



## Birch Grove Community School & Community Service Newsletter

**October 3, 2019**

### Dates to Remember:

Friday, October 4 NO SCHOOL- Teacher PDD/Workshop Day

Tuesday, October 8 Community Lunch at 12:00

Wednesday, October 9 School Picture Day

Friday, October 11 Swimming Lessons at YMCA

Thursday & Friday, October 17 & 18 No School MEA

Monday, October 21 Annual School Board Meeting, Followed by Regular Meeting 5:30

Friday, October 25 Swimming Lessons at YMCA

Sunday, October 27 Halloween Carnival 2:00-4:00

### Mission Statement:

*Birch Grove Community School will promote academic excellence utilizing our unique natural setting allowing students to reach their potential, preparing them to become socially and environmentally responsible, self-directed, lifelong learners.*

From Ms. Diane Blanchette:

*Director, Birch Grove Community School*

*Lead Coordinator, Birch Grove Community Service*

Please remember that there is no school tomorrow, Friday, October 3.

School picture day is coming soon on Wednesday, October 9. Lifetouch order forms were sent home in Take Home Folders for Saplings-5<sup>th</sup> grade. Please check folders for this information. Pictures will be taken in the A.M. starting at 9:00. Saplings will go first, so if your Sapling is not coming to the program that day, you can still bring them in for pictures!

Be sure to join us for Community Lunch next week on Tuesday, October 8 at 12:00. Bring family and friends!

Please continue to send swim bags to school! Any day of the week is fine as long as they are here by Friday. Again, please be sure that children wear looser clothing on these days as it is easier to get dressed after swimming – please no leggings or tights. Thank you!

Please continue to check Take Home Folders daily and be sure to put them back in back packs so that they come to school each day. Thank you!

Thank you for choosing Birch Grove Community School!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us!

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218-663-0170 ~ School Phone

218-663-0170 ext. 26 Community Service Phone

Website

[www.birchgroveschool.com](http://www.birchgroveschool.com)



Look for:

Birch Grove Community School and Community Service

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**From Ms. Sheryl Martinson**

*Saplings Teacher, Birch Grove Community Service*

The Saplings Room

Another week has come and gone. Time flies when you are having fun - and the Sapling children are having fun! This week our fun was centered around squirrels, nuts and acorns. The children watched a few short videos showing squirrels eating nuts and chattering. They observed the sharp claws and teeth, small ears and of course, the bushy tail. We cracked a variety of nuts and sampled them. We enjoyed several games and activities involving squirrels and created a couple squirrel crafts. The children are looking forward to singing a song about squirrels at the community lunch next week. I hope you will be there to hear it!

Our focus letter was F and we continued our color exploration with purple. One day we used shaving cream to practice writing skills. It was a great sensory experience for the whole group and it made the room smell good too ☺

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**From Ms. Sara Knottski**

*K & 1 Elementary Teacher*

I can't believe how quickly the leaves popped over the past week! This week, we read a book called "We're Going on a Leaf Hunt" and we went on a leaf hunt ourselves!

The kindergarteners are counting up to 20 and comparing numbers! They learned the letters D this week. We also learned the word and. We read and wrote sentences using the new words we learned.

The 1<sup>st</sup> graders are learning about addition and subtraction. We also learned about numbers up to 120. In language arts, we are continuing to read every day, practice sight words, and writing!

All the students are really excited about reading! I see everyone reading books and pictures when we have reading time. Please have your child read or be read to at least 20 minutes a day!

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**From Ms. Sara Silence**

*2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Elementary Teacher*

This week has gone by rapidly! Pine Martens learned more about animals and pet behaviors in reading and science. We found out that plants and animals have a lot of things in common. Plants and animals both have a type of structure for strength, a way to process nutrients, a period of rest, and many other things! We were very busy in science learning about sorting animals by characteristics.

In math, second graders continue to dissect word problems to find the needed information and in some cases find the not needed information. Third graders continue to learn multiplication and division strategies and began making the connection to problems with area.

We continue to go outside every day. Please make sure students have proper foot gear and warm/dry clothes

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**From Ms. Heidi Milner**

*4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Elementary Teacher*

Things are going well in 4/5th grade! This week we have continued to explore the scientific method. We completed an experiment with building paper rockets and testing our theories for how to make our individual rockets travel the farthest. Throughout the experiment, we practiced and discussed the steps of the scientific method.

This week we also made a lot of progress in math. We are mastering our skills of subtracting large numbers and adding and subtracting unlike fractions.

We worked on reading strategies this week, using context clues to understand words we don't know in the text. We also looked at sequence of events and plot in the start of a writing assignment to practice our narrative writing skills.

Just a reminder for parents and loved ones to send in a back-up lunch for your student! There are still quite a few lockers without back-up lunches, and you never know when those will be needed!

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**From Ms. Klemmer**

*Coordinator, Birch Grove Community Service*

School is closed tomorrow, so no Saplings!

Picture day is on Wednesday, October 9 starting with the Saplings at 9:00. If your Sapling does not attend the program that day, you can still bring them in to have their picture taken.

Have a great weekend!

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