BES Cougar Cubs



Burr District Elementary School

October 2021





Brienne Whidden
Principal

Important Dates

4-8

Book Fair

6

Picture Day

8

No School—(Professional Development)

11

No School—Columbus Day/ Indigenous People Day

27-28

Early Dismissal—Parent/Teacher Conferences

Dear Burr Families,

I can't believe that we have finished up the first month of school already! September flew by as we were all busy sharing exciting summer adventures, making new friends, establishing new routines, and settling back into learning. Our focus for the month of October will be responsibility. We will hold a virtual Town Meeting at the end of the month to recognize classes that meet their personal goal for responsibility. In addition, many students have received individual recognition in the form of a cougar paw. Cougar Paws are given to students who go above and beyond in showing "PAWS" (Personal best, Act responsibly, Work and play safely, Show respect).

The Burr PTO has been hard at work already this year! Last week the students participated in their first virtual cultural arts assembly of the year, called Bee True to You sponsored by the PTO. They participated in songs, dance, and yoga focused on the themes of friendship, kindness, and embracing our own unique identity. In addition to this great assembly, the PTO has also organized several events for October. The Scholastic Book Fair kicks off on October 4th, the annual Fall Harvest Festival is back this year on October 7th from 6-8pm, and the Lyman Pie Fundraiser kicked off last week as well. Please see the PTO flyer included in this newsletter for more details on the upcoming Harvest Festival. We hope to see many of you there!

Burr School Picture Day will take place on Wednesday, October 6th. We will be using Joseph's photography company again this year. Order forms will be sent home soon but they can also be viewed at https://josephs.com/school-pictures.

Don't forget to order your Burr Elementary School Yearbook for the 2021 -2022 school year! All yearbook orders placed by Thursday, September 30th will receive a 10% discount on the purchase price. Any yearbooks ordered during the month of October, will receive a 5% discount on the price. Don't miss out on the savings-order today at www.treering.com/validate passcode for BES: 1015664832832305. In addition, Treering allows you to create 2 custom pages in the yearbook for your child at no additional charge.

Sincerely,

Brienne Whidden





























Paws-itively Awesome Students!









School pictures will be held on October 6. More information will be coming!

NEWS FROM THE KITCHEN



Breakfast and lunch are free to all students. If your student would like breakfast they tell their teacher and they will be sent to the cafeteria to eat at 8:45am.

If a student wishes to have just milk they must purchase it for \$.65. Money may be brought to school or put on their student account in PowerSchool.

Just a reminder the cafeteria does not supply silverware to students that have brought lunch from home.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to email me at BES_foodservice@rsd17.org. Thank you! -Heather Strom



To report your child absent, tardy or to relay dismissal information, please use this email: besattendance@rsd17.org

Please remember to include your child's full name and teacher's name in these emails. Thank you!



Friday, October 8 for Professional Development.

Monday, October 11 for Columbus Day/Indigenous People Day.

Enjoy your days off!



October 27 & 28 are early dismissals days for Parent/Teacher Conferences.



Just a friendly reminder that smoking is illegal anywhere on school property (this includes inside your vehicle).



NEWS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Thank you to the Burr community of families for their cooperation with the school guidelines during this school year of 2021-22. We ask that you continue keeping us informed of illnesses, and know we appreciate your efforts. Continue to monitor your child each day prior to school for any complaints of illness. Feel free to reach out to the Health Office with any questions you may have, the contact information is below.

Each day your child is absent requires a phone call or email, prior to the start of the school day, to notify Burr of the absence. Parents can leave a message with the Main Office staff or the school voicemail system before school hours. The Burr attendance email system is also available besattend-ance@rsd17.org. When you notify school of the absence please provide a detailed reason, we cannot accept "out today" or "sick". I can be reached in the Health Office after 8:30 a.m. if you would like to speak directly with me regarding the absence.

If you and your family have not received your seasonal flu vaccination, now would be the time to look into getting that done. Included with this message is the information for the Connecticut River Area Health District flu vaccination plan.

As cold & flu season approaches, along with COVID 19, please take a few minutes at home and continue to review with your children the importance of hand-washing. Take advantage of opportunities to check up on them, and assess their technique. As we promote hand-washing here at Burr, reinforcement at home would be great teamwork! Also, provide them with reminders to cough & sneeze into their arm/elbow rather than their hand to help prevent the spread of germs. Good sleeping habits and a well-balanced diet are helpful to keep your child feeling their best as they strive to reach their academic goals.

