



BMS ENEWS FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 12-19, 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Basalt Middle School Community,

It is hard to believe we are almost half way through the third quarter already! Next week is the mid-quarter point, and the gradebook will be updated and current as of Thursday, February 18th. It is a great time for students to evaluate their progress toward their goals, both within Habits of a Scholar and their academic progress.

In CREW this week and next, we have been participating in Teamwork activities with "brotherbands." Each grade's CREW groups have been paired with another grade's CREW (5th and 7th, 6th and 8th). Together, they have focused on getting to know each other, sharing wisdom about school, building relationships and then putting those relationships to the teamwork test to build working marble runs. See our Facebook page for examples of these amazing group creations! It's been really fun to walk around and see all the different designs and ideas floating around. Activities like these help increase students' sense of belonging at school. We hope to see this work transfer into other parts of their day with opportunities to recognize other students outside their grade, say hello, and continue that relationship.

Next week is National Random Acts of Kindness Week. See the links below for great ideas on how families and students can participate. Spreading kindness is a great way for students to contribute to a positive culture at Basalt Middle School. I have two favorite Random Acts that I try to implement daily. The first is greeting people with a smile. This simple and powerful act has the potential to impact a person's day for the better. The second is leaving a place in better condition than I found it; usually this means grabbing a piece of trash as I walk through an area and depositing it appropriately. What kind acts will you and your students commit to this week and for the rest of the year?

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ellsperman
Basalt Middle School Principal

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Remember there's no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end. ~Scott Adams

CREW THEME OF THE WEEK

We provide this section with the goal of regularly informing parents of what students are doing in the CREW advisory time. Ask your student about what they're learning -- Principal Ellsperman welcomes feedback! Our Brotherband team building Marble Run has been so much fun that we've extended it an extra week to give students the chance to finish their magnificent creations. The following two weeks will address empathy and stress management.

WHAT WE'RE READING THIS WEEK

Sign the Kindness Pledge <https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/rakweek2016>

50 Ideas for Random Acts of Kindness

<https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/stories/113-50-ideas-for-random-acts-of-kindness-week>

Parent resources for supporting media sense from home. Activities Grades K-12

https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/uploads/connecting_families/faws_bundled_allunits_cfsite.pdf

Teaching Tweens Social Skills

<http://www.middleweb.com/27607/todays-tweens-need-better-social-skills/>

DESPERATELY SEEKING...

LARGE, OLD WHITE TEE SHIRTS OR APRONS. Ms. Jones is in need of paint shirts and smocks for art class!

MOUSETRAP-STYLE CONTRAPTION STUFF: We're taking donations that can be used for a school-wide Rube Goldberg Machine competition-- which has been delayed a few weeks to March. Drop off at the Makerspace. Items could include things like: balls or marbles, dominoes, blocks or wood scraps, toy cars, toy train tracks, gutters, PVC pipe, trays, plastic tubing, any recyclable materials, popsicle sticks, rulers, string, tape, pins, balloons.

BUBBLE WRAP. LOTS OF BUBBLE WRAP! For questions, contact Allison Johnson & the Makerspace at ajohnson@rfschools.com.

JOY OF MUSIC EVENT VOLUNTEERS: The Joy of Music on Feb. 26 is the band's

largest fundraiser-- they need to raise \$10,000 this year. Night of event volunteers are needed: Sign up here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a49aea729a31-joyofmusic>

Silent auction items and sponsors are still needed. Contact Gretta McKenney at 970-618-4440 or gsmckenney@comcast.net.

A NEW FUTON COVER for our foyer furniture! Contact Mrs. Ellsperman if you have one to spare.

BMS EVENTS: FOR THE WEEKS OF FEB. 12-19, 2016

FEB. 12. ACCESS AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES HAVE BEGUN-- SPACE STILL AVAILABLE! Class listings and registration forms are available at the front office and online at: <http://bms.rfsd.k12.co.us/important-announcements/1417-access-second-shift-register-for-spring-session.html>. The cost is only \$20 for 10 weeks and there's great after-school activities including sewing, improv, Greek mask making, and Makerspace, where we'll be building a Maglev track for the school.

FEB. 12 & 15: NO SCHOOL. February 12 is Parent/Teacher Conferences and Feb. 15 is President's Day. Enjoy the long weekend! We'll see you back on Tuesday, Feb. 16.

FEB. 16th: 7TH GIRLS' BASKETBALL. Support our 7th grade athletes at home against Grand Valley tonight at 4:30 pm.

FEB. 16: WRESTLING PRACTICE BEGINS. For information on the middle school wrestling team, visit www.basaltwrestling.org or contact teacher Ryan Bradley.

