



Belfast
Central School District

Newsletter

“a school dedicated to excellence”

Belfast Central School Open House

Please join us on March 9 at 6:00 pm!!

Events planned include:

- Sophomore class sponsored Chicken and biscuits dinner. Presale tickets on sale now!
- High School Classroom displays and presentations
- Elementary classrooms student's work and projects displayed
- Over 15 local agencies and service providers on-site to inform you of helpful services available. Including information on free diapers, parenting classes, and exciting adult education opportunities.

Don't miss out on the fun!



Coming Soon!

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way!

March 6 - March 10

8:15 AM - 3:30 PM

Elementary Library

Enter at our main door to sign in.

The Book Fair will be open during the evening of Open House on March 9.

Ways to purchase from the Book Fair:

eWallet - set up your eWallet between Feb. 13-Mar. 10 Your child's digital payment account. Anyone can contribute! Share each child's eWallet so friends and family can add funds and give your kids more books to enjoy.

Online Book Fair - All orders ship directly to your home, and shipping is free for book orders over \$25. Online ordering available Mar. 6-Mar. 19

Cash/Credit Card/Checks payable to Belfast Central School - in person.

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping:

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/belfastelemhighschool1>

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

Belfast Central School District OPEN HOUSE on March 9 | 6:00pm

A Message from Jessica Hess

It's hard to believe that we are more than halfway through this school year! As I write this, our students in grades K-8 are currently taking their winter benchmarking assessments. Students in grades K-3 take the Aimsweb diagnostic assessment in math and reading while students in grades 4-8 will take their diagnostic assessment through iReady.

Aimsweb assessments are short, often timed tests that focus on math and reading fluency skills, reading comprehension, and math application skills. Each student will have a parent report sent home identifying their child's scores for each tested area, whether their skills are above, on, or below grade level, recommendations for your child based on their performance, and information on whether your child's skills are improving.

Like Aimsweb testing, the iReady diagnostic assessment evaluates our students' math and reading skills. An iReady report will also come home which provides families with information on all growth from the fall to winter benchmarking and how their student performed in each sub-category and what the score means. If you would like more information on how to understand your child's iReady Diagnostic Results, please visit <https://i-readycentral.com/pdfs/understanding-your-students-i-ready-diagnostic-results/>

All students in grades K-4 will also be assessed with the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) which helps teachers identify a student's instructional reading level as well as identify areas of strength and need in their fluency and comprehension skills. It is important for families to remember that reading levels are a tool for your child's teacher to use to customize their instruction. Fountas and Pinnell advise that families help their children choose books that are of interest to them. Choosing books solely based on the book's reading level may not help engage your child in reading.

Our team of classroom, special education, and intervention teachers will analyze the data from our assessments and identify students who need remedial instruction in math and/or reading. If you have concerns about your child's performance, please don't hesitate to contact their classroom teacher or the main office. We are always happy to help explain the results of your child's assessments and next steps in order to help them continue to grow!

Jessica Hess,

PK-4 Principal/Director of Pupil Services

Allegany County Employment and Training Summer Youth Employment Program

Applications available April 2023
Follow our website and Facebook
page for more details

www.alleganyco.gov
Facebook: Allegany County Employment &
Training

Congratulations Brianna Morton on being inducted into the National Technical Honor Society at the Belmont CTE Center! Brianna plans to further her education in culinary arts at Niagara Community College after graduation!