Keep in mind we are taking advantage of any weather that allows outdoor time, please dress your child appropriately for the predicted temperature.

All Kindergarten students need to have a full change of clothing with them each day. Please check their school supply that they have an appropriate seasonal outfit. If you feel your 1st grader could benefit from having a full change of clothing, we encourage you to supply them with one. The Health Office has a very limited supply of spare items. Thank you!

The Health Office is available each school day from 8:30-3:30.

Stay well & enjoy the upcoming season!

Eileen Ulizio, RN

eulizio@rsd17.org

besattendance@rsd17.org



FLU VACCINATIONS 2021/2022

Thursdays (Beginning 9/30/21) When:

Time: 7:00AM - 7:00PM

CT River Area Health District Location:

You must bring your insurance eard and a

455 Boston Post Road, Suite 7

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

*Located in Saybrook Junction



NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED

Please come to the front door.

Masks are required inside our office regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status.

For your convenience visit our website at:

www.crahd.info

You can read the current bitluenza. VIS Statements and download and fill in your influenza immunization. Consent Form prior to your arrival.



Questions???

Call: 860-661-3300

Email: ccollier@crahd.nct

We accept the following Insurances:

- Anthem BC/BS
- Connecticare
- CIGNA

State ID.

- Medicare
- Anthem BC/BS Medicare
- Connecticare Medicare
- CIGNA Medicare
- 18yo and under are not required to have insurance information and will receive a vaccination at no cost.

Others may still receive a vaccination

without imarance or if you have a different.

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Cost Oundrivalent \$35 Senior Dose \$65

Cash or Check Payable to: CRAHD

CRAHD vaccinates ages 4 years old and up.

Individuals under 18 most be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.



Kindergarten is a busy place!

Your wonderful children have been learning the routines and procedures of the classroom as we foster their independence.

In Readers' Workshop, we will be learning that readers can use superpowers to read new and familiar words. We continue to practice naming the letters and the letter sounds. In Writers' Workshop, we are getting ready to write about things we love from home. We will get to bring in items from home, draw a picture of what we brought and label parts of our drawing.

In math, we will be finishing our first unit that has numbers 0-5 and moving into our next unit that will include numbers 6-10.

We will also be continuing to learn about fall. Students will be discussing fire safety during the month of October.

Mrs. Aithal, Ms. Atwood, Mrs. Boudreau & Mrs. Burt

First Grade News

Our classes are in full swing and we are very busy!

We are learning about short vowel words and have been tapping them out and writing them. We know it is important to blend the sounds back together and our goal is to eventually be able to read words automatically without having to segment the individual sounds.

In writing, we are creating our narrative small moment stories. Please continue to help your child think of small moments they can write about. We are teaching the children to zoom in on a small moment and tell lots of details about it. (i.e., write about eating breakfast with the Disney princesses and NOT about your trip to Disney).

In math, we are working on adding and subtracting numbers within 10. Your child may be singing a doubles song we learned! We have practiced our doubles facts and know we can recognize them in other facts. For example, if I want to solve 3+4, I can think 3+3=6 so 1 more is 7. We have also talked about counting on from a bigger number instead of counting ALL. Next we will be exploring number bonds and the commutative property of addition.

We have started our science unit on Patterns of the Sun and Moon. We have been learning about shadows and what is needed to make them.

We hope you are enjoying this beautiful fall weather! Happy fall!

- Mrs. Blasiak, Mrs. Kulmann, Mrs. Reynolds, and Mrs. Smedley

The start of the new year has been an exciting time in 2nd grade and we are looking forward to October. Our Reading Workshop is underway. Our current unit has 3 parts: Taking Charge of Reading, Working Hard to Solve Tricky Words, and Paying Close Attention to Au-



thors. Second grade is a year when students' newfound reading skills allow them to do powerful new things as readers, and above all, their skills allow them to really think about their reading. While second graders continue to do important word-solving work, they will work on fluency and comprehension.

In Writing we have been working hard on our narrative unit. Students are focusing on writing about "small moments". For example, instead of writing about a day spent at the fair, they might write a piece about the roller coaster. They have learned how to grab their reader's attention by using their five senses to add descriptive details. Along with adding details, we are learning different techniques to write a strong beginning and ending to their narrative pieces.

