

Burr Elementary School Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2022

November's Character Trait is Effort.

FROM PRINCIPAL WHIDDEN

Dear Burr Families,

Welcome to November! We have really hit our stride here at Burr and students are working hard and already demonstrating growth in many areas thanks to our hard-working teachers! Our character focus for the month of November is effort. We expect our students to give their best effort in all that they do.

Thank you to everyone who attended parent-teacher conferences last week. This is always a great opportunity for teachers to keep you informed of your child's progress and share their wonderful work.

We welcome all veterans to attend our Veteran's Day Assembly on November 10th at 2:15pm. Other family members may attend as well; however given the limited seating and space in the all purpose room, priority will be given to our veterans.

Our our Town Meeting last week, we had a school-wide discussion about the increase in bus referrals for unkind or unsafe behavior in recent weeks. I am asking for your support in continuing the conversation with your child at home and reviewing the safety expectations for the bus.

Our first PAWS for Mindfulness Day this school year will be on December 2nd. We will be looking for parent volunteers to assist in designing, organizing, or running a station that day. PAWS for Mindfulness Day focus on P-perseverance, A-academic risk taking, W-working creatively, and S-social emotional well-being. Classes travel around the building participating

in activities throughout the day. If you have an idea for a station or activity, please reach out to me via email.

Sincerely,

Brienne Whidden

IMPORTANT DATES IN NOVEMBER

- Nov 1st- 4th is the Scholastic Book fair.
- Nov 1st- Picture retake, bring in previous pictures but keep the class picture.
- Nov 8th- **No School** due to Staff Professional Development
- Nov 11th- **No School** Veterans Day
- Nov 18th- Bus Driver Appreciation Day
- Nov 22nd- Lyman Orchards Pie Pick Up time is **3:30-6:30**.
- Nov 23rd- **Half Day** school is dismissed at 1:05.
- Nov 24th- **No School** Have a Happy Thanksgiving
- Nov 25th- **No School** Thanksgiving Recess

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Please label your student's belonging i.e clothes, water bottles and lunch boxes etc. Often these items will get left on the bus, out at recess or in the lunch room and we don't know which student they should be returned to.

If your student will be late, absent or early dismissal please email the office at besattendance@rsd17.org. You will receive a reply back on all emails, so if you do not receive a reply we didn't receive it.

When your student is signed up for an after school activity please email besattendance@rsd17.org and include the full name of the student, the activity name and the dates they will be attending.

If your student is going on a different bus or their stop is different on the same bus route, please email besattendance@rsd17.org and let transportation know. their number is 860-345-8228 or at gpapadopoulos@ridesta.com

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

November

Students continue to build automaticity when naming letters and sounds. This is very important and the foundation for all that is to come this year. Students are working on sharing the pen with the teacher to write about the books that we have read together. In math, we will be working on our unit for 6-10 and 0. Students will work on comparing numbers, the concept of one more, and finding more than one way to build a number. Soon we will start our new

science unit on living things. We will study both plants and animals. As Thanksgiving approaches, we will discuss all we have to be thankful for.

Mrs. Aithal, Mrs. Boudreau, Mrs. Burt, & Mrs. Macauley

FIRST GRADE NEWS

First Grade News

In reading, we continue to work on decoding words with fluency. We have introduced blends and digraphs to decode along with our short vowel words. Next, we will be working on words that end in double letters (ff, ll, ss). In writing, the children continue to take small sentences and expand them into larger, more interesting sentences by asking questions such as who, when, where, and why. We are learning the difference between a statement and a question and which punctuation needs to be used. In math, we will continue to work on our large unit of working with numbers within 10. We will continue to work on addition and subtraction by incorporating various strategies such as using addition to solve subtraction equations. We will also be learning to subtract to compare two numbers. In science, we are finishing up our unit on patterns of the sun and moon. We hope they enjoyed looking at the phases of the moon! Next, we will be exploring light and sound.

Happy Fall!

Mrs. Blasiak, Mrs. Kulmann, Mrs. Reynolds, and Mrs. Smedley

SECOND GRADE NEWS

November is a busy time of year in second grade! We just started a new unit in math which focuses on place value of numbers within 100. We are working on strategies to add and subtract within 100, as well as learning about time and money.