BELFAST CENTRAL SCHOOL 2021-2022 CALENDAR

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				

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						

Feb	20-24	Pres. Day/February Break
Mar.	9	Open House (1:00 dismissal)
April	3-10	Spring Recess /Good Friday
May	29	Memorial Day
Jun	19	Juneteenth
Jun	22	Last Day- 12:30 dismissal
Jun	23	Rating Day
Jun	23	Graduation

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	

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			



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

Upcoming Events

March 8	National Honor Society Induction
March 9	Open House
March 11	Junior Class Basket Raffle
March 14	Board of Education Meeting
March 24	Grease Musical @ 7:00pm
March 25	Grease Musical @ 7:00pm
March 25	Lions Club Easter Event in the gym
March 28	NHS Blood Drive noon-5pm
March 30	7th Grade Symposium
April 1	4-H event
April 11	Board of Education Meeting

HONOR ROLL

BELFAST CENTRAL SCHOOL 2022-23 2ND QUARTER

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

95%+

- GRADE 5:** Shea Preston, Mackenna Yackerren
- GRADE 6:** Jackson Barney, Greta Smithers
- GRADE 7:** Ella Austin, Avery Enders, Sarah Hazelton
- GRADE 8:** Afton Hamer, Emerson Weaver, Madison Yackerren
- GRADE 9:** Emalee Carman, Logan Estabrook, William Guilford, Rachel Merriam
- GRADE 10:** Allyson Hazelton, Jenna Hill, Danika Scott, Kayliegh Wojcik, Sophie Zillgitt
- GRADE 11:** Carley Burrows, Abigail Sullivan, Christopher Weaver
- GRADE 12:** Tykota Burnell, Anna Drozdowski, Justin Hill, Stiven Avila Lopez, Brianna Morton, Benjamin Preston, Canaan Sullivan

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

90%-94.99%

- GRADE 5:** Nicholas Chamberlain, Lyndsey Hill, Logan McCarthy, Adam Oskar, Brynn Preston
- GRADE 6:** Owen Armison, Elsa Brennan, Caylin Burrows, Ethan Chamberlain, Bradan Foster, Savannah Miller, Conan Tallman
- GRADE 7:** Gabriella Ammons, Isabelle Guilford, Khloe Jenkins, Anthony Snyder, Madeline White
- GRADE 8:** Ben Cater, Carter Fenti, Lilly Green, Noah Miller, Emma Moultrup, Grant Preston, Bayleigh Tallman, Carson Treusdell, Wyatt Weaver, Tye Willard
- GRADE 9:** Cylie Burrows, Audrina Costa, Addisyn Ely, Finn Heaney, Rhianna Hoover, Abigail Morton, Heather Padden, Mariah Patton, Callahan Tallman
- GRADE 10:** Ava Aronson, Catherine Calanni, Sadie Estabrook, Natalee Lindo, Jaizelyn Marcello, Carissa Mura, Julie Sortore
- GRADE 11:** Jacob Borden, Matthew Cater, Audrey Cole, Cassondra Guilford, Mary Hamer, Owen Heaney, Tristan Jenkins, Micaylah Mages, Sean Mahon, Jackson Stout
- GRADE 12:** Trevor Clark, Daemon Cobb, Gabrielle Costa, Angelina Fuller, Gavin Kenyon, Isabelle Male, Carter Stout

CUM LAUDE

85%-89.99%

- GRADE 5:** Matthew Guilford, Evan Moore, Taryn Moore, Jayce Shafer, Caleb Stork, Tesslyn Weaver
- GRADE 7:** Colden Caiazza, Emma Calanni, Violet Edwards, Rhaegan Hoover, Alexis Preston
- GRADE 8:** Landen Blocho, Cheyanne Cox, Sophia Rehler, Kaylee Sortore
- GRADE 9:** Cory Cobb, Alexa Ely, Leon Histed, Izabella Lindo, Cane Treusdell
- GRADE 10:** Dillion Kelley, Hannah Southwick, Ellyonah Wright, Morgan Yackerren
- GRADE 11:** Thayne Cobb, Kyle McCumiskey, Damien Rinker
- GRADE 12:** Zane Cartwright, Emily Elliott, Chelsea Goldsmith, Jacob Lindo, Garrett Miller, Harley Proctor

TOP DOG

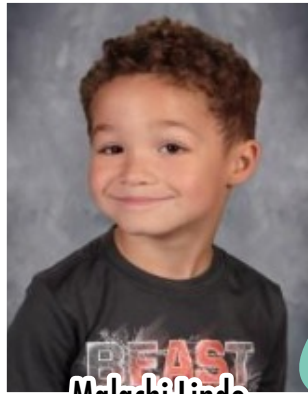
The TOP DOG award is presented to students in grades PK-4 who have exhibited the BCS PAWS behaviors on a regular basis. BCS teachers and staff are looking for students who Practice safety, Act responsibly, Work toward success, and Show respect each day in and out of the classroom.

