



**BARRE TOWN MIDDLE AND
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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November 2020

Happy November!

With the holidays only a few weeks away, we wanted to take a moment to express our gratitude for your patience, flexibility and support as we navigate schooling in a global pandemic. Thank you for all that you have and are doing on a daily basis to help support your child(ren), your family and your school. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. We appreciate YOU!

What follows are important tidbits of information to keep in mind during these next few weeks:

- Please don't hesitate to reach out to our home/school coordinator, Brandi Waller Cummings, should your child be in need of a winter coat or boots this season. Brandi can be reached at 476-6617 ext. 6188 or bwallbte@buusd.org
- Due to the many COVID restrictions, BTMES will not be holding a Holiday Gift Drive this year. Feel free to reach out to the local [Marine Toys for Tots](#) to apply for assistance during this holiday season.
- Fall Conferences are here! If you haven't already done so, please work with your child's teacher/team to determine a date and time that works best for all to discuss progress, create goals, and help answer any questions you may have.
- Quarter 1 officially ends on Friday, November 5. Report cards will be distributed for students to take home on Friday, November 13/Monday, November 16.
- Do I send my child to school? If your child is not feeling well/has any of the covid symptoms, please keep them home and call our nurses' office. Nurse Nicole and/or Nurse Mary can help walk you through "next steps". Additionally, if your child has left the state of Vermont, please call and speak to one of our nurses, or one of us, Jen or Erica, and we can help determine if it was essential travel or if quarantining needs to take place.
- A Q & A document has been posted on the [Home - Barre Town Middle & Elementary](#) website to help field questions and wonderments from our parent community. We will add more questions as they come our way related to district conversations around more in-person instruction. Send us an email or give us a call! jnyebte@buusd.org or epearbte@buusd.org
- An updated version of [A Strong and Healthy Start: Health Guidance for Vermont Schools](#) was recently published. The BUUSD Re-Opening Team continues to review this document to see what needs to be adjusted/prepped based on this guidance that can go into effect on Monday, November 16.
- A friendly reminder that there is NO SCHOOL Wednesday, November 25 - Friday, November 27 due to the Thanksgiving Vacation. We realize that the holidays will look very different for many of us as we all continue to work together to keep ourselves and each other safe. Superintendent Wells will soon be sharing more guidance around travel, quartaneening, etc. Feel free to reference the [Fall 2020 Information](#) for information from the start of the school year (click on previous communication in the lower right-hand green box).
- If you have any questions related to academics it is always best to email your student's teacher directly. Never hesitate to reach out, every question is a good question!

Be well and stay healthy,
Jennifer W. Nye and Erica Pearson, BTMES Co-Principals

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News from the PTO

The Barre Town PTO is excited to announce the opening of our new online bookstore and logo gear site. <https://barre-town-pto.square.site>



Starting November 2 we will begin taking orders to be filled for the Holiday season. All orders placed between November 2nd and November 30th will be distributed December 14-18th.

David Stefaniak Holiday Gift Drive



We are very sorry to report that due to the many COVID restrictions, BTMES will not be holding a Holiday Gift Drive this year. If your family is in need of assistance, feel free to reach out to the local [Marine Toys for Tots](#) to apply for assistance during this holiday season.

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. Kale and turnips are still available to eat.

The asparagus ferns are almost ready to be cut down. By waiting until the ferns have turned yellow or brown, cutting asparagus in the autumn will help to produce better quality spears the next year. Removing the old foliage helps to keep the asparagus beetle from overwintering in the bed. Cutting asparagus back also helps to reduce the chances of disease and other pests.

Many of the beds have been cleaned and the weeds taken away. Mrs. Thygesen's PE classes cleaned some of the beds and composted the crops. Students cleaned up the day lily area beside the gym. Mrs. Moran's students planted garlic from the bulbs harvested this spring.

Here are some interesting fun facts about the month of November.

- ~ The first wagon train arrived in California in November, 1841. The wagon train left Independence Missouri in May, 1841.
- ~ November 16 is National Button Day (not sure what to do on this day.....)
- ~ Folklore suggests that "if trees show buds in November, the winter will last until May". Another prediction includes "ice in November, brings mud in December". (Farmer's Almanac)
- ~ Sesame Street premiered for the first time in November, 1969

Until spring...be thinking of gardening

Deb Curtis, Garden Coordinator, dcurtbte@buusd.org



November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3 Remote Day for all students—due to voting	4	5	6 Quarter 1 ends
9	10	11 Staff Development Day—No School for Students	12 School Board Meeting—5:30 p.m.	13 Report Cards go home—B Pod
16 Report Cards go home—A Pod	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	Thanksgiving Break	
30				



December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10 School Board Meeting—5:30 p.m.	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	Winter Holiday Break		25
28	29	30	31	January 1
Winter Holiday Break				