



Winter Edition



Dear BES Families,

Happy Valentine's Day (Next Wednesday)! While we celebrate Valentine's Day, few really know how this day actually came about. Being a student of history, I enjoy learning about the past or how and when an event took place. The history of Valentine's Day is obscure and further clouded by several fanciful legends.

Nevertheless, the holiday's roots are embedded in ancient Rome. Most scholars believe that Saint Valentine of the Holiday was a priest who attracted the disfavor of the Roman Emperor Claudius II around 270 A.D. According to the legend, Claudius II had prohibited young men to marry, claiming that bachelors would make better soldiers. Valentine believed in love and marriage and secretly married many of the young couples, but was eventually apprehended by the Romans and jailed. While in jail, the daughter of the jailer secretly delivered messages (the origin of the Valentine card) to Valentine's friends and family telling them how much he loved them and to ask for his release. History is unsure of the result. Some scholars say he was put to death and others say that Claudius II felt compassion and released him. One thing is for sure; Valentine's Day was created and represents love and compassion! Wish someone you love a Happy Valentine's Day!

Sincerely,

Bruce P. Leal, Principal



UPCOMING EVENTS...



Feb.9- Report Cards

Feb.15-BOE Meeting- Library- 7:00p.m.

Feb.19-Closed Presidents Day

Feb.20-Strategic Planning Meeting-Library- 7:00p.m.

COMMUNITY NEWS...



Mashio Foodservice is looking for Subs please contact Joanne Ashton at 908-362-6111 x108. Thank you!

Blairstown Recreation - Blairstown Recreation is currently accepting registration for **Spectacular Spring Programs** - Don't Miss out! **Kinder-Art** Kindergarten Kids only who love art and love the mess! Great fun projects! **Battle of the Week** Grades 1 - 6, where kids compete each week in teams with different themed food battles. Constant food fun! **Fact or Fiction** Grades 3 - 6, is it a crazy claim or myth or real! Come find out! **Duct Tape Does it!** Grades K - 6, Duct tape does it all - from crafts, building bridges, to creating clothes! **Happy Healthy Kids** Grades K - 6, with Chef it Up kids learn about herbs, while creating delicious dishes in class. Great drinks and more, and plant seeds of the herbs to start their own herb garden to continue at home. **The Science of Summer** Grades 3 - 6, this one day workshop will teach kids to cook with solar ovens, create artwork with the power of the sun and more! **Summer Day Camp** - Our popular Summer Day Camp for preschoolers & grades K - 6th. Register on or before May 10th and Save! **Work out programs**- Yoga & Zumba for teens and adults. Various fee packages available. Get fit and have fun! **Social Connections** - This program is for Teens and Young Adults with developmental disabilities. Social activities are offered on a monthly basis to promote friendship & fun. **Registration for all children's programs closes one week before the start of the program, or if the program fills at an earlier date.** Please visit our website for all our happenings and offerings at www.blairstowntownship.org and click on **Recreation** or contact the Recreation Office at 908-362-6663 x 232.

North Warren Little League will be holding sign-ups @ Givens Belet in Blairstown on 1/27 & 2/17 from 9am till 11am. Sign-ups are for children born between 9/1/2003 thru 1/1/2014 that live or attend school in Blairstown, Frelinghuysen, Hardwick and Knowlton.





SCHOOL NEWS.....



ALL BLAIRSTOWN/HARDWICK COMMUNITY MEMBERS:
STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING- TUESDAY FEBRUARY 20th, 7 PM
IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY. ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE
INVITED! PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND AND HELP US CREATE A THREE
YEAR PLAN FOR OUR SCHOOL TO MOVE FORWARD INTO THE
FUTURE!

Mark Saalfeld, Superintendent

BES Musical Theater Program Presents "The Music Man KIDS" on May 4th and 5th

The after school BES Musical Theater Program is open to all students in grades five and six and there is no cost to join. PERMISSION SLIPS ARE DUE at either mandatory Parent Meeting located in the BES Library. Please plan to attend the final Parent Meeting if your child wishes to participate in the musical. (*Parents of Stage/Tech/Set Crew need **not** attend the meetings. Crew permission slips will go out at the end of March*)
Monday 2/12: at 6:30 for returning members and at 7:00 for new members (Snow date 2/13)

BES PTG NEWS

BOX TOPs CONTEST

Please send in Box Tops from participating products in sandwich bags or envelopes with your child by Thursday, February 15th. In addition to earning the school money, the contest will result in all students winning a pajama day if every class participates! Please look for more information to come home with your child.

BES PTG Gertrude Hawk Chocolates Fundraiser will begin February 12th with delivery for mid-March. Information and packets will be set home with the children.

The BES PTG sponsors the annual reading incentive kick off assembly held during school. A BMX themed stunt show is planned on 2/23 for the students.

Save the date! **FREE FAMILY FUN NIGHT: BES PTG Book Bingo** is on March 16th at 7pm. Look out for the flyer at the end of February with sign up information & more details.

Save the date! BES PTG TRICKY TRAY

We are excited to announce our 2018 Tricky Tray! It will be held on Saturday, April 28th from 6:00pm-10:00pm. A special **pre-sale bundle** is available just for BES families!

Valentine's Day Dance- February 16 7pm-9pm at the Frelinghuysen Forest Preserve Recreation Center. **Tickets are \$10.** Snacks and Water will be provided. Sponsored by the North Warren Midget Football League

JOIN IN THE FUN AT BIG WHEEL FAMILY ROLLER SKATING CENTER ON PRESIDENT'S DAY MONDAY! Knowlton Twp. Elementary School's Sixth Grade Class is hosting a Roller Skating Fundraiser on Monday, February 19th from 1:00 to 6:00 PM at Big Wheel, located at 3226 North Fifth Street in East Stroudsburg. All are welcome and please bring a friend. **You MUST print out and bring the flyer in order to receive the discounted price and for the class to get credit.** Visit www.knowltonschool.com and click on Sixth Grade Roller Skating Fundraiser under Highlights for the flyer.

I am excited to announce **Out Of Our Shells 4H** will be hosting a Valentine Special babysitting night!!

When: Saturday February 10, 2018. Where: Outreach Center- 35 Main Street, Blairstown, NJ. Time: 6:00pm to 9:00pm. This fun night will include a Disney movie, crafts, songs and games! Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

- Out Of Our Shells are 4H Certified in babysitting as well as CPR/AED Certified.
- Suggested Donation \$5.00 per hour/per child
- 10% of all donations will benefit the Outreach Center Food Pantry.
- Maximum number of children will be 10
- RSVP only - no drop offs.
- Please make us aware of any food allergies when RSVPing!!! **To RSVP simply contact Marilyn Shanley at Marilyn.shanley@icloud.com.**

SPRING RECREATION SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS: Attention all K-9 girls! Registration is now open for the Spring 2018 season! Blairstown Youth Softball teams will be playing in the Warren County League at the K-2, 3-4, 5-6 & 7-9th **grade divisions.** Registration includes 3 Sunday preseason Clinics! Sign-Up on-line at www.blairstownyouthsoftball.org or Mail in forms available at the Town Hall Lobby.