In math, we have been learning strategies to add and subtract within 20. Second graders are also working to identify the correct operation and solve word problems. Additionally, they are learning to read bar and picture graphs and using the data to solve addition and subtraction questions.

Mrs. Bovey, Mrs. Carapezzi, Mrs. Harkin, Mrs. Macauley and Mrs. Penney



It's hard to believe the first month of school is behind us! Students have done a great job adjusting to the new normal and have been working hard toward their individual class-room respect goals.

In reading, we have been busy establishing routines and building stamina for independent reading. We have launched our first unit, Building A Reading Life, where we will learn strategies for summarizing, identifying character traits and themes. In writing, students

have been learning strategies for generating ideas to craft true stories. They will be learning how to plan and draft their pieces, tell their stories bit-by-bit with lots of details, and eventually publish their favorite piece.

In math, we began with place value skills. Our first unit is working with 3-digit numbers. This includes place value concepts, rounding to the nearest ten and hundred, and adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers.

In social studies, students learned about having a growth mindset, being respectful, and map skills. We are currently celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month and will be starting our study of Indigenous People of Connecticut.

Happy Fall!

- Mrs. Formica, Mrs. Gray, Mr. Lomuntad and Mr. Snow

Welcome back to school! We have been working hard for the past month to make music together!



Kindergarten has had the opportunity to use different props and instruments like eggs, drums, and scarves. We are exploring music with our bodies and voices as well. This year, kindergarten students will focus on learning to keep a steady beat with their bodies and finding their singing voices! It is so fun to see these fresh excited faces at my music room door everyday!

First grade has been exploring the music room by giving their imaginary "elf" friends a tour of the room. We use this activity to explore different ways to move our bodies and lead with different body parts. First grade students will focus on continuing to use their singing voice (matching pitch), keeping a steady beat in their bodies and learning about the opposites in music (high/low, fast/slow, loud/quiet, choppy/smooth...etc).









Second grade has been getting back to folk dancing at a distance. We played a partner game called Sasha! Where they performed motions distanced from a partner and got to work with different students in their class! Check out some photos! Second grade students will also begin to explore some larger instruments in our music room like xylophones and glockenspiels (bell sets).

Third grade students are preparing for the recorder. Recorders will be going home in October and we will be playing them once a week outside until the weather gets too cold. Third grade students should plan to practice what they learn in school for at least five minutes a day, five days a week as part of their homework! They are so excited to be working towards this milestone!





Hello Burr Friends and Families.

I would like to thank all of the students and staff for welcoming me with open arms. So far my experience has been incredibly positive and fun.

The students have spent the month of September working on social and emotional wellbeing, fitness, maintaining personal space and having fun. Every class we start with a dynamic cardio warm up to prevent injuries. We then move into flexibility, muscular and core strength exercises. After we are finished with all four components of fitness, we then play fun games! We have been playing games like freeze dance (w/locomotor movements), Choo Choo Train (Follow the Leader), Rock Paper Scissor, hula hoops and line tag. I look forward to continuing to make Burr students healthy, strong and kind!

Go outside and enjoy the Fall weather with friends and family!

Mr. Weeks Mr. Burkle



So far this year we have been reviewing how to navigate our remote learning platforms.

For kindergarten and first grade we are using Seesaw. This app is a meaningful tool for students, parents, and teachers. Within Seesaw, students use built-in annotation tools to capture what they know in Seesaw's digital portfolio. Teachers gain insights and deeply understand student thinking and progress. Families gain a window into their student's learning and engage with school happenings.

Students in grades two and three are using Google Classroom. Google Classroom is a free and easy app that helps educators efficiently manage and assess progress. This tool also enhances connections with learners from school, from home, or on the go.

Students in all grades have been learning all the ins and outs of these platforms as we begin the year reviewing the tools in our Chromebooks. As we move on into October, we continue to get our library ready for book check-outs. Grades two and three have started borrowing books and grades k and 1 will be soon. Students are asked to return their library books weekly on their library day.

