

Involvement & Communications

Family involvement is welcomed and encouraged, and there are many ways to become involved at Birch Lake! The following is an overview about how to stay involved and connected.

School Communications

There are multiples ways in which the school communicates important information to families:

- Monthly all-school newsletter
- Classroom weekly newsletter
- Mass calls and emails
- See-Saw (online sharing app)
 - Teachers will provide login information
- School Website:
<http://www.whitebear.k12.mn.us/BirchLake/>

Volunteer Opportunities

- Family members are welcome to help out in the classroom, on field trips and preparing materials.
- Based on your interest and availability, we can help match you to a fitting opportunity.
- Call Laura at 651-653-2776 or your child's teacher to discuss volunteer opportunities.
- Opportunities that include working independently with students require a background check through the district.

Cell Phones

- Cell phones may not be used by students at school unless approved by school staff.

School/Classroom Visits

- Always check in at the school office to sign in and get a visitor's pass.
- Office staff may ask for identification from visitors.
- Arrange classroom visits in advance with the teacher so that we can best meet your needs.
- If an urgent need arises, office staff will be happy to assist with a solution.

Birthday Celebrations

- Due to allergies and other dietary concerns, **we ask that families do not provide food/treats for student birthdays.**
- This is a change in practice from past years and long-standing traditions, so we appreciate your cooperation.

Phone Calls and Messages

- The main office can direct any phone calls for teachers and students during the day.
- If teaching is in progress, office staff will take a message or transfer to the classroom voicemail.
- Students may use school phones only in urgent situations under the direction of staff.