!



**Coming Soon!!**



Beginning in December, Barre Town will be placing a tree in our lobby to create a Blanket Tree in conjunction with our David Stefaniak Holiday Drive, for children in need.

We are looking for new, unused blankets and throws which will be given to our students and families in our gift drive. Please send any donations to school with your student or deliver to the front office att: Kim Benson.

Thank you for your support!!



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**NO SCHOOL**  
**FOR**  
**STUDENTS**  
**Monday, November 11**  
 due to the  
 Staff Development Day  
 \*  
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# PTO News



Thanks so much to everyone that worked so hard to make our fall fundraiser a massive success! And thanks to Mrs. Nye and Ms. Pearson for being such great sports! Because we far exceeded our sales goal they will be duct taped to the wall in special assemblies November 9! How exciting!

We would like to extend a special thank you to Chris Ghiringhelli, Tina Lunt, Bridgett Apfel, Kim Benson, Betsy Pearce and Lori Robinson for all the extra support they always lend us in these endeavors.

Please look at your receipts when you shop at Hannaford. They are running their Hannaford Helps Schools campaign. If you receive the coupon with your receipt you can place it on the display at the end of register 2 in a slot labeled for BTMES. We recently received a check, the large copy of which you can see in our lobby.



Box Tops are changing! We have raised quite an impressive amount of money for several years thanks to all of your clipping Box Tops from the products you purchase. As always, we are happy to receive any you might have. Clipping, checking the expiration date and sending them in to be placed in the Box Tops Box has been a wonderful success and we are grateful. The format is changing. Soon all Box Tops points will be printed on your store receipts, rather than on the product you buy. You can go online and set up your own account to enter the points. There is a place to choose your school when you register. Once registered, you get instructions for how you can scan or take a photo of the receipt to submit the Box Tops. We are also happy to take your receipts and enter them for you. If you choose to do this, please just continue to send them in to be placed in the Box Tops Box.

We would love to see you at a meeting. They are held the third Tuesday of each month in the library at 6pm.

Heather Slayton, PTO

## The Box Top program is changing!

Box Tops that need to be cut out are being replaced by the kind that remind you to scan and submit your receipt. Instead of cutting out Box Tops, you can now use your smartphone to scan your receipt!



**The Barre Town PTO will continue to collect and submit Box Tops that are sent to school.**

**We will now also collect receipts from anyone that doesn't have a smartphone.**



Please add the Box Tops for Education App to your smartphone (Available for Android and iPhone).

Register your account and choose: "Barre Town School District" as your school.

After shopping, tap the "scan" button and take a series of pictures to capture your entire receipt. After you have captured the entire receipt, hit "submit". The app automatically detects the items that qualify and adds \$ to the Barre Town School account.



## Crops by Kids



Most of the Crops by Kids garden has been "put to bed" for the season but not all. A few crops are still growing. The spinach, lettuce and kale, although diminished, they are still available to eat. The asparagus ferns have not turned brown enough to be cut down yet. The kiwi is ready to pick. Feel free to take some.

Many of the beds had been cleaned and the weeds taken away. Mrs. Thygesen's PE classes cleaned some of the beds and composted the crops. Mrs. Moran's students planted garlic from the bulbs harvested this spring. Thanks go to Mrs. Wiggins for taking the water fountain to her house for winter. This garden is truly a student, faculty and community garden!

This fall, due to weather and other circumstances, the some of the fall Garden Club had to be postponed. We will try again in the spring.

Interesting facts about Siberian kiwi (also known as hardy kiwi)

Baby kiwi fruit are small berries, just shy of the size and similar in shape to a grape, with a razor thin fuzz-free smooth skin. The exterior of the fruit is more vibrant than a common kiwi fruit, the color of muted green with hints of purple and brown. The skin, a less than protective peel to its flesh, is a mouthful of bright and zesty lime green flesh studded with black micro seeds and a barely opaque cream center. Baby kiwi fruit are a rather delicate fruit and post-harvest quality can deteriorate quickly.



*Hardy kiwi* berry vines bear fruit similar to the kiwifruit found in grocery stores, only its skin is smooth, and the fruit is much smaller and sweeter.