Book Checkout Days

Monday: Mrs. Formica, Mrs. Halkin, Mrs. Aithal, and Mrs. Smedley

Tuesday: Mrs· Gray, Mrs· Penney, Mrs· Atwood, and Mrs· Blasiak

Wednesday: Only if normal book day will be missed that week

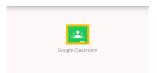
Thursday: Mr. Lomuntad, Mrs. Bovey, Mrs. Boudreau, and Mrs. Kulmann

Friday: Mr. Snow, Mrs. Carapezzi, Mrs. Drejer, Mrs. Burt, and Mrs. Reynolds

Please email Ms. Salzano with any questions or suggestions.

We have subscriptions to <u>Pebble-Go</u> (username: burrdes password: read) and <u>Newsela</u> (username BES3rdgrade password: Grade3BES) which are two great databases with up to date facts, information, and news. We also have <u>Brain-pop Jr.</u>, a multi-disciplinary activity site. I am working with students to bookmark these sites and save their user-name and passwords to have easy access to them on their Chromebooks.











Calling all LEGOs!

If you have LEGOs that you would like to give new life to, the BES library is accepting donations.

If you have complete sets you would like to donate, please send the directions if possible.

Thank you!

~ Ms. Salzano and Mrs. Hosking Happy Building!

Notes from Mr. Granucci in the Art Room

Students in grades K - 3 have been learning to look at paintings by famous artists. As a class, we have been discussing what they notice in each painting and comparing different artist styles such as realism, impressionism, cubism, and surrealism. I'm impressed with what the students in each class have to offer about the paintings during our museum gallery talks. The children in each class throughout the school are working on slightly different inspirational pictures depending on the grade.

I will be starting to collect recyclables for specific upcoming sculpture projects which we will be working on in the spring months. Please send any of these items into school **washed out** when you are done with them (some items from the list are not pictured).



- Tomato containers
- New disposable styrofoam or cardboard soup bowls (large and small)
- Yogurt Cups such as Chobani 6-8 oz. or larger
- Cottage Cheese containers 16 oz. or larger
- Sour Cream or Ricotta containers (large or small)
- Oatmeal or Cornmeal round boxes small size
- Pringles containers
- Stouffer's Black oval trays (or similar) from single meals
- Nestle Coffee Mate bottles (or similar)
- Cool Whip containers (or similar)
- Margarine, Cream Cheese (or similar)
- Sherbet (or similar) plastic containers
- New Solo (or similar brand) clear cups-large or small
- Mushroom trays
- frosting containers

If you have any other items which you think we could use, please e-mail me at jgranucci66@rsd17.org.

Thank-you for your help and continued support!

Mr. Granucci –





October News

https://burr.ptboard.com / Find us on Facebook: Burr PTO

Harvest Festival



The annual Harvest Festival is back!
Join us on Thursday, Oct 7^{th,} from 6p-8p
at Burr Elementary for food, crafts, music, games,
and a bonfire to celebrate the season
and being together again!

LYMAN PIE FUNDRAISER

Fundraiser opens September 27th All orders must be placed by October 13th



Delivery will be the Tuesday before Thanksgiving at Burr

Fall 2021 "Un-Fundraiser"

Our Unfundraiser is a direct donation fundraiser.
The Burr PTO will keep 100% of all the funds raised.
Both checks and cred/debit cards are accepted.
Please email BurrPTO@gmail.com for more information on how to donate.

2021 Family Scarecrow Contest

Create a fun, scary, or silly scarecrow with your family at home!

Drop off your scarecrow to Burr Elementary by 4pm on October 5th*.

The three scarecrows with the most votes will win a prize!

Be on the lookout for a flyer with all of the details on drop off, pick up, and voting!

*Please deliver scarecrows to the school – do not send them with children on the bus.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 4 - 8
Scholastic Book Fair
October 5
Scarecrow Contest Drop Off
October 7
Harvest Festival
October 8
No School
October 11
Holiday - No School
October 13
PTO Meeting 7:00pm
October 15
Return Order Deadline for
Lyman Pie Fundraiser

HK Park and Rec News:

Pease visit www.hkrec.com for programs and activities

HK RecCare 10/1 - 10/29 (No 10/8, 10/11)

Before & After-School at BES & KES

Staff and students will wear masks. There will be frequent hand washing and disinfecting of supplies. Please do not send your child if showing any symptoms of COVID-19. Each kid should bring their own pencil/marker case. Kids will get mask breaks (don't have to wear one outside). Social Distancing will be followed. Please bring a water bottle and snack. Gr. 4 - 6 kids will be bussed to & from HKIMS.



