



Belfast

Central School District

Newsletter

“a school dedicated to excellence”

Happy Fall!

It’s hard to believe that we are closing in on the end of the first quarter of school. It has been a busy start, but students, faculty, and staff seem to be settling into the new year and we have had many fun events! I want to thank all the families who read and attended our Charlie and the Chocolate Factory literacy night at the end of September. I hope you were also able to take in one of the performances of the elementary musical version of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Our students worked so hard on the musical! Next came Halloween with a great time had by all during the parade and our building wide trick or treating! Some of our grade levels have even been able to sneak in a field trip already this year! Mrs. Hamer’s, Ms. Miller’s, and Ms. Shephard’s classes visited the Challenger Center in Olean and Mrs. Hazelton’s class visited the Alfred State College farm for Ag Day. Report cards will be coming home for grades PK-4 on Friday, November 18. Please make sure you set up a Parent-Teacher conference with your child’s teacher for November 21. We love to see families attend so we can share all the great things your child has been doing so far this year! We have also been able to recognize our Top Dogs for their paw-some behavior! Top Dogs are recognized

by faculty and staff for going above and beyond each day while demonstrating our PAWS behavior – practice safety, act responsibly, work toward success, and show respect. Ask your child if they know what it takes to become a Top Dog?

Jessica Hess,

PK-4 Principal/Director of Pupil Services

Belfast Bulldogs

- P** ractice Safety
- A** ct Responsibly
- W** ork toward Success
- S** how Respect



Miss Denning worked at BCS for 19 years. She started her career as a teacher’s aide and then worked as a K-4 math intervention teacher. Miss Denning was a class advisor, a student counsel advisor, and a timekeeper for soccer and basketball games. She coordinated the Christmas family shopping event for BCS students and the community.

She was always smiling and had a very kind heart. Miss Denning will be sadly missed by the entire BCS community.

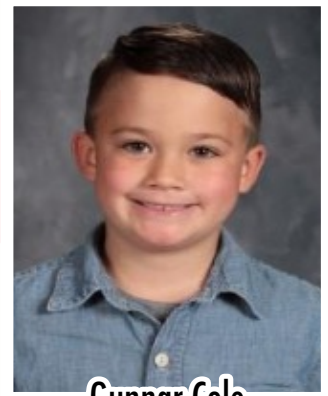
School will be CLOSED on November 11- Veterans Day

Top Dogs

The TOP DOG award is presented to students in grades PK-4 who have exhibited the BCS PAWS behaviors on a regular basis. BCS teachers and staff are looking for students who Practice safety, Act responsibly, Work toward success, and Show respect each day in and out of the classroom. The TOP DOG winners for September are:



Isabella Burdett



Gunnar Cole



Kyson Miles



Constantine Baumgartner



Addison Kelley

Career Day

Greetings!

This year at Belfast Central School, we have decided to showcase local alumni from the greater Belfast and Allegany County areas to highlight different professional paths that are available to our students. We want to show our students how successful they can be in their post-secondary journey while providing them with the opportunity to learn about the necessary path.

We will be hosting four career days throughout the school year:

- November 18 (12:45-2:45)
- December 22 (8:30-10:30)
- February 17 (12:45-2:45)
- March 31 (8:30-10:30)

Students in grades 7-12 will rotate between 4 different speakers. Students in grades 5-6 will rotate between 2 different speakers. Students in grades PK-4 will listen to 1 speaker. Each session will last approximately 30 minutes. We would love for our speakers to be in person but

understand that logistics do not always allow for that and can accommodate via Zoom.

If you are interested in participating, or would like more information, please email Jessica Hess jhess@belfastcsd.org or Mary Guilford mguilford@belfastcsd.org or call the main office at 585-365-2646.

Thank you!

Mary Guilford, BCS Librarian
Jessica Hess, PK-4 Principal/
Director of Pupil Services

BCS Staff Spotlights!



Kayla Green
Secretary

Mrs. Green has worked at BCS for 5 years as the Secretary for the Guidance and Pupil Service offices! Prior to this position, she worked with the BCS business office through BOCES. Mrs. Green is in charge of registering new students, handles student records, and completes numerous office tasks with a smile. Mrs. Green is Bills a fan who loves to bake, and she is the office decorator when it comes to the BCS Holiday contest. Thank you for all you do!