The TOP DOG winner
for December is:



Arlus Mang

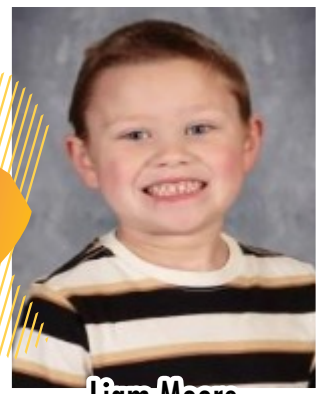
The TOP DOG winners for January are:



Malachi Lindo



Kingston Jones



Liam Moore

Total Circulation:

10,350+ items

Visits to Library:

4,600



Services:

Career Assistance Database

Peterson's Test Prep

Meeting Room

Copies, Faxes

Wifi

Belfast Public Library 2022 Summary

Programs:

Summer Concert Series

Taste of Belfast

Book Box

Take-and-Make

Tales for Tots

Story Hour

1,100 participants



Available to borrow:

Magazines

Fishing poles

Ukulele

Audiobooks

Puzzles

10,000+ Books

30,000+ electronic materials

If you have a talent or skill you can share, please contact us!

Hours: Mon. 10-1, Tue 3-7, Wed. 10-1 and 3-7, Thur. 3-7, Sat. 10-1.

Find us at www.belfastpubliclibrary.org and on Facebook!

STAFF SPOTLIGHTS!



Jason Robichaud
Special Education Teacher

Mr. Robichaud has been a special education teacher at BCS for 5 years! He has worked with students in grades K-6. Mr. Robichaud is an advisor for the BCS archery program and has been a modified boys' basketball coach. Away from school, Mr. Robichaud has a summer pressure wash and sealing business. He also spends time with his two young children.



Denise Atherton
Teacher's Aide

Mrs. Atherton has been a teacher's aide at BCS for 21 years! She has worked with students in K-6 classrooms, in the library, and wherever else she is needed. Mrs. Atherton has been the co-advisor for the yearbook. Away from school, Mrs. Atherton has a photography business and spends a lot of time with her grandchildren.



Patti Gughiocello
Custodian

Ms. Gughiocello has worked as a cleaner and custodian at BCS for 8 years! She is in charge of the set up and tear down of events in the auditorium, and is always willing to lend a hand throughout the building. Away from school, Ms. Gughiocello makes soap and spends a lot of time with her grandchildren.



Gina Larrabee
Secretary to the Superintendent

Mrs. Larrabee has been the Secretary to the Superintendent and District Clerk at BCS for 6 years! She coordinates the BCS newsletter, updates the digital sign, and manages all of the records for the district. Away from school, Mrs. Larrabee loves to camp, is a Steelers fan, and loves to spend time with her grandchildren!



Catherine Jagodzinski
Reading Teacher

Miss Jagodzinski has been a reading teacher at BCS for 9 years! This year, she is also teaching a section of 6th grade math. Miss J is a Lego League coach, assistant Girls on the Run coach, coordinates the annual Spelling Bee, and helps plan family literacy activities at BCS. Away from school, Miss J is an avid runner and a big Buffalo Bills and Sabres fan!



Patty Preston
7-12 English Teacher

Mrs. Preston has been a 7-12 English teacher at BCS for 24 years! She has taught students in ELA 10-12, college English, and AIS support services. Mrs. Preston is the advisor for the BCS newspaper the Beacon and has been the director of the HS play. Away from school, she is on the Belfast Town Library board and spends lots of time with family.