Gr. K - 6 at BES and KES

Before-School 7:30 - 8:45 am \$124 **After-School 3:25 - 6:00 pm** \$347

After-School part-time registration is \$19/regular day, \$38/early dismissal days.

All participants for before or after care must register for RecCare Processing and fill out on-line forms (look for RecCare Processing Forms under RecDesk). This is a one-time \$20 fee for the 21-22 school year.

Register at www.hkrec.com by 9/29

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		BREAKFAST IS FREE FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR		1. Cinnamon Bun Carrots Sliced Apples Milk
4. Cereal Breakfast Break Pack Milk	5. Bagel Yogurt Raisins Milk	6. Blueberry Muffin Applesauce Orange Juice Milk	7. Confetti Pancake Peaches Raisin Milk	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
No School COLUMBUS DHY	12. Bagel Yogurt Raisins Milk	13. Blueberry Muffin Applesauce Orange Juice Milk	14. Confetti Pancake Peaches Raisin Milk	15. Cinnamon Bun Carrots Sliced Apples Milk
18. Cereal Breakfast Break Pack Milk	19. Bagel Yogurt Raisins Milk	20. Blueberry Muffin Applesauce Orange Juice Milk	21. Confetti Pancake Peaches Raisin Milk	22. Cinnamon Bun Carrots Sliced Apples Milk
25. Cereal Breakfast Break Pack Milk	26. Bagel Yogurt Raisins Milk	27. Blueberry Muffin Applesauce Orange Juice Milk	28. Confetti Pancake Peaches Raisin Milk	29. Cinnamon Bun Carrots Sliced Apples Milk



BREAKFAST IS FREE FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

DUE TO DELIVERY AND PRODUCT SHORTAGES THE MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MILK \$0.65				1. Pizza Fresh cut Vegetables w/ Ranch Dressing Fruit of the Day Milk
4. Cheeseburger Crispy Oven Fries Carrots Fresh Local Grown Apple Milk 2 ketchup	5. Crispy Chicken Tenders Mashed Potatoes Fresh Green Beans Fruit of the Day Milk 2 ketchup	6 French Toast Sticks Hash Brown Patty Sausage Patty Blueberry and Peach Cobbler Milk, Syrup	7 Pizza Fresh Butternut Squash Fruit of the Day Milk	No School
No School	12. Hotdog Baked Beans Dragon Juice Fruit of the Day Milk 1 Ketchup	13 Bacon, Egg and Cheese Sandwich Tater Tots Fruit of the Day Milk 1 ketchup	14. Homemade Mac and Cheese Biscuit Steamed Broccoli Fruit of the Day Milk	15. Pizza Fresh cut Vegetables w/ Ranch Dressing Fruit of the Day Milk
18. Cheeseburger Smiley Fries Carrots Fruit of the Day Milk 2 ketchup 25. Chicken Tenders Mashed Potatoes Com Fruit of the Day Milk 1 ketchup	19. Pasta w/ Meat Sauce Roll Cucumber Salad Peaches Milk 26. Mozzarella Sticks w/Marinara Sauce Roll Vegetable Medley Fruit of the Day Milk	20. French Toast Sticks Hash Brown Patty Chicken Sausage Patty Fruit of the Day Milk Syrup 27. Waffles Chicken Bacon Tater Tots Fruit of the Day Syrup, Milk 1 ketchup	21. Teriyaki Chicken Rice Oriental Vegetables Fruit of the Day Milk 1 Ketchup 28 Chicken Patty Sandwich Green Beans Fruit of the Day Milk 1 ketchup	22. Pizza Fresh cut Vegetables w/ Ranch Dressing Fruit of the Day Milk 29 Pizza Fresh cut Vegetables w/ Ranch Dressing Frozen Teat Milk

LUNCH IS FREE FOR ALL STUDENTS

OCTOBER 4-8TH IS CT GROWN FOR CT KIDS WEEK



A MEAL IS HOT ENTRÉE LISTED ON LEFT

B MEAL IS GARDEN SALAD W/ CHICKEN, VEGETABLES, ROLL FRUIT OF THE DAY AND MILK

DUE TO DELIVERY AND PRODUCT SHORTAGES THE MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."