



Birch Grove Community School & Community Service Newsletter

May 5, 2022

Dates to Remember:

- Friday, May 6 No School – Teacher Workshop
- Tuesday, May 10 Reading MAPS Testing for K-5
- Wednesday, May 11 Math MAPS Testing for K-5
- Thursday, May 12 Make Up MAPS Testing K-5
- Saturday, May 14 The Gala for the Grove ~ *Masquerade*
- Monday, May 16 School Board Meeting at 5:30pm
- Wednesday-Friday, May 18, 19, 20 Wolf Ridge 3-day, 2-night trip for 2nd-5th
- Thursday, May 26 Field Trip for K-5 to Duluth – more info coming soon!
- Monday, May 30 No School – Memorial Day
- Thursday, June 2 Last Day of School ½ Day: Early Release at 12:00

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:
School Director, Birch Grove Community School
Lead Coordinator, Birch Grove Community Service

There is no school tomorrow, Friday, May 6 as it is a scheduled workshop/professional development day for teachers. We look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday!

NWEA tests for K-5 are set for next week! Please find the breakfast menu below:

Tuesday, May 10 – Reading for K-5
Oatmeal, Sausage, Cinnamon Apples

Wednesday, May 11 – Math for K-5
Bread Pudding, Sausage and Fruit

Thursday, May 12 – Make-Up Tests
Waffles, Bacon, and Fruit

Please make sure that your child gets extra sleep the night before testing. We want to give them every edge that we can so that they are able to do their best on the test. Let them know that you expect them to do their best work and show off their big brains! Thank you!



Enrolling Now! We have a few spots left!

The school year Saplings Program (Sept-May) is now enrolling for the 22-23 year. This program has a continued 4 of 4 STAR Parent Aware rating! Transportation is available along our regular bus stops. Please recommend this program to those that you know that have children ages 3-5. Space is limited!

<https://www.birchgroveschool.com/Saplings-Program>



We have 10 tickets left!!

The Gala for the Grove ~ *Masquerade*, BGCS's biggest fundraiser, is finally back and set for **Saturday, May 14**. For more information and how to get tickets, go to the school website at

www.birchgroveschool.com under the Events Page/Gala for the Grove. Tickets are \$75 and there are sponsorships available for individuals and for businesses. Please suggest sponsorship to any businesses that you know or that you work for, or suggest a donation to the live auction or raffle. As a small school, Birch Grove

Community School is grateful for the support of local businesses, individuals, our families, and the community that we serve. Sarena Nelson, school board member, is leading this event and can be contacted concerning donations of items at sarenanelson@yahoo.com. Please help us to make this fundraiser a great success!

One of the joys of living up North -
Every Friday is "Flannel Friday" at Birch Grove! Join us!



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

birchgrove@boreal.org ~ Birch Grove Community School Email

bgcommunityservice@boreal.org ~ Community Service Email

218-663-0170 ~ School Phone

218-663-0170 ext. 26 Community Service Phone

Website: www.birchgroveschool.com

School Spirit Store: <http://birchgrove.logosoftwear.com>

School Spirit Store Coupon Link: <https://www.logosoftwear.com/coupons.php>

Face Book: [Birch Grove Community School and Community Services #4145 | Facebook](#)



From Ms. Alayna Carrier and Ms. Mari Maldonado

Sapling Teachers, Birch Grove Community Service

This week our theme was zoo animals and our focus was letter "Zz". We learned about different zoo animals like lions, giraffes and zebras. We made fun crafts to go along with them like, a paper plate lion, a toilet roll giraffe, and a finger-painted zebra! We also played an animal game called "I'm just walkin" where we pretended to be different zoo animals, the Saplings enjoyed this game quite a bit! The Saplings were able to explore many zoo books and color different zoo animals in art center. For the letter "Zz", we had a dotter work sheet and a "Zz" is for zebra trace and color sheet. We also read a "Zz" book and talked about things that start with the letter.