Laura Faulring
Custodian

Mrs. Faulring has worked as a custodian at BCS for 20 years! She works tirelessly to keep the elementary wing of the building spic-n-span. Mrs. Faulring frequently writes happy notes to BCS elementary students, and is a friend to the funky monkeys!

Mrs. Faulring will be greatly missed when she retires at the end of the month.

Thank you for all you have done for BCS!



Beth Hazelton
Elementary Teacher

Mrs. Hazelton has been an elementary teacher at BCS for 16 years! She has taught students in 2nd and 3rd grades. Mrs. Hazelton is a Lego League, Girls on the Run, and assistant varsity track coach! Away from school, Mrs. Hazelton is an avid runner and spends time traveling the country with her family!

Thank you for all you do for BCS



Mary Anne Majoros
Special Education Teacher

Mrs. Majoros has been a special education teacher at BCS for 24 years! She has provided support for students with disabilities in grade K-12. Mrs. Majoros operates a resource room, works as a consultant teacher, and also provides preschool special education services to identified students! Away from school, Mrs. Majoros competes as a tri-athlete and runs marathons!

Thank you for all you do for BCS!



Lori Wilson
Cook

Mrs. Wilson has worked in the BCS cafeteria for 22 years! She has run the register, prepped food, and currently works as a cook. Mrs. Wilson greets students and staff with a smile every day! Away from school, Mrs. Wilson attends her grandkids sporting events and enjoys time at the beach with her family!

Thank you for all you do for BCS!



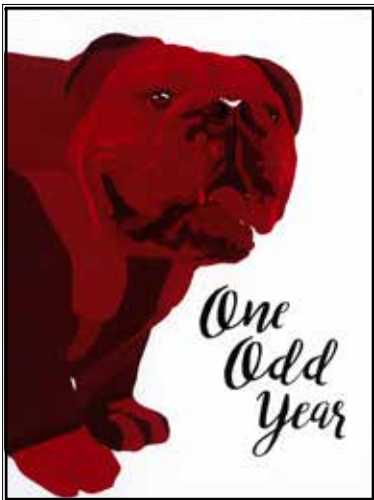
Sue Durrigan
Teacher's Aide

Mrs. Durrigan has worked as a teacher's aide at BCS for 17 years! She has worked as a greeter, provided classroom support throughout the building, and currently works in the primary 12:1:1 classroom as a one-on-one aide. Away from school, Mrs. Durrigan is a Red Socks fan who enjoys traveling and spending time with her grandkids!

Thank you for all you do for BCS!

New Bell Schedule:

<i>Doors Open 7:50</i>	
Block 1	8:05 – 8:50
Block 2	8:53 – 9:34
Block 3	9:37 – 10:18
Block 4	10:21 – 11:02
Block 5A	11:05 – 11:25
Block 5B	11:25 – 11:46
Block 5C	11:49 – 12:09
Block 5D	12:09 – 12:30
Block 6	12:33 – 1:14
Block 7	1:17 – 1:58
Block 8	2:01 – 2:42
Advisement	2:45 – 3:05
Buses leave	3:15



Calendar of Events

- November 10** Veteran's Day assembly
- November 11** NO SCHOOL-Veteran's Day
1st qtr. ends
Art Club wreath fundraiser ends
- November 14** 2nd qtr. Starts
- November 18** PK-4 report cards sent home
Senior class beef stick sales start
Band/choir flower sales end
- November 21** NO SCHOOL-Parent teacher conference 12-8 pm
- November 22** NO SCHOOL-Superintendent's Day
- November 23-25** NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving Recess
- December 2** Senior class beef stick sales end
- December 3** SAT
- December 6** PK-12 picture retakes
- December 8** K-4 holiday concert @ 6 pm
- December 10** ACT
- December 12-14** Family Gift Giving in BCS auditorium
- December 13** Board of Education meeting. @ 5:30 pm
- December 15** 5-12 holiday concert @ 6 pm
- December 16** Spelling bee
- December 19** Pre-K holiday tea
- December 23-January 2** NO SCHOOL-Holiday recess

2021 and 2022 Yearbooks for Sale in the Main Office. \$40.00

Belfast Central School 2022-23 Calendar

November 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

March 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

December 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

January 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

May 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

June 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

- Prof. Dev. Days (No students)
- Holidays (Offices Closed)
- Breaks (No Students or Faculty)
- Graduation
- 3-8 Testing Dates
- Regents Exam Dates
- Parent/ Teacher Conference
- Open House