In reading, a heavy focus is placed on fluency and systematically building upon each child's individual skills. Additionally, through our weekly read alouds we are building background knowledge, vocabulary, and fostering discussion skills. Second graders are responding to their reading in writing. They are learning to write well developed sentences and paragraphs. We are reviewing handwriting with all the second graders ensuring they are forming their letters correctly before they begin to learn cursive later in the year.

In science, we are studying properties of matter and will be using the engineering and design process to build inventions that will keep a popsicle frozen for 1 hour.

It was a pleasure meeting with families during conferences and having the opportunity to discuss each child's progress. The second grade team feels fortunate to have such a supportive group of parents that are deeply invested in their children's education and encourage learning at home.

The Second Grade Team

Mrs. Carapezzi, Mrs. Harkin, Mrs. Lonergan, And Mrs. Penney

THIRD GRADE NEWS

Happy November from Third Grade! In English-Language Arts, we are combining our informational Reading and Writing with our Social Studies. Students will be reading and studying a variety of topics dealing with the history of Connecticut. Students will then take those notes and synthesize this information to write informative pieces. In math, students have started their multiplication and division unit. Students will learn basic multiplication and division facts by breaking them apart into simpler facts and using flexibility with factors and products.

Mrs. Bovey, Mrs. Formica, Mrs. Gray, Ms. Narducci and Mr. Snow

ART NEWS

Notes from Mr. Granucci in the Art Room

Students this year will be introduced to a variety of multicultural based lessons. Recently, our grade 3 students started some Mexican Folk Art Amate Bark Paintings. These whimsical paintings are created on the bark of a fig tree by the Nahua artisans who live in Guerrero Mexico.



Amate Bark Painting



Ruby



Nathan and Issac



Mckenna and Natasha



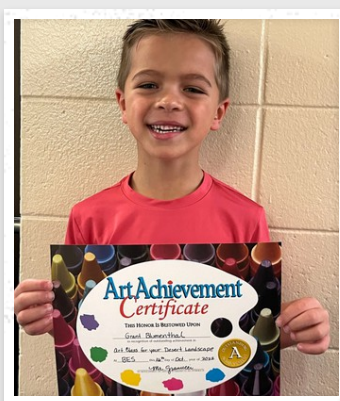
Carter and Nate

Throughout this year, I will be highlighting students in kindergarten through grade 3 for their “Pawsome” art work as part of a special display for all to enjoy. Students selected are class role models that have demonstrated “Paws”itive Burr School expectations which include, doing their **Personal Best**, **Acting Responsibly**, **Working and being Safe**, and **Showing Respect** during art class.

Pawsome Artists of the Month for November:



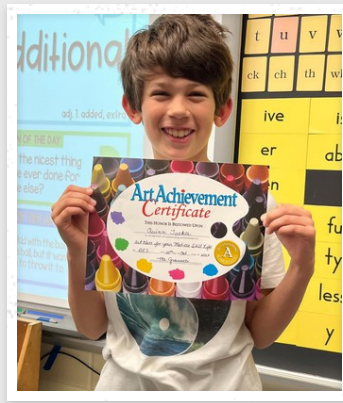
Kindergarten - Arya Edwards



Grade 1 - Grant Blumenthal



Grade 2 - Talia Chamberlain



Grade 3 - Quinn Tucker

LIBRARY NEWS

Please remember to return borrowed books each library day so a different one can go home. Also, please return your book even if you would like it to be renewed. If you forget your book you can pick a book to put on hold and pick it up once your late book has been returned. We encourage you to bring your book ON TIME. Remember if you do you can put a sticker on our Mystery picture!



Book Checkout Days

Monday: Mrs. Snow, Mrs. Penney, Mrs. Macauley, and Mrs. Smedley

Tuesday: Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Lonegran, Mrs. Burtand Mrs. Reynolds

Wednesday: Only if normal book day will be missed that week

Thursday: Mrs. Formica, Mrs. Harkin, Mrs. Boudreau, and Mrs. Kulmann

Friday: Mrs. Narducci, Mrs. Carapezzi, Mrs. Bovey, Mrs. Aithal and Mrs. Blasiak

Please be careful of water bottles and books. They do not go together!! We have had several families have to pay for damaged books due to leaky water bottles!!