WELCOME TO BELFAST



Hello, my name is Jacqueline Elliott-White!

I was raised in Smethport, Pennsylvania and Black Creek, New York, and attended high school at Cuba-Rushford Central School. I earned my degrees in Childhood Education and Childhood Literacy from St. Bonaventure University. I earned my Masters in Education from Concordia University-Nebraska.

I live in Belfast with my husband, Ricky, and our three daughters Emily, Madeline, and Allison.

Jacqueline Elliott-White

In my spare time I love to spend time with my family, camping, gardening, hiking, and reading. Two of my favorite novels are *The Giver* by Lois Lowry and *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak.

One of my favorite quotes is; One step at a time is all it takes to get you there. ~ Emily Dickinson

I am very happy to be here!



My name is Jered Heaney. I grew up in Belfast and attended Belfast Central School, graduating in 1994. For the past twenty-four years I have been a police officer and deputy sheriff with both the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Officer and the Wellsville Police Department. When I learned about the opportunity to work at Belfast Central School as the security officer, I jumped at the chance. In the past I did work as a security officer in a school setting and learned quickly that I have a passion for helping kids and watching them grow as

individuals. I currently live in Wellsville with my wife Jasmine and our son Brody. My oldest son Quinn is in the Marine Corp. and is stationed in California.

Some activities that I enjoy are cooking, working out, spending time outside and being with my family. I am blessed to be at BCS and have met so many great people here. I hope to form meaningful relationships with the students and be a positive influence in their lives.

Jered Heaney



Hello, my name is Keegan Harrington. I graduated from Belfast Central School in 2009 and went on to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from SUNY Brockport in 2013. After graduation, I started working for Siemens Energy (formerly Dresser-Rand) as an inside sales/pricing analyst. I worked at Siemens Energy up until a few months ago when I landed my new role here at BCS as the Business Manager. I am extremely eager to get started in this position and look forward to working with everyone at the school and in the community.

Keegan Harrington

I live here in Belfast with my wife Krista and our two dogs Mookie and Camper. They are an Australian Shepard/Border Collie mix. I enjoy watching and attending various sporting events (Buffalo Bills, Buffalo Sabres and Cleveland Indians), kayaking, boating, and camping. My favorite and most influential book that I have read is titled "Think And Grow Rich" by Napoleon Hill. "You are the master of your destiny. You can influence, direct and control your own environment. You can make your life what you want it to be". A close second would be "Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage".



Hello! My name is Linda Kay Keys. I graduated from Whitesville Central School then began my journey to fascinating places. My exciting adventures include skiing in Saint Moritz, Switzerland and scuba diving the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Queensland, Australia. I lived on the west in California and Oregon before making my way to Maryland where I drove school bus for 10 years. These days my life is made full by my rescue animals including cats, dogs, birds, and horses. I love to ride my horses and teach

others to love riding, too. I call West Clarksville home, and feel fortunate to be here at Belfast. It is a pleasant work environment, great people, and a rewarding place to work.

Linda Key Kays



SPELLING BEE - DECEMBER 16, 2022

On December 16, 2022 we held our annual spelling bee. Students in grades 1st through 8th competed as part of the Scripps National Spelling Bee School Competition. We started off with our most competitive bee of the day. The 3rd through 5th graders went 19 rounds! Logan McCarthy and Owen Broughton went back and forth for six rounds before Owen came out on top. After correctly spelling arrested, Owen secured his victory and remains undefeated in his spelling bee career at Belfast. Our youngest spellers in 1st and 2nd grade show great promise! Shylee McCarthy edged out Maggie Barney for the win after spelling scars for her winning word. We rounded out the day with the 6th through 8th graders. These 17 spellers made it through 17 rounds! After battling it out at the end with Jackson Barney and Bayleigh Tallman, Emerson Weaver became our school champion by correctly spelling Chicago. Congratulations to all of our spellers!