Jul	4	Independence Day	Nov	21	Parent Teacher Conf. (12-8)	Mar.	9	Open House (1:00 dismissal)
Aug	29, 30	Superintendent's Days	Nov	22	Superintendent's Day	April	3-10	Spring Recess /Good Friday
Aug	30	Back to School Picnic (5-7)	Nov	23-25	Thanksgiving Recess	May	29	Memorial Day
Sept	5	Labor Day	Dec	23-31	Holiday Recess	Jun	19	Juneteenth
Sept	6	1 st Day for Students	Jan	2	New Year's Day (celebrated)	Jun	22	Last Day- 12:30 dismissal
Oct	10	Columbus/Indigenous People Day	Jan	16	Martin Luther King Day	Jun	23	Rating Day
Nov	11	Veterans' Day	Feb	20-24	Pres. Day/February Break	Jun	23	Graduation

Teacher Days: 185 Student Days: 181 2- Make-Up Days built in the calendar

ADOPTED 2/8/22



Dear Parents and Families:

Get ready! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way (YAY!). Choosing their own books empowers kids and inspires them to become Bolder, Prouder, and Stronger Readers. AND—as always—every book they buy earns rewards for our school.

Here’s what you need to know about the Fair, which will take place from Nov. 21 & 22 and Nov. 28 - Dec. 2 at the BCS Elementary Library:

This year, say goodbye to cash and hello to **eWallet**—your child’s digital payment account. Before the Fair, set up eWallet for worry-free, cash-free purchases. Anyone can contribute! Share each child’s eWallet so friends and family can add funds and give your kids more books to enjoy.

If you can’t make it to the Fair, then **shop at our school’s Online Book Fair**. All orders ship directly to your home, and shipping is free for book orders over \$25. Your online orders will also benefit our school.

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping:
<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/belfastcentral>

The countdown to more Book Joy is on! Catch you at the Fair!

CONVENIENT, CASH-FREE SHOPPING WITH eWALLET!

It's Book Fair Time! This year, say hello to **eWALLET!** Empower students to choose their own books and check out with their very own digital payment account. Book Fair eWallet can be used at the Fair or online. And any leftover funds can be saved for future Fairs! Win-Win!

CREATE ACCOUNT
 ADD FUNDS
 and/or
 SHARE WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS
 SHOP

Visit our school's Book Fair homepage to get started.
<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/belfastcentral>

Picture Retake Day

If you missed it the first time, School pictures will be taken again on December 6, 2022.



10% SAVINGS ON YOUR RG&E UTILITY BILL!

Community Solar is a free state program offered by NYSEERDA, designed to reduce Co2 emissions, meet state green energy requirements and stimulate the local economy. Businesses small and large, nonprofits, residents, and municipalities are eligible to enroll. Community Solar is completely free to join!

Complete the application available at the Belfast Town Hall, and drop at the Town Clerk's office or in the locked water box in the vestibule of the Town Hall. Be sure to attach copies of page 1 and 3 of your electric bill. Or, contact Tysheen Roundtree, 716- 266-5208, to set up an appointment and he or one of his associates will help you with the application process.

Additional applications may be obtained at the Belfast Town Hall, 13 Merton Ave., Belfast.



Homecoming



Homecoming Court
Carly Moultrup
Finn Heaney



Homecoming Court
Ava Aronson
Dillion Kelley



BCS Homecoming King and Queen
Anna Drozdowski
Canaan Sullivan



Homecoming Court
Mary Hamer
Damien Rinker



Music Notes



7th Grade Field Trip Kleinhans Music Hall

During this first quarter, the 7th grade General Music class has been studying all about the piano - the history, majors composers/works, how it's made, and how to play some basic things on a keyboard. On Friday, October 14, the students were able to attend a special performance of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra at Kleinhans Music Hall. They saw Taiwanese-American conductor Mei-Ann Chen make her BPO debut, as well as young pianist Tony Siqi Yun play Tchaikovsky's majestic First Piano Concerto in his own BPO debut.

It was an absolute pleasure for our students to go to a live concert and experience professional musicians!

Jr-Sr High Musical

We are gearing up to announce the Spring Jr-Sr High Musical! Stay tuned for some exciting news around the middle of November!