Congratulations to Jacob Grady and Caroline Moore who guessed the correct number of little white pumpkins!!! There were 124 mini white pumpkins found in the library.



LITERACY NEWS—HOW ORAL LANGUAGE SUPPORTS SYNTAX

Syntax is the order or arrangement of words and phrases to form proper sentences. Supporting oral language skills will help students make the transfer to reading and writing. Students need to understand and use complete and complex sentences before they can read and write them.

Here are some simple games to support syntax at home:

“Who and Do”

Materials: none

Say a complete sentence that has a “**who**” (subject) and a “**do.**” (predicate). For example: *Daddy fixed the broken chair.* Ask, “**Who** is the sentence about?” (Daddy). Then ask, “What did Daddy **do**?” (fixed the broken chair).

This can be played at home any time you have time! You can tie it into books you read together, or make the sentences about family members, classmates, friends, and pets.

“Scrambled Sentences”

Materials: index cards or cut paper, markers

Write sentences on index cards—one card for each word of the sentence (keep them simple for K-1). Mix up the cards and have students put the sentence together in a way that makes sense. You can even mix up the sentences for some silly syntax fun! As long as you have a “who” and a “do,” you have a sentence.

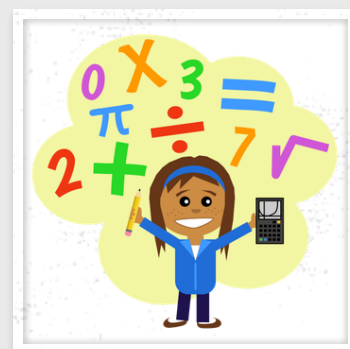
From The Reading Room: Judy Nacca, Lisa Gianni and Erin Edwards

MATH NEWS

Easy Tips to Support Math Learning at Home

To find new math learning opportunities for your child, look no further than your everyday at-home routine. Below are a few activities that enrich and relate mathematics to everyday life.

- Cooking or baking
- Measure, count, and record
- Calculate the time until your favorite TV show comes on
- Set up a family math night with fun math board games (Zingo! 1-2-3 and SMATH are two of my favorites)
- Mix in math to your bedtime reading



- Have your child count similar items as you put away groceries
- Folds napkins in different shapes

The opportunities are endless. Now, all you have to do is get your child involved in these daily calculations. The next time you're measuring flour for a cookie recipe, call your child over to help you!

MUSIC NEWS

Happy Fall!


We are working hard in music to learn new concepts and review skills!

Third grade students have begun to learn to play recorder and just started taking them home to practice! Ask them to show you the "donut" test and how they use their tongue to play "too too too." Students are beginning to learn about how to read pitches on the music staff! Soon they will be able to show you how to play "Hot Cross Buns" and other songs from our Recorder Karate belt system!


Second grade students are working on their technique playing the xylophone and the big bass bars! Ask them to sing a song to you called "Pass the Pumpkin." You can even play the game at home with your family! This game works on steady beat and beginning instrument skills.


First grade students and kindergarten students are playing fall games and classroom instruments! Ask your first grader or kindergartener to teach you the pumpkin patch game! This game reinforces steady beat and gives students the opportunity to practice moving to a steady beat!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS



November News: Health and Physical Education



<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">October P.E. Recap</h3> <p>In the month of October students in all grades participated in a Teamwork and Cooperative Games Unit. Students were tasked with various challenges and activities that required them to work with other students to accomplish or achieve a common goal.</p> <p>Ask your student(s) about the conflict corner. It is a new addition to our gymnasium where students are asked to go to resolve conflicts with other classmates. Students invite who they have a conflict with over to the corner and follow a step by step process to resolve their problem without the teachers help! So far we have 11 problems solved at the conflict corner. Take a look at the conflict corner →</p> <p><u>Sneakers are required for P.E.</u></p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">In the Month of November...</h3> <p>PE: Students will be diving into a unit on throwing and catching. This is one of my favorite units to teach because there are so many different activities and sports that throwing and catching apply to. Students will be working on improving their underhand and overhand throws in fun and engaging activities.</p> <p>Health: We will be discussing building healthy relationships. We will talk about what qualities make a good friend, how to treat others with respect, and we will talk about boundaries and personal space. We will also discuss the benefits of healthy family and peer relationships.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">P.E. Schedules</h3> <p><u>Grade 3</u> Monday: Gray and Narducci Tuesday: Formica Wednesday: Health Rotation Thursday: Bovey Friday: Snow</p> <p><u>Grade 2</u> Monday: Loneragan Tuesday: Harkin Wednesday: Health Rotation Thursday: Carapezi Friday: Penney</p> <p><u>Grade 1</u> Monday: Reynolds Tuesday: Kulmann Wednesday: Health Rotation Thursday: Blasiak Friday: Smedley</p> <p><u>Kindergarten</u> Monday: Burt Tuesday: Burt and Boudreau Wednesday: Macaulay (for P.E.) and Health Rotation Thursday: Boudreau and Aithal Friday: Aithal and Macauley</p>
<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">October Health Recap</h3> <p>Optimal wellness and disease prevention was our topic for our first health lesson. Across all grade levels, we discussed the importance of preventing the spread of germs and sickness to others.</p> <p>Grades K-1 participated in a fun "Wash your hands tag" where students demonstrated that they could wash their hands at the pretend sink for 20 seconds when they were tagged by a germ.</p> <p>Grades 2-3 participated in a Germ ball activity where students could visualize how fast germs can spread and how someone can spread sickness to others.</p>		<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Behavior Expectations</h3> <p>Students will do their...</p> <p>Personal Best; Act Responsibly; Work and be Safe; Show Respect</p>
		<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Contact Me!</h3> <p>Name: Garrett Lemke Email: glemke@rsd17.org</p>

FROM THE NURSES OFFICE

NEWS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

The Health Office has a supply of COVID test kits if you find your household is in need. I can be reached at eulizio@rsd17.org or 860-345-4584 to arrange getting a kit home for you.

Each day your child is absent requires a phone call or email, prior to the start of the school day. Parents can leave a message with the Main Office staff or the school voicemail system before school hours. The Burr attendance email system is also available

besattendance@rsd17.org. I can be reached in the Health Office after 8:30 a.m. if you would like to speak directly with me regarding the absence.

The Health Office is currently working on the annual vision & hearing screenings for all 3rd, 1st and Kindergarten students. If a discrepancy is found, you will be contacted by me.

This is the time of year to consider getting your family the flu vaccine if you have not already done so. In regard to the Flu and COVID it is important to open a dialogue with your pediatrician regarding the current vaccinations that are available. The Connecticut River Area Health District website contains information regarding their FLU/COVID vaccination clinics happening each Wednesday through December if you are in need of a location to obtain one or both. This season is also being complicated by an increase in RSV (Respiratory Syncytial




Virus) cases within our state. Information on this virus can be found on the CDC website <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/>

We take advantage of any weather that allows outdoor time here at Burr, please dress your child appropriately for the predicted temperature.

Kindergarten students require a change of clothing in their backpacks each day. Please check their supply to ensure they have an appropriate seasonal outfit complete with underwear & socks.







Stay well and enjoy the season!!!

SCHOOL MENUS

November 2022					BREAKFAST
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
	1. Teddy Grahams, Yogurt, Applesauce Juice Milk	2. Apple Cinnamon Muffin Peaches Orange Juice Milk 	3. Breakfast Bread Strawberry Cup, Raisins, Milk	4. Honey Wheat Bagel, CC Carrots, Sliced Apples Milk	 BREAKFAST IS FREE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO DELIVERY AND PRODUCT SHORTAGES THE MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE <i>This institution is an equal opportunity provider."</i>
7. Cereal Breakfast Break Pack Milk	8. Professional Development Day- No School For Students	9. Apple Cinnamon Muffin Peaches Orange Juice Milk	10. Breakfast Bread Strawberry Cup, Raisins, Milk 	11.  VETERANS DAY NO SCHOOL	
14. Cereal Breakfast Break Pack Milk	15. Teddy Grahams, Yogurt, Applesauce Juice Milk	16. Apple Cinnamon Muffin Peaches Orange Juice Milk	17. Breakfast Bread Strawberry Cup, Raisins, Milk	18. Honey Wheat Bagel, CC Carrots, Sliced Apples Milk	
21. Cereal Breakfast Break Pack Milk	22. Teddy Grahams, Yogurt, Applesauce Juice Milk	23. Apple Cinnamon Muffin Peaches Orange Juice Milk	24. 	25. 	
28. Cereal Breakfast Break Pack Milk	29. Teddy Grahams, Yogurt, Applesauce Juice Milk	30. Apple Cinnamon Muffin Peaches Orange Juice Milk			

