



BEST/PTO NEWSLETTER

Bedford Elementary Schools Together/Parent Teacher Organization
Providing a Forum for Communication, Enrichment and Support
January 2012

Letter from the President:

The winter holidays may be behind us, but the Amazon link is available all year long! Don't forget when making on line purchases at Amazon to use the link conveniently found on the BEST/PTO website.

We are now in full planning mode for the circus. Mark your calendars for March 24, come and enjoy this years performance of Bucky and Gigi...it is certain to entertain the entire family.

It is never too early to start thinking about your role in the BEST/PTO. That being said, there are open opportunities for 2012-2013 academic year. The Vice President of Davis is open for the upcoming year. Being part of the PTO is a wonderful way to be part of your child's first school experience. Please contact me for details.

Lyn Kapilian
President BEST/PTO

Support Your Schools

Box Tops: On behalf of the Box Tops Committee, we would like to thank all of you for your support this year! We have collected 23,756 Box Tops so far this year. That's almost \$2400 raised for BEST in just a few months! Our e Box Tops totals are rising as well thanks to all of you who are shopping online through the Box Tops Marketplace. We have 112 new online supporters for Davis and Lane through the Box Tops website bffe.com. I earned 65 Box Tops just by ordering some jeans online and our holiday cards online through the Box Tops Marketplace. My cards were half off too since I accessed the site through bffe.com. Remember, you can shop through the marketplace at any time of year and get great savings while supporting your children's education!

There is a new "Click & Earn" option at bffe.com in which you can earn eBoxTops by simply watching commercials or taking short surveys. Just go to bffe.com and click on the "Earn" tab to learn lots of great ways to earn Box Tops.

And of course, keep clipping those box tops at home too! December was an amazing month for you Box Top clippers! Davis collected 2,085 Box Tops last month putting Mrs. Seldon in 3rd place (121 box tops), Mrs. Jones in 2nd place (138 box tops), and Mrs. Cormie in 1st place (188 box tops). Lane collected 2,250 Box Tops last month putting Mrs. K. O'Brien in 3rd place (198), Mrs. Weinstein in 2nd place (249), and Mrs. L O'Brien in 1st place (299 box tops). A clean sweep by the 3rd graders! Our next collection date will be Friday, January 27. We wish you all a healthy and happy 2012! Jenn Goldman and Meg McAllister

Community Corner:

SE PAC Parent Coffee: On Friday January 20th, Bedford SE PAC will hold its monthly Parent Coffee at Whole Foods from 8:30am – 10:30am. Please come and network, chat and discuss our children with learning challenges. Parent coffees are held the third Friday morning of every month. SE PAC board

members will be present to facilitate. For more information, please contact Dana Fine, danafine2000@gmail.com.

Save the Dates for Future SEPAC Events: In February: Emergency Responders and Your Children with Learning Differences. Joint program on special concerns for First Responders by Bedford SEPAC, Police Chief Bongiorno, Fire Chief Grunes and EMT personnel. More information available soon. Bedford SEPAC Board Meetings are held on the first Wednesday night of every month, and prior to the meeting an hour is reserved for parent networking from 7-8 pm. The location is the Whole Foods Community Meeting Room (access to meeting room is near the flower display).

Bedford Babe Ruth Baseball and Softball: Registration for Bedford Babe Ruth Baseball and Softball has begun and will continue through the month of January. Boys and girls can begin play in kindergarten with Tball. As they get older they progress through coach pitch leagues and eventually play games against players of similar skill level. Bedford Babe Ruth Baseball and Softball has provided children the opportunity to learn the games of baseball and softball for close to 30 years. If you have any questions, or to register a player go to our website bedfordbaseballsoftball.com.

The Fuel Assistance Program: Could You Use Help with Home Heating Bills? The Fuel Assistance Program may be for you! The Fuel Assistance Program provides a benefit for home heating for Bedford residents of all ages who meet income guidelines.

Household Size	Yearly Gross Income
1	\$31,218
2	\$40,824
3	\$50,429
4	\$60,035
5	\$69,641
6	\$79,246

Those who enroll in the Fuel Assistance Program are also eligible for free home weatherization, free heating system repair or replacement, free energy-saving devices, and discounts on some utility bills.

To apply, Bedford residents under age 60 should call Bedford Youth and Family Services (YFS) at 275-7727 and those 60 or over should call the Bedford Council on Aging (COA) at 275-6825. Please be assured that all information will be held in the strictest confidence. Remember, your taxes paid for this program, so if you think you qualify, apply for the benefits you deserve!

Bedford Youth & Family Services: Check out the Bedford Youth & Family Services new Winter Newsletter available on line at www.bedfordma.gov/youth, or in hard copy at our Town Center offices.

Bedford PMC: Save Friday, March 23 for this year's Pan Mass Challenge Bedford Cocktail Party and Auction to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. Be a part of this exciting, community-building evening in support of a cause that touches us all. We have fabulous auction prizes up for bid and look forward to seeing you there. We will follow up with details as the event draws near.



Bedford Recreation Adult Program Information: Winter Adult Classes: Programs run January thru March

The Recreation Department Winter 2012 brochure is available on-line at www.bedfordrecreation.org. You may register on-line, in person, by mail or by fax.

The Recreation Department is offering many new and ongoing programs this Winter. The following is a general listing of programs being offered. See our brochure or website for details. Many of our classes

are taught by Bedford residents, businesses and services. Check out the "Instructor Biography link" on our website. We have a lot of great people with really interesting and diverse backgrounds teaching with us and are very fortunate to have them share their expertise with our community through Bedford Recreation Department

We are always looking for new ideas and classes, please contact Raeann Gembis at rgembis@bedfordma.gov or 781-275-1392 if you would like to see a certain topic/program offered or would like to teach with us.

****These classes make great gifts for those people on your holiday or special occasion list (or for yourself!)**

Special Family Events: JourneyDance Kids Class, Celebrating the Seasons Journey Dance (Tuesday, Jan. 31, 8:00-9:00pm), Snowshoe/Winter Hike, Introduction to Geo-Caching, Boating Skill and Seamanship Classes

Fitness - Dance – Sports: Zumba Dance (age 16+), Rip60™ (women, men and teen classes available), NIA, BodyPump (age 15+), BodyJam (age 15+), Many levels of Yoga: Beginner Hatha and Power Vinyasa Flow Yoga, Tai Chi, Tap Dancing (age 16+), Kendo, Vision Dance. The following sports are open and free to Bedford Residents: Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball and Badminton

Arts and Music: Charcoal and Pastel Studio Class (age 16+), Calligraphy (age 16+), armonica (age 16+), Violin, Learn to Knit (age 14+)

Personal Interest: Organizing Works for Home or Office Efficiency, You Can Fix It Too!, Six Intriguing Museums, Growing Good Vegetables and Seed Starting Workshops, No Maintenance Gardening, Real Dirt on Gardening, Home Brewing Workshops, Eliminate Food Cravings Forever, Maximize Your College Financial Aid, Overcoming Personal Roadblocks to Career Success, Financial Workshop Series

2010-2011 BEST/PTO Officers

President: Lyn Kapilian

lynkapilian@comcast.net

Vice President (Davis): Peter Ricci

bedfordriccis@verizon.net

Vice President (Lane): Caroline Fedele

Caroline.fedele@comcast.net

Secretary: Julie Phylis

japhylis@verizon.net

Treasurer: Robin Steele

eleets922@comcast.net

BEST Committee Chair Open Positions

- Enrichment Coordinator for Davis