Area All State

Congratulations to Carson Foster (grade 7) and Sean Mahon (grade 11) on being selected in the Zone 15 Area All State Mixed Choirs. They will represent Belfast by joining a mixed choir of 60-100 other students from Zone 15. Carson will attend the Jr. High Festival held in Hornell on November 4 & 5, 2022, and Sean will attend the Sr. High festival, held in Elmira on November 18 & 19, 2022.

Music Department Upcoming Events

Thursday – December 8, 2022
BCS Grades K-4 Winter Concert 6PM

Thursday – December 15, 2022
BCS Grades 5-12 Holiday Concert 6PM

Poinsettia Fundraiser

Our annual Poinsettia fundraiser sale will be from November 7 through 18, 2022. Each Poinsettia is in a 6.5" flower pot, and colors this year include red, pink, and white.

Poinsettias are \$15 each.

Please connect with a music department student to order, or email rbrennan@belfastcsd.org or twillgens@belfastcsd.org to order.

Please plan to pick-up your Poinsettia order at the conclusion of the Grade 5-12 Holiday concert on December 15.

★ ALL FOR BOOKS ★ COIN DRIVE CHALLENGE

Dear Families,

Our school is participating in a classroom-level coin drive called the All for Books Coin Drive Challenge. Your small change can make a big difference. Our goal is to provide books for all! Each day represents a different type of coin:

- Penny Monday
- Nickel Tuesday
- Dime Wednesday
- Quarter Thursday
- Anything Goes Friday

The classroom or grade that collects the highest overall total will receive a prize.

By donating \$1 or loose change, you help us:

- Purchase books for classroom libraries.
- Give more children easier access to books.
- Help connect more books with kids and kids with books.

The All for Books money we collect also helps readers beyond our school and community. Scholastic Book Fairs® matches those monetary donations with a donation of up to \$1 million in books from The Scholastic Possible Fund, which distributes books to children through organizations such as the Kids in Need Foundation.

Please send your donation back to school with your child. Your act of kindness helps give students more access to books they'll want to read!

All for Books means Books for All!

Thank you!

Parents

Fight Flu at Home and School

Flu, or influenza, spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially kids. You can help stop flu!

Flu symptoms include:

Fever or chills, body aches, cough, sore throat, headache, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired. Some people, especially children, may have stomach problems and diarrhea. Unlike a cold, the flu comes on very suddenly.

Prevent flu!

- Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. It is recommended every year for everyone 6 months and older.
- Get the flu vaccine for you and your children every year! It helps make flu sickness milder or prevents it all together.
- Getting the vaccine early in the fall means you and your children will be protected when flu season starts.
- Ask people close to your children, like babysitters and relatives, to get the vaccine, too.
- The vaccine is especially important for people with certain health conditions, like asthma, diabetes, heart or lung conditions because the flu can make them even sicker.

If your child gets the flu:

- Your child will need plenty of rest and lots of fluids.
- Keep your child home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without using fever-control medicine. This helps avoid giving the flu to others.
- Talk with your child's health care provider before giving a child any over-the-counter medicine.
- Never give your child or teenager aspirin or any medicine that has aspirin in it. Aspirin can cause serious problems.
- If your child gets flu symptoms and is younger than 5 or has a medical condition like asthma, diabetes, or heart or lung disease, call their health care provider. Young children and those with certain medical conditions are at greater risk for getting seriously ill from the flu. Ask their health care provider if they recommend an antiviral drug.
- If you are worried about your child, call their health care provider.

Don't spread flu!

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water aren't handy, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hands. Put used tissues in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. That's how germs spread.
- Stay away from people who are sick.

health.ny.gov/flu



Christmas 2022

Family Gift Giving ... *New location!*

It is that time of year again! Community members would like to host the Annual Family Gift Giving event for our students, and this year, students can “shop” in the school Auditorium.

Our students will shop for free, and get their gifts wrapped to take home to their family for Christmas presents. We are asking for any donations of gently used or new gifts for any family members (brothers, sisters, parents, etc.) or even wrapping paper/gift bags. If you have any items you would like to donate or if you would like to volunteer to help wrap, please contact one of the following people: Gail DeRock (585) 307- 4171, Ethel Denning (585) 365-2282, or Gina Larrabee (585) 365-9940 or (585) 928-1874.