November 2022

Elementary School Lunch Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 1. Chicken Patty Sandwich Oven Fries Strawberries Milk	1. Chicken Patty Sandwich Oven Fries Strawberries Milk	2. Chicken and Waffles, Strawberries Hash brown Patty Milk	3. Pollock Fish Sticks, Oven Fries, Cole Slaw, Fruit Cocktail Milk	4. Pizza, Peas Applesauce Milk 
7. Cheesburger Oven Fries Blueberries Milk 	8. Professional Development Day No school for students	9. Sausage, Egg and Cheese Sandwich, Tater Tots, Juice, Milk 	10. Pasta w/ Meat sauce, Garlic Roll, Side Salad, Fresh Local Apple Milk,	11. VETERANS DAY NO SCHOOL 
14. Grilled Cheese, Green Beans, Peaches Milk 	15. Chicken Nachos, Lettuce, Tomato, Salsa, Mexican Corn, 100% Fruit Juice Milk	16. Pancakes, Sausage Hash Brown Patty Pear and Blueberry Crisp Milk	17. Mini Corndogs, Steamed Carrots Grapes Milk	18. Pizza Fresh Garden Salad Strawberries Milk 
21. Hotdog, Baked Beans Applesauce Milk	22. Mozzarella Sticks, Side Marinara Sauce, Roll, Fruit Parfait, Milk,	23. Pizza Chef Vegetable Choice Frozen Treat Milk	24.  Happy Thanksgiving	25. THANKSGIVING BREAK
28. Chicken Tenders, Mashed Potatoes, Pears Milk	29. Beef Nacho's, Corn and Black Bean Salad, Salsa Pineapple Milk	30. French Toast Sticks, Sausage Hash brown Patty Orange Wedges Milk		

LUNCH IS FREE FOR ALL STUDENTS

Be Thankful!



A MEAL IS HOT ENTRÉE LISTED ON LEFT

B MEAL IS GARDEN SALAD W/ CHICKEN, ROLL, FRUIT OF THE DAY AND MILK

DUE TO DELIVERY AND PRODUCT SHORTAGES THE MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

COUGAR PAW RECIPIENTS

These are students that have displayed The Burr School Pledge:

Personal best,

Act Responsibly,

Work and play safely, and always

Show respect.

Weeks of 10/3-10/14



Week of 10/17-10/21



Week of 10/24-10/28



PTO NEWS

Burr PTO News

November Newsletter
2022 - 2023

Upcoming Events

**Thank you
for supporting the
Lyman Pie Fundraiser**

Pies arrive the Tuesday before
Thanksgiving, 11/22.

We still need volunteers to help sort
pies - please sign up at
<https://us.signapgenius.com/#/show/SignUp/1060e48aabb29a1f5c43-piedistribution>