It is finally getting warmer and we are loving it! We are starting to have lunch outside again 😊
Enjoy your weekend!

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**From Ms. Sara Knottski**

*K & 1 Grade Elementary Teacher*

The Kindergarteners and 1st graders are doing their MAP testing next week on Tuesday and Wednesday. Make sure that they get plenty of sleep next week! I am excited to share the results with you at the end of the school year. It is always fun to see growth from the beginning of the school year to the end!

This week, K/1 reviewed all grade-level topics in math. They all did a great job remembering old topics! We played lots of games to review. In language arts, we are continuing to practice reading, writing, and spelling! It is time to focus on perfecting grade-level skills!

We mastered our math facts and earned a party! We will do some kind of kid choice party next Friday. We will be doing more ticket drops for tickets to treasure over the next few weeks. Make sure to be logging all reading and math facts practice so your student can receive tickets!

Have a great weekend!

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From Ms. Sara Silence

2nd & 3rd Grade Elementary Teacher

This week seemed shorter than short! We did have a large case of the wiggles, which is usual when we really notice spring is here. We have been trying to wrap up most of our units and projects only leaving two to concentrate on for end of year.

Our chicks will be hatching next week! They have moved into the "lockdown" phase. This means Thursday was the last day we could open the incubator to candle the eggs. We checked on a few, noticing that they have much less room to move. The chick dubbed "Jumpy" was much more subdued, having less room for his dance moves.

Our focus for the rest on the year in reading and math will be reviewing and securing skills already taught. For language arts we will focus on finding evidence. Answering the question, "How do you know?" We will continue our phonics rules, but also as a review. Most kids just need time to read independently by themselves or someone else to practice the skills they have!

Country research packets will go home Monday. If starting on the year end project, kids discussed starting the planning stage, adding a title, and adding some of the facts they know well-like their favorite food!

Keep working hard!

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**From Ms. Heidi Helgesen**

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

4/5th grade has been working hard on our many projects. This week, we worked hard to finish another step in our ancient civilizations research and journal writing project. Students finished writing their journal entries, edited their work, and got started writing their final draft. Next week, students will use tea to stain the pages of their journal to "age" the paper. Students are doing a fantastic job working independently and showing their skills as writers.

This week, we also spent time working on our poetry collection. We wrote a collage poem by cutting interesting words out of magazines and working with the words we chose to create a poem. Students also wrote a recipe poem, thinking creatively about how to make an abstract concept such as a recipe for a dream. We'll add just one or two more poems before we publish our final drafts. Be sure to watch for these amazing books to come home in the next week or two.

Students have been working for the past few months on what we call "interactive notebooks," which is a resource guide for students to take with them to help with their reading comprehension. In the notebook, students cut, glue, fold, color, and take meaningful notes to help them better understand the concepts we cover in reading. This week, we added examples of figurative language to help students remember concepts such as simile, metaphor, and hyperbole for years to come. Students have done an excellent job practicing using the skills they record in their interactive notebooks.

In math this week, students have been working to recall different skills from the school year to help them with an imaginary road trip across the USA. Students have combined skills from social studies, such as where the states are located, and worked to map out a road trip plan, convert hours to minutes to seconds to determine how much music they have stored on an iPod, round distances and compared rounded calculations to exact calculations, and created a bar graph based on data. This has been a fun and great way for students to apply skills they have learned this year in math.

During science, students have started their unit in astronomy by researching about a planet in the solar system. Students are working to create an imaginary travel brochure to encourage people to visit the planet, using facts and details about the planet as the base for their creative ideas. Students did a great job researching this week and are excited to apply their understanding next week.

Thank you parents and loved ones for sending back permission slips for Wolf Ridge. If you have not returned the permission form, please be sure to do so as soon as possible. Our trip is quickly approaching. Be sure to check folders and your email for updates and packing information that is sent home. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out at any time.

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