Taken from <https://www.specialtyproduce.com>

- Kiwi is a leader in vitamin C, potassium, and folate. Just one serving of kiwi has 240% of the recommended daily value of vitamin C!
- Kiwi is a potassium superstar! It boasts more than a banana. It's the perfect recovery food for endurance athletes.
- Looking to boost your fiber intake? Kiwi can help with that too! Just two kiwi has more fiber content than a bowl of bran cereal. It tastes better too!
- Additionally, kiwi contains important antioxidants, zinc, magnesium, lutein, and vitamin E.
- It is fat-free, low-carb, and has a low glycemic index of only 52. You can always feel good about choosing kiwi!

Log on to Pinterest for recipes!

Happy Gardening....

Deb Curtis, Garden Coordinator, [dcurtbte@buusd.org](mailto:dcurtbte@buusd.org)

## Boys and Girls Basketball Tryouts

7th and 8th Graders,

Our basketball informational night will be held Wednesday, November 13 at 6:30 pm in the Barre Town cafeteria. All student athletes and their parents or guardians are encouraged to come. We will go over season expectations and schedules as well as meet the coaches and answer any questions you may have. Our first practices, which will be tryouts if needed, are listed below.



Tryouts for boys and girls are as follows:

Monday, Dec. 2	Tuesday, Dec. 3	Wednesday, Dec. 4
2:45-4:15 8th Girls 4:15-5:45 7th Boys 5:45-7:15 7th Girls 7:15-8:45 8th Boys	2:45-4:15 8th Girls 4:15-5:45 7th Boys 5:45-7:15 7th Girls 7:15-8:45 8th Boys	2:45-4:15 8th Girls 4:15-5:45 7th Boys 5:45-7:15 7th Girls 7:15-8:45 8th Boys

## Other Events and Happenings

### Barre Town Ski & Board Program

**2019-2020 Sugarbush Ski Program for Barre Town Staff, Families and siblings – (5 Sundays from noon – 4:00 pm). The tentative dates are as follows: Jan 5, 12, 26 and Feb 2, 9.** This program has something to offer for ages 6 and older and all levels of experience! Sign yourself and/or your kids up for 5 lessons. Don't need lessons? Put your kids in the lessons; purchase a 1/2 day pass for yourself and ski with the other parents/guardians! **DEAD-LINE FOR ENROLLMENT IS NOV 20, 2019**

Product	1/2 Day Rate Per Person
Lift Ticket	\$140
Lift Ticket and Rentals	\$190
Lift Ticket & Clinic	\$235
Lift Ticket, Rental & Clinic	\$260
Clinic only (w/season pass)	\$130
Rental only	\$110
Sugar Xpress Media Fee	\$5



### Discounted Season Ski Passes

**Not interested in the 1/2 day ski pass or lessons? Get a PASS at a discounted rate!**

**2019/20 Season Pass Rates:**

PRICES GOOD UNTIL 12/1/19 – prices increase on 12/2/19

**Value Pass – (Mt Ellen...Lincoln Peak early season and late season)**

Adults (40-79) \$599

Youth (7-18) \$279

College \$279

Boomer Pass (65-89) - \$139

**Premium Pass – All Mountain (Lincoln Peak and Mt. Ellen)**

Adults (40-64) \$1049

Senior (65-79) \$749

Silver Senior (80-89) \$229

Age 90 & Up – Free

Child (6 & Under) \$40

Youth (7-18) \$399

For 30s (30-39) \$599

For 20s (19-29) \$399

College \$359

Double Major—\$399 (includes unlimited skiing at Mad River Glen)

CONTACT MARY RUBALCABA AT 802-522-4470—

mary\_rubalcaba@yahoo.com OR KRISSEY BELLAVANCE AT

[krisseyb@bellavancetrucking.com](mailto:krisseyb@bellavancetrucking.com) or 802-249-8784 to sign up!

Hope to see you on the mountain.

November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11 Staff Development Day - No School for Students	12 BSUUD Finance Mtg 5:30pm Supervisory Union	13 Student Picture Retakes	14 BUUSD Board Mtg, SHS Library 5:30pm	15
18 BSUUD Policy Mtg 5:30pm Supervisory Union	19 PTO Meeting, Library 6:00 p.m.	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
		VACATION		



December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
9	10 Winter Concert Gr 5-6 6:00pm	11 Winter Concert Gr 7-8 6:00pm	12 BUUSD Board Mtg, SHS Library 5:30pm  Snow Date for Winter Concert 6:00pm	13
16 BSUUD Policy Mtg 5:30pm Supervisory Union	17 PTO Meeting, Library 6:00 p.m.	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
	VACATION			
30	31	Jan 1, 2020	2 Back to School	3
	VACATION			