Students PreK-6 have a chance to come shop for their family members on Monday, Dec. 12, and Tuesday, Dec. 13, and possibly Wednesday, Dec. 14 depending on supplies.

We will open the Auditorium to Belfast families to come shop for free from 4:00pm -6:00pm on Tuesday evening, Dec. 13. Please use the Auditorium entrance.

Our kids enjoy this each year. Thank you for your support!



2022 CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING IN THE PARK DECEMBER 4 @ 6:30 PM

INCLUDING CAROLING, HOT CHOCOLATE AND COOKIES
SERVED BY THE LIONS, AND
SANTA CLAUS IN THE TOWN PARK AS WELL



TO PLACE AN ORNAMENT ON THE MEMORIAL TREE AND HAVE
YOUR LOVED ONE COMMEMORATED DURING THE CEREMONY,
PLEASE CALL OR TEXT 716-777-1021 BY DECEMBER 1.

BE SURE TO INCLUDE:

NAME OF PERSON(S) MEMORIAL ORNAMENT HONORS
NAME OF PERSON(S) GIVING ORNAMENT

(REMOVE ORNAMENTS FROM THE TREE OR RETRIEVE FROM THE TOWN HALL
BY JANUARY 8.)

Senior Citizens Dinner

Due to lack of interest last year, our Senior Citizen's Dinner will not be held this year. We wish our community a happy and healthy holiday!

Winter Concert

Kindergarten – 4th Grade
December 8, 2022 at 6PM

Holiday Concert

Grades 5 – 12
December 15, 2022 at 6PM

Belfast Children's Christmas Fund Application

Please MAIL this application to the address listed below. All requests need to be postmarked BY 11/15/22. This application cannot be processed by the Belfast Central School. Your application cannot be processed if mailed later than 11/15/22. Please do not delay!

Mail all applications on or before 11/15/22 to:

Belfast Children's Fund
7708 County Road 26
Belfast, NY 14711

Name of parent or guardian _____

Address for physical delivery of items _____

Primary telephone number _____

Best time to call _____

Alternate telephone number for a message _____

Number of adults living in the home _____

Number of children under age 18 living in the home _____

Annual income from all persons residing in the home (please include employment, unemployment benefits, SSI, SSDI, child support, other income sources)

\$ _____ per year.

Please tell us why you would like help at Christmas in 2022.

Belfast Children's Christmas Fund Application

First and last name of child _____ age _____
gender _____ Relationship to you _____

First and last name of child _____ age _____
gender _____ Relationship to you _____

First and last name of child _____ age _____
gender _____ Relationship to you _____

First and last name of child _____ age _____
gender ____ Relationship to you _____

First and last name of child _____ age _____
gender ____ Relationship to you _____

First and last name of child _____ age _____
gender ____ Relationship to you _____

Please complete one section for *each* child listed above.

First name of child listed above _____
Circle three items that your child needs most and list the size, and style or color preferred.

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|-------|------------|
| Pajamas | Socks | Underwear | Shoes | Sneakers | Boots | |
| Winter Coat | | Pants | Shirts | Books | Toys | Other item |

First name of child listed above _____
Circle three items that your child needs most and list the size, and style or color preferred.

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|-------|------------|
| Pajamas | Socks | Underwear | Shoes | Sneakers | Boots | |
| Winter Coat | | Pants | Shirts | Books | Toys | Other item |

First name of child listed above _____
Circle three items that your child needs most and list the size, and style or color preferred.

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|-------|------------|
| Pajamas | Socks | Underwear | Shoes | Sneakers | Boots | |
| Winter Coat | | Pants | Shirts | Books | Toys | Other item |

First name of child listed above _____
Circle three items that your child needs most and list the size, and style or color preferred.

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|-------|------------|
| Pajamas | Socks | Underwear | Shoes | Sneakers | Boots | |
| Winter Coat | | Pants | Shirts | Books | Toys | Other item |

First name of child listed above _____
Circle three items that your child needs most and list the size, and style or color preferred.

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|-------|------------|
| Pajamas | Socks | Underwear | Shoes | Sneakers | Boots | |
| Winter Coat | | Pants | Shirts | Books | Toys | Other item |

First name of child listed above _____
Circle three items that your child needs most and list the size, and style or color preferred.

- | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|-------|------------|
| Pajamas | Socks | Underwear | Shoes | Sneakers | Boots | |
| Winter Coat | | Pants | Shirts | Books | Toys | Other item |

Mail all applications on or before 11/15/22

Cafeteria Corner

Food Allergies



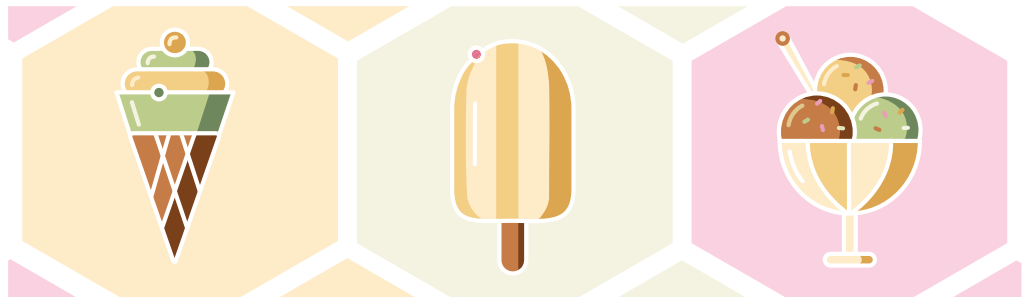
Does your child have an allergy to food(s)? We need to have an Allergy Form on file for your student every year. You may access the Allergy Form online or by contacting Mary Enders, Cafeteria Manager at menders@belfastcsd.org or by phone at 585-365-2646 ext 1071.

We must have one on file accommodate your students' nutritional needs.

Ice Cream Fund

A huge thank you to the Belfast PTO for generously donating to our Ice Cream Fund!

We are now selling ice cream every other Friday to grades 3-12! Students must have money on their cards or cash in their hand to purchase ice cream. The costs are \$1.00 or .75 each.



Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. email:

program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

English Corner

What's happening in BCS's English Department?

Welcome, Houghton students!

Three students from Houghton University have started working in Ms. Szwejbka's English classroom. These future educators visit twice a week to gain teaching experience, insight, and knowledge. Mr. Shriver is a native of Lancaster, NY double majoring in adolescence education and English. Miss Willert of Buffalo, NY studies inclusive adolescent education, English, and missions. Miss Anderson is a double major in adolescent education and English from Moravia, NY. We're excited to have them join us this year!



STUDENT Spotlight

Emalee is a 9th grade student who has excelled in our creative writing unit. Emalee's short suspense story, titled "More," uses incredibly vivid description, strong storytelling skills, and engaging detail. This star student also dedicates time to the JV Volleyball team as a setter!



Emalee Carman

STUDENT Spotlight



Will Guilford

Will is a deep thinker, a hard worker, and an active member of English 9 discussions. He enthusiastically embraced the revision process for his short story, "The Cabin." In addition to his academics, Will also shines on the JV soccer team and in art class, where he made this charcoal self-portrait!

Book Review: *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens Written by Chelsea Goldsmith, grade 12

Where the Crawdads Sing is a standalone book about a young woman named Kya Clark. Kya is the protagonist who raised herself in the marshes of North Carolina after she was abandoned by her family; one thing that didn't abandon her was nature. As she says, "Nature had nurtured, tutored, and protected her when no one else would."



Kya was born into a kind of messed up family. Her dad beat her siblings and her mother which eventually led to her mom's mental illness and abandonment of her family. One by one, her siblings also abandoned Kya until she was left with her Pa. Living with Pa wasn't that bad when it was just her and him. Pa took her fishing and gave her some money to get groceries by herself in town.

One day, a CPS worker came to Kya's shack. Kya needed to go to school. In her whole life, she only went to school one day and that was because the kids in school bullied her. One of those kids was Chase Andrews who later becomes a main character in the book.

Another important character is Tate; he helped Kya make her way back home when she lost her way in the marsh after taking Pa's boat. Ever since then, there was little communication between them. One way Kya and Tate did communicate was through collecting feathers and exchanging them at their meeting spot. Kya and Tate accidentally met at their spot one day where Kya reveals she can't read and he offers to teach her. That's where Tate and Kya's romance started...

Later, Tate graduated from high school. He went to college, promising Kya that he would be back. When he doesn't show up, she's heart broken. Chase returned ... but is he actually good for her?