GRADES 1-2 WINNER

Shylee McCarthy



GRADES 3-5 WINNER

Owen Broughton



GRADES 6-8 WINNER

Emerson Weaver



Guest Authors

First graders created fictional stories and shared them with Miss Szejbka's high school students.



Love in Action

A big thank you to all who donated food, money, and time! Belfast Central School collected 12 full boxes of non-perishables items and \$995.58 in our Love in Action drive to support Wellspring Ministries.

The BCS Student Council appreciates your continued support.

Advisor Jessica Weaver



National Honor Society sponsored Red Cross Blood Drive

March 28, 2023

noon – 5:00pm

BCS Auditorium

Use the Auditorium entrance behind the school.

Consider registering ahead of time at www.redcross.org



**American
Red Cross**

**Transportation Request for the
2023-2024 School year are due
by April 1, 2023.**



Belfast Historical Society: A bit of history about Belfast

The town of Belfast was formed March 24, 1824 and was originally called Orrinsburgh. The name was changed to Belfast on April 26, 1825 and the suggestion of the name is said to have come from James McKeen, a native of Belfast, Maine. Mr. McKeen was an early justice of the peace in Allegany County.

The first town meeting was held April 6, 1824 and the first supervisor of the town was David Hitchcock. Settlement was begun in 1803 by three Chamberlain brothers who came from Pennsylvania. The first birth in Belfast was that of Deborah Reynolds and the first marriage was that of John Sandford to Mary Collar in 1806. Elijah Reynolds taught the first school in 1807. It is said the early settlers in the town were bothered to a great extent by the numerous bears in area forests. Rev. Ephraim Sandford conducted the first religious services in 1806, and formed the first church in 1807.

This is a brief glimpse into the early history of our town. To learn more, stop at Belfast Historical Society and Museum. You will be pleasantly surprised, I promise.

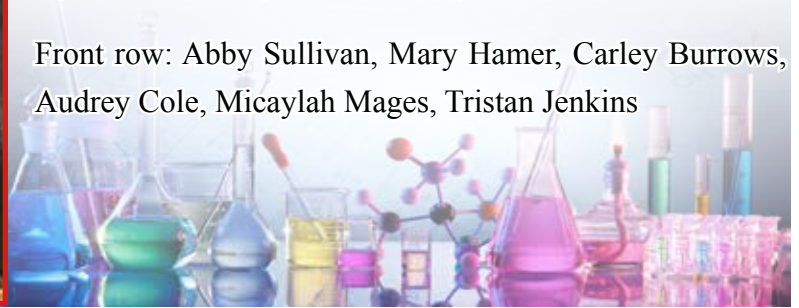
Wende Kenyon
Belfast Historical Society



Tye Dye Class, 2023

Back row: Jacob Borden, Sean Mahon, Damien Rinker, Kyle McCumiskey, Owen Heaney, Matt Cater

Front row: Abby Sullivan, Mary Hamer, Carley Burrows, Audrey Cole, Micaylah Mages, Tristan Jenkins



Belfast Lions Club Easter Event!

Saturday, March 25

10:00 – 11:30

BCS Gym

Who: **Ages 1 - 8 years old**

Hunt for eggs, decorate cookies, make an Easter craft

Ages 9 – 12 years old

Scavenger Hunt

(meet Mrs. Guilford in the main hallway by 10:15)

Have your picture taken with the Easter Bunny!!!

We hope to see you there!!

