March 2017

Dear BES Parents/Families,

It is almost time for March Madness! No, I am not talking about basketball or the state hockey tournament. I am talking about the final three months of the school year! This time of year is marked by the sale of awesome Girl Scout cookies and the beginning of spring, MCA testing, field trips, and much learning.

Take a minute to learn more about upcoming happenings, if you have question/concerns, please be in touch. Conferences were held last night and will continue again on Tuesday, March 7th. We appreciate your support of BES and Thank You for choosing Barnum Schools.

**YoYo**: No, this is not urban slang, or my attempt at being a rapper……

We are hosting Around the World YoYo entertainment next week. Take a look at the reverse side of this newsletter for more info.

**Kindergarten Round Up: Friday, April 7th, 2017.**

Children 5 years old prior to September 1st, 2017, who are entering Kindergarten in the Fall of 2017 are welcome to attend. Two sessions are available – 9:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. For more information call 389-6976. Be in touch with the BES office to make sure we have updated/correct information for your family.

**Thank you** to our Reading Corps and Math Corps members. During the upcoming week, we celebrate the dedication of Kathy Port, Laura Helwig, Roxanne Gregory, and Kayja Kenowski. Thank you to these members for providing interventions to students in reading and math from PreK-grade 6.

Also, later this month we recognize our bus drivers, custodial staff, and cooks. If you see them, please thank them for their work and support of BES.

**Science Fair:** Our annual Science Fair is coming on March 16th beginning at 1:30. Students in grades 4-6 will be presenting projects in our cafeteria. Parents, family, and the community are welcome to attend.

A reminder for those who qualify for **Free/Reduced meals: Meals include breakfast and lunch.** We have many food options available to students. We encourage students try the meal options available to them. You can pick up an application for Free/Reduced meals at any time during the year your income changes.

BREAKFAST is FREE to all Kindergarten students. Please take advantage of this for your Kindergarten student.

**Attendance** is vital to student success. Parents/Guardians are reminded to call, send a note, and contact the office when students will be gone. The office is required, per MN Statute to monitor attendance and record absences carefully. Your help in calling the office, sending notes, and using the attendance line is appreciated. We participate in the Carlton County Truancy Prevention Program and your communication is vital to ensuring attendance records are accurate.

**MCA Testing:** Students are gearing up for this yearly test. The test is based on academic standards that are set by the Minnesota Department of Education.

Often students experience anxiety about the test. You can help with this by supporting your child, encouraging them to do their best, and ensuring they get proper rest. We are providing free breakfast on testing days for those in grades 3-6. Also, talking with your child about what they are experiencing is a great start to alleviating anxiety. Often, student concerns are unfounded and simply dispelling those concerns can help.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**APRIL:**

7th: Kindergarten Round-Up (**No school for KINDERGARTEN students**)

13th -17th: Spring Break – **NO SCHOOL**

19th-24th: MCA Reading grades 3-6

**MARCH:**

7th: Parent/Teacher conferences

14th:  Grade 4 Field Trip

16th: Science Fair

24th: End of Quarter

24th: Talent Show

27th: In-Service **(No school for students)**

Thank you again for choosing BES!

Tom Cawcutt