Book Fair!
10/31 - 11/4

Family Night 11/3
from 5-7pm

New this year,
Scholastic is charging
sales tax

**Meeting Schedule -
Join Us**

November 9, 2022
January 11, 2023
All meetings are at
7pm in the library

Contact Us

BurrElementaryPTO@gmail.com
<https://BurrPTBoard.com>
Facebook: Burr-PTO



PARK AND REC PROGRAMS

Youth Programs

Karate Kids Mondays 11/7 - 12/12 at KES 3:30 - 4:45 pm Gr. K - 5 \$48 (NR add \$10)	Running Rams - Cross Country Saturdays 11/5, 11/12, 11/19 12:00 - 1:00 pm at Sheldon Park \$75 (NR add \$10) Age 5 - 13
Gymnastics Tumbling & More Tuesdays 11/22 - 12/13 at KES (BES session will be in January) 3:30 - 4:30 pm Ages 5-11 \$82 (NR add \$10)	Basketball Pre-Season Clinics Boys Gr. 3-6: Wednesdays 11/2 - 11/30 (No 11/23) 5:30 - 6:30 pm Boys Gr. 5-6: Wednesdays 11/2 - 11/30 (No 11/23) 6:30 - 7:30 pm Girls Gr. 3-5: Mondays 11/7 - 11/28 5:30 - 6:30 pm \$45 (NR add \$10) HK IMS Sm. Gym
Creative Art Tuesdays 11/22 - 12/13 at BES KES session will be in January 5:55 (NR add \$10)	Art Smart for Pre-school Thursdays 11/3 - 12/8 at HES Ages 1.5 - 4 10:00 - 11:00 am \$67 (NR add \$10)
AbraKadoodle - Wow Effects Mondays 11/7 - 12/5 at BES Fri. 11/4 - 12/16 at KES (No 11/11 or 11/25) 3:30 - 4:30 pm Gr. K - 6 \$77 (NR add \$10)	Zumba Kids Wednesdays 11/2 - 12/7 (No 11/23) at KES Thursdays 11/3 - 12/15 (No 11/24) at BES 3:30 - 4:30 pm Gr. K - 5
Vale Sports Indoor Soccer Clinics Tuesdays 11/15 - 12/13 at BES Thursdays 11/5 - 12/15 (No 11/24 & 12/1) at KES 3:30 - 4:30 pm Gr. K - 2 4:30 - 5:15 pm Age 3-5 (Tues. only)	

Thursdays 11/3 - 12/8 (No 11/24) at KES *12/1 will meet 1:00 - 2:00 pm Fridays 11/4 - 12/16 at BES (No 11/11 or 11/25) 3:30 - 5:00 pm Ages 5 - 10 \$105 (NR add \$10)	Wednesdays 11/9 - 12/21 (No 11/23) 4:15 - 5:15 pm at HK HS Art Rm \$130 (NR add \$10)
Playwell Pokeman Engineering w/LEGO Tuesdays 11/1 - 12/13 (No 11/8) at KES Thursdays 11/3 - 12/15 (No 11/24) at BES (12/1 will meet at 1:05 pm) 3:30 - 5:00 pm Ages 5 - 10 \$127 (NR add \$10)	Basic 1st Aid Wednesday 11/2 Ages 8+ 5:30 - 7:00 pm at HK HS Lower Media \$28 (NR add \$5)
CPB for Babysitters Monday & Tuesdays 11/14 - 11/15 5:30 - 7:30 pm HK HS Lower Media Center \$60 (NR add \$10)	Spina & Sparkles (Ballet/Jazz) Fridays 11/4 - 12/16 (No 11/25) at KES Mondays 11/7 - 12/12 at BES 3:30 - 4:30 pm Gr. K - 3 \$50 (NR add \$10)
Aqua Aerobics Mondays & Wednesdays 11/9 - 12/14 (No 11/23) 6:30 - 7:30 pm at HK HS Pool \$80 (10 classes) / \$45 (5 classes) (NR add \$10)	Babysitter's Training Mondays & Wednesdays 12/12 - 12/19 5:30 - 7:30 pm HK HS Lower Media Center \$76 (NR add \$10)
Adult Programs Fitness Yoga Tuesdays (in-person at HK IMS Caf) Thursdays (via zoom) 11/17 - 12/15 (No 11/24) 7:00 - 8:15 pm \$80 (8 classes) / \$44 (4 classes) \$12 drop-in 	

HK RecCare 11/1 - 11/30

(No 11/8, 11/11, 11/24, 11/25)

HK RecCare provides a safe, fun environment where kids can do homework, play games, socialize and hang with friends. Please do not send your child if showing any symptoms of COVID-19. Please bring a water bottle and snack. Gr. 4 - 6 kids will be bussed to & from HKIMS. Limited space, register soon!

For Students in Gr. K - 6

Before-School (BES/KES) 7:30 - 8:40 am \$117

After-School (BES/KES) 3:25 - 6:00 pm \$314

After-School part-time registration is \$19/regular day, \$38/early dismissal days.

All participants (or before or after care must register for RecCare Processing for 2021 and fill out online forms (link for RecCare Processing under Details). This is a one-time \$20 fee for the 2021 school year.

Register at www.hkrec.com by 10/28