FEB. 16: PRE-COLLEGIATE PARENT MEETING. 6pm Parents of students in the Pre-Collegiate program will meet in the library to hear about summer opportunities.

FEB. 18: ONLINE GRADEBOOK UPDATED. It's already the middle of third quarter! Gradebooks will be updated online by Thursday, February 18th if you'd like to review your student's progress so far.

FEB. 17: 8TH GRADE REGISTRATION FOR BASALT HIGH SCHOOL. All 8th grade families should head to BHS at 5:30 pm to register for classes next year. Families should look through the course catalog in advance and choose 3-4 elective classes for freshman year. The catalog will be posted online over the weekend and available in hard copy at BMS on Tuesday. There is a spaghetti dinner from 5:30-6:00pm and then students will be split into two groups to register and hear from BHS staff about programs and supports. All information and links about this registration night are at: <http://bms.rfsd.k12.co.us/important-announcements/1421-register-for-bhs-feb-17.html>

FEB. 17: PUBERTY PRESENTATION PREVIEW FOR 5TH GRADE PARENTS.

Parents are invited to the BMS library on February 17 at 6:30 pm to preview the puberty presentation that will be delivered to 5th graders on Monday, Feb. 22 during Core 1 & 2. Mrs. Maner will present to the girls. Dr. Kelly Locke will present to the boys. A letter outlining this presentation has also been sent home with your child if you would prefer to opt them out. It's also posted on the website here:

<http://bms.rfsd.k12.co.us/classrooms/5th-grade.html>

FEB. 18: WINTER CHOIR CONCERT. The Winter Choir Concert is at 7 pm at Basalt Middle School. In addition to BMS and BHS choirs, songs from BHS' spring musical "All Shook Up" will be performed as well. Come support our hard-working students by attending this fabulous free musical event.

FEB. 18-19: 6TH GRADE FIELDTRIPS TO SUNLIGHT. Students will be heading to Sunlight on one of these days. Contact your student's homeroom teacher with questions.

SAVE THE DATE: FEB. 25: PICTURE DAY. Students should wash their hair and brush their teeth in advance of this class AND individual (if desired) photo opportunity with Lifetouch. Order forms are handed out that week but are also available at the front office now.

SAVE THE DATE: FEB. 26: JOY OF MUSIC. This is the BMS Band's largest and most critical fundraiser of the year! Please attend and check out the silent auction and help raise important funds for our amazing band program. We're hoping to raise \$10,000. Volunteers needed! <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a49aea729a31-joyofmusic>

ONGOING: ZUMBA CLASSES AT BMS. Weekly classes are held in the BMS Auditorium from 4-5 pm. \$10, call Kylie at 618-7731 with questions.

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS:

YOUTH POETRY SLAM. FEB. 12: Youth from all over the valley, plus poets Myrlin Hepworth, Mercedes Holtry, and Logan Phillips, who recently performed at BMS, will be heading to this FREE poetry slam at 6:30 pm at the Third Street Center. Regional high school students will be performing their work--it's an amazing event!

STEAM ROOM OPENS. The Aspen Science Center opens a FREE STEAM science discovery center in the Crystal Palace on February 14. The center will be open from noon-4pm on Sundays and 1:30-6 pm on Wednesdays through April 10.



CHOCOLATE OLYMPICS: Head to the Basalt Regional Library on Friday, February 12th @ 2 p.m. Bring your appetite and your friends for chocolate challenges and games. Grades 5+ only.

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 1: Our Children Our Schools: Basalt, Aspen Skiing Company's Aspen U and the Basalt Library are hosting a screening of "Most Likely To Succeed," 5:30 pm. A short discussion will follow the film. Check out the trailer at: www.mltsfilm.org. Books are also available at the Basalt Regional Library. "Most Likely to Succeed" has been called the best film ever done on the topic of school—both its past and its future. The film inspires its audiences with a sense of purpose and possibility, and is bringing school communities together in re-imagining what our students and teachers are capable of doing.

CONTACT US!

SUBMIT TO THE BMS NEWSLETTER: Do you know of an event or resource that BMS could include in the weekly enewsletter? Send your information to ajohnson@rfschools.com. Deadline for submission is Wednesday at noon for the following week. All posts are subject to administration approval.

BMS ON FACEBOOK: Want to keep up on the latest BMS news? Don't forget to "Like" or better yet "follow" our BMS Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BasaltMiddleSchool>. Have something you'd like posted? Send it to ajohnson@rfschools.com. If it's a flyer, please submit as a jpg (not a pdf).

FACEBOOK ON BMS. Not a Facebook fan? You can still peruse our newsfeed on the BMS website at: <http://bms.rfsd.k12.co.us/news-bms/facebook-news-feed.html>