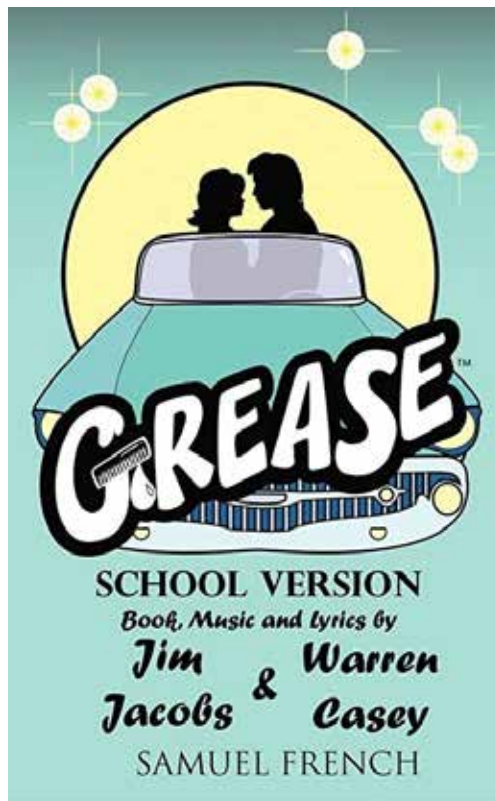


Music Corner

Grease the Musical

Friday, March 24, 2023
7:00pm

Saturday, March 25, 2023
7:00pm



Sounds, syllables, echoes, and drums!!

Elementary music classes have been learning the difference between pitched and unpitched instruments. To help us learn more about unpitched drums, we are playing our new Lollipop Drums, and to learn more about pitched instruments, we will be using our Boomwhackers! Students are learning to sing using solfege syllables and echo songs in a variety of languages (French, American Indian, Swahili). We have been having an incredible time learning about many kinds of drums from around the world, including Taiko drumming from Japanese culture, and Native American, African and Latin American drumming. Stop down to the music classroom during Open House to try out the drums for yourself! Let your student(s) show you their drum "skillzzzzz"! You can also help us make our own BCS Taiko drums!

Music Department Spring Fundraiser

Little Caesar's Pizza Sales
April 24 – May 5

Band/Choir

With almost half our 5-12th grade band and choir students having been accepted into the Allegany County Honors ensembles, Miss Willgens and Mrs. Brennan have been busy helping students learn their music! We are super proud of all our honors ensemble members! Way to represent BCS Musicians!

Stay tuned for May 2023 Spring Concert dates!



From the Nurse's desk...

Spring Sports are quickly approaching! Please make sure your child has had a physical within the last 12 months to be eligible to play. If your child's physical passes the one-year mark during February, March or April, please be sure to schedule an appointment.

Dr. Kassas will be here on March 6, 2023

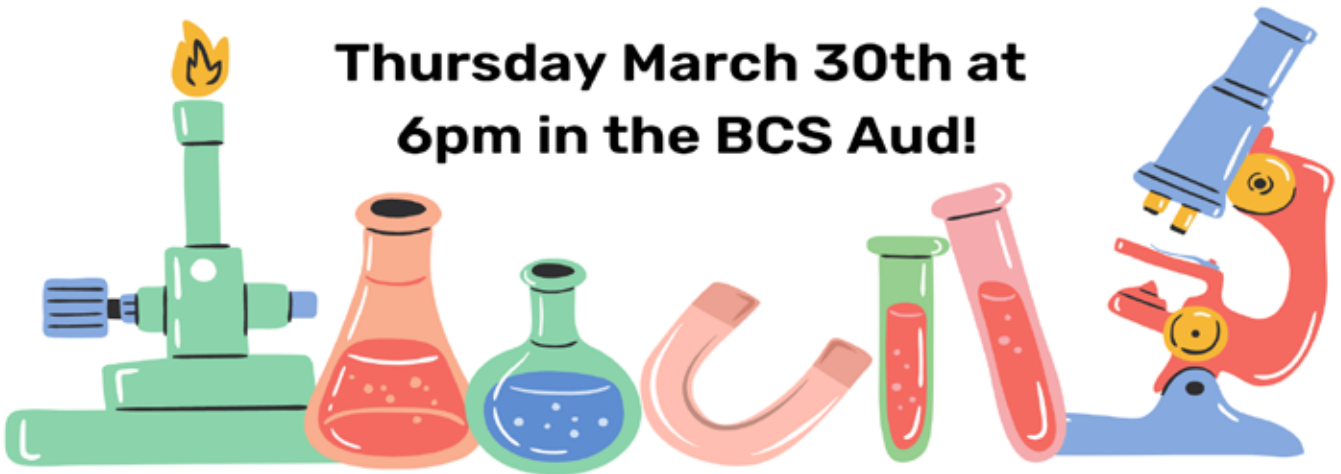
(time to be determined). If you are new to our school district and have not yet found a primary doctor, please let me know so your child can be signed up for a physical. If you are unable to get an appointment with your primary doctor and your child needs a physical, please let me know so they can be scheduled for March 6. Already