I loved this book! I loved everything about it—the writing, the plot, the setting, everything! I give this book a 5 stars out of 5, while Goodreads gives it a 4.4 rating. I give it a 5 out of 5 stars rating because I love how it showed how Kya had a hard life but made the best of it by spending time on her little beach, going fishing, collecting feathers and shells, and feeding her seagulls. It's a story of hope and redemption.

Belfast Beacon



Check the school Facebook page and belfastcs.org regularly for student writing -- new stories coming soon!



HONORING RON MIX

At the first meeting of the 2022 Lion's season, the Belfast Lions Club honored member Ron Mix for his 36 years of service to the club and community. When asked about his achievements as a Lion member, Ron only spoke of the needs in Belfast.

"I like to know that this community is taken care of," he said. It is no surprise that Ron would use the opportunity to encourage volunteerism. "This is a true example of Ron's nature," commented Lion Mike Preston. "He would rather talk about others than himself." Current Lions president Josh Hazelton concluded the celebration by thanking Ron for the legacy he has built. "I really appreciate all that I learned from you," Josh noted. "I've been incredibly impressed by how giving you've been. I've always thought that's a testament to who you are." Thank you, Lion Ron, for your continued support of the Belfast community!



2022 CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING IN THE PARK

Join us on Sunday, December 4 at 6:30pm for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting in the Belfast Town Park! There will be caroling, hot chocolate and cookies, and an appearance from Santa Claus himself!

If you are a business or organization looking to sponsor a tree, please reach out to cstruckmann@belfastcsd.org or message our Facebook page!



LION'S DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISITS BELFAST

The District 20-EI Governor of Lions Clubs, Judy MacKnight, visited our club to share news from the International Lions Club and discuss this year's focus. She highlighted the year's motto of "Lions Work Together." We enjoyed having her join us and look forward to a year of working together!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

On Tuesday, Nov. 22, we will be setting up trees in the Town Park. Anyone interested in helping with this setup, please contact a Lion's Club member or message us on Facebook. This is a great opportunity for junior and senior students needing service hours!

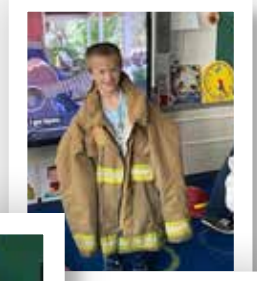


NOVEMBER 2022

Adventures in Ms. Shephard's Classroom

In September, we went on an adventure to write about ourselves and learn about our classmates. We took the time to write what we like and decorate an All About Me poster. We had a lot of fun writing, drawing, and coloring. When we were done, we shared them with each other.

In October, we spent a week learning about Fire Safety. We learned how to do a fire drill and earned awards for being fabulous during a drill. We took a virtual field trip and watched a video on what to do if there is a fire. We also talked with our families about fire safety and set up a plan for our house. To add to the fun, we borrowed some fire gear and got to try it on and see how heavy everything is.



Parent Night in Kindergarten

October 5th was our first parent night for the kindergarten families. Mrs. Hamer and Mrs. Prosser would like to give a BIG thank you to all the parents that took the time to come with their child and for the donations of mums and fall bulbs. It was nice to get the families together and watch them get to know each other. These parents will be an extended family for the next 13 years at BCS. What a wonderful group of individuals!





1 King Street
Belfast, NY 14711

www.BelfastCSD.org

BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Josie Preston, President
- Randa Harrington, Vice President
- Becky Backer
- Cecy Curcio
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IMPORTANT BCS TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO REMEMBER

- Superintendent's Office.....365-9940
- Principal's Office365-8285
- Business Office365-8289
- Guidance Office365-8297
- Bus Garage.....365-2609
- Nurse's Office365-2053
- Special Education Office.....365-8847
- Preschool.....365-8088
- Automated Attendant365-2646
- Fax.....365-2648
- Website.....www.Belfastcsd.org

Please remember our school safety tip line. This line remains at **365-2053** and may be used for anonymous calls for reporting student safety concerns.

Board of Education Meetings

Belfast Central School
Board of Education Meetings
2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30




Teaching and Non-Teaching substitutes needed!

Check out the Belfast Central School website under District Information/Employment. Or go to <https://www.applitrack.com/caboces/onlineapp/> to complete an application.