scheduled upcoming appointments should not be cancelled to see the school doctor! If you have any question, feel free to call.

Amy Giboo RNBSN
585-365-2646 x2051
agiboo@belfastcsd.org
Fax- 585-365-2648

Please join us for the
**7TH GRADE SCIENCE
SYMPOSIUM**

**Thursday March 30th at
6pm in the BCS Aud!**



IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE A NEW MILESTONE WITH KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION PICTURES! PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN THURSDAY, MARCH 23RD IN THE MORNING. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS IN ATTENDANCE ON THURSDAY, MARCH 23RD TO CAPTURE THEIR BEAUTIFUL SMILE AND WEARING A GRADUATION CAP AND GOWN!

MAKE UP DAYS ARE NOT AVAILABLE!



Cafeteria Corner

Once again, the Belfast Central School lunch program celebrated **February's Favorites!** Each grade had a lunch dedicated to their grade based on a survey given to the students. Each grade is also given **FREE** ice cream on their special day! What is your student's favorite? Do you remember what your favorite was in school?

Looking for something to get you out of the house? We are always looking for substitutes in the cafeteria. It is a great opportunity to experience what happens behind the scenes and learn about the USDA requirements. Perfect for parents with students in school! Please apply online through our website www.belfastcsd.org.

Belfast Central School District 2023-24 UPK Registration

Children in the Belfast School District who reach the age of four (4) on or before December 1, 2023, are eligible to enter the Pre-School class in September 2023. Please return the following information to the Superintendent's Office before **May 1, 2023!**

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Belfast Central School District 2023-24 Kindergarten Registration

Children in the Belfast School District who reach the age of five (5) on or before December 1, 2023, are eligible to enter the kindergarten class in September 2023. If your child is not enrolled in the Belfast Preschool and will turn five on or before December 1, 2023, please return the following information to the Superintendent's Office before **May 1, 2023!**

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Kids Club Newsletter



What is Kids Club/What do we do?

Kids Club is an after school program for grades K-12.

Every month we try to focus on a different theme!

Our theme for the month of January was "Diversity"

We worked with the students to learn about different cultures, family dynamics, and understanding that we are all unique and wonderful in our own ways!

Our theme for the month of February will be "Mindfulness"

We hope to dive deep in to learning how to manage our feelings in healthy ways!

Explore and More Museum Field Trip



Upcoming Events

Ice Skating Field Trip: February 22nd!

Family Fun Night: TBD in March!



Questions/Want to sign up? Feel free to reach out to Shelby: 716-307-4707 or email: smoir@lwny.org





1 King Street
Belfast, NY 14711

www.BelfastCSD.org

BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Josie Preston, President
- Randa Harrington, Vice President
- Becky Backer
- Cecy Curcio
- Chris Enders
- Dan Borden
- Patricia Krotz



Or Current Resident
Boxholder
Belfast, NY 14711

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 1825
Olean, NY 14760
ECRWSS

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 PM

Junior Class Basket Raffle

The Junior Class would like to invite you to a basket raffle in the Belfast School auditorium on Saturday, March 11, 2023. The auction will be held from noon-4:00 pm and the drawing will start at 4:15. We will have general baskets, raffles for bigger items and refreshments for sale. If anyone is interested in donating a basket for the auction, please contact either Mrs. Borden (daborden@belfastcsd.org) or Mr. Lingenfelter (rlingenfelter@belfastcsd.org).

Use auditorium entrance only for this event.

