



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

9930 Burlingame Ave. SW, Byron Center, MI 49315 Mark Kasmer, Principal
Phone: (616) 878-4852 - Fax: (616) 878-7196 Email: office@byroncentercharter.org

November 2019 Newsletter

Dear BCCS Families,

It is hard to believe that we are ¼ of the way through the school year. I want to thank those who have made a concerted effort to help your children prepare for school on a daily basis. As parents and guardians, you are the most influential people in establishing positive traits for learning in the lives of your children. As a father of 4 grown daughters, I want to assure you that the time and effort you put into helping your children build good study habits and being prepared for each school day pays off tremendously later in life. Stay with it!

School Values

The character traits BCCS will focus on during the months of November and December are Joyfulness and Appreciation.

Expressions of joy and appreciation are contagious and strengthen the heart and soul of people. Joy is a powerful emotion that seems to lift people up. Showing one's appreciation toward others often brings joy to the receiver and sender. These two characteristics are great personal qualities to have, as people tend to like being around joyful and appreciative people. Aren't you glad we celebrate these qualities? I do not think any parent would not want joyfulness and appreciation as cornerstones of their child's character. As member of the BCCS school community, we are to look for opportunities that bring joy and appreciation into the culture of the school. These are two important character traits to share with our school family, especially during the upcoming holiday seasons.

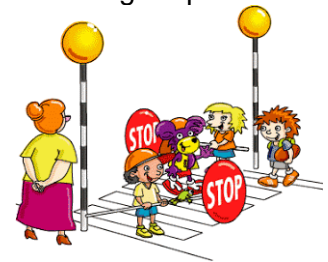


From The Office

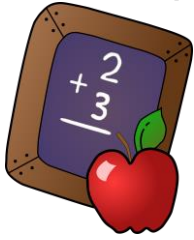
Mr. Fackler's Departure: A big thank you to all the students, parents and staff that contributed to the affirmation and gratitude bag for Mr. Fackler. There was a bag full of kindness and well wishes for his departure to GRPS. At this time Mrs. Beers has agreed to substitute in his absence. The job has been posted and will be filled and we intend to fill the position as soon as possible. The curriculum and instruction will continue as planned. We will keep you posted on any new developments.

Attendance: Your Help, Please! Please be reminded that absences and tardies are disruptive to the classroom and the school community as a whole.

Morning Parking Lot Reminders: Please follow the proper protocols with the morning drop-off. Vehicles need to pull-up as far as possible (up to mailbox) before dropping students. We understand there are students who have health related issues and need to be dropped off as close to the door as possible, yet this should be the only exception. If students are not ready / need extra time to depart from the vehicle, use parking space to park vehicle and have them use the crosswalk. Parents should also use a parking space if cars are backed-up in the drop-off lane. At no time should parents leave a vehicle unattended along the sidewalk. This is a fire lane and may be used to drop-off and pick-up students.



Academic Updates



End of the 1st Marking Period: Today, Friday- October 25th, is the end of the first marking period. Report cards will be issued Friday (11/1). Please review your child's report card with them. Having students discuss and monitor their own progress is one of the most effective strategies for student engagement and motivation. If there are any discrepancies and/or questions about your child's report card, please contact the teacher of record.

Family Literacy Night 2019: An invitation to attend a Family Literacy Night was sent-out via e-mail to the parents of designated K-2 students this past Wednesday. Selected students and a parent/guardian are invited to attend a Family Literacy night on November 21 between 6:00 and 7:30. Families will learn strategies to improve their reading and receive books and other resources to assist in their development. Parents are reminded to RSVP through the e-mail by November 8th.

School Happenings

Halloween Update: In celebration of Halloween, all students have an opportunity to participate in the BCCS (see below) On Thursday, October 31, Halloween activities will be minimal at school. There will be no formal parties and students may not wear costumes to school. Only Kindergarten through 3rd Grade students be allowed to put-on and wear costumes at the end of the school day if they would like. Costumes may not be worn to school, rather, may be brought in a bag. During the last hour of the day teachers will invite students to put-on their costumes and parade through the kindergarten, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade rooms. All other grades will maintain their normal daily schedules. Specific notification and details will be sent home to parents of K-3 students. For those participating in Trick-or-Treating, please be safe and enjoy the event!

Pumpkin Carving Contest: Bring Pumpkins in between OCT. 28-31

- All Students and Staff can Participate
- 3 Categories :Silliest, Most Creative, Spookiest
- Winners selection Oct. 31
- Removal Friday, or will be discarded if left at school.



Feeding the Community

Canned Food Drive: Byron Center Charter School will be teaming up with Buist Electric in their annual food drive. Food items can be brought in Monday 11/4 thru Friday 11/22. The collections will support the local outreach ministry during the upcoming holiday season. Many families truly benefit from our donations so please share the gift of giving with the kids and THANKS. The kids have a contest between grades based upon a point system of donated items... have fun and good luck!

Blood Drive: Come and help us save lives! We are looking for several parents/grandparents/relatives to help support our **fall blood drive**. The blood drive will take place on **Tuesday, November 12th in the gym from 1-5 p.m.** Please contact Mr. Emmelkamp (bemmelkamp@byroncentercharter.org) to schedule a slot; plan on the entire process taking about an hour.





Calendar of Events November

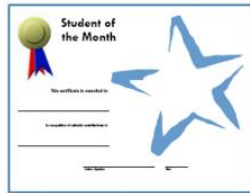
- Oct. 28 - 31: Muffin sale \$1.00 – senior class fundraiser: Delivery Nov. 4th
- Oct. 28 – 31: Pumpkin carving contest – hosted by student council – bring in your decorated pumpkin any day – Judging will take place and winner announced Oct. 31.
- Oct. 30-Fire Safety Early Elementary
- Nov. 1 – Eagle Assembly at 2:05 pm
- Nov. 1 - Holocaust Class FT
- Nov. 1 – Ultimate Frisbee 6-12 gr 3:15 – 4:15 weather permitting
- Nov. 4 – 22 Canned Food Drive to benefit local food pantry
- Nov. 6 Grade 10 FT to Griffins Game
- Nov. 7 – PTO meeting at 3:30pm – 4:30pm
- Nov. 8 – Popcorn sale, 50 cents per bag – benefits yearbook
- Nov. 8 – Ultimate Frisbee 6-12 gr 3:15 – 4:15 weather permitting
- Nov. 8 – PTO Mother – Son Night 6-8pm in the gym – games/movie/snacks
- Nov. 12 – Blood Drive 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- Nov. 12- BOE Meeting 6:00
- Nov. 13 – Picture retakes – if you were absent or are returning a package for retake
- Nov. 13- 11th Grade GVSU FT
- Nov. 15 – Spirit Shop – benefits student activities
- Nov. 15 – Ultimate Frisbee 6-12 gr 3:15 – 4:15 weather permitting
- Nov. 18 – 21 – Muffin sale \$1.00 – senior class fundraiser: Delivery Nov. 25th
- Nov. 21- k-2 Family Literacy Night 6-7:30
- Nov. 22 Hat Day - \$1 – benefits Peer-to-Peer group
- Nov. 27-29 – NO SCHOOL – Happy Thanksgiving!!!
- FYI's**
- Dec. 2-20 – Hat and Mitten Tree donations
- Dec. 6 – Babysitting Night – Benefits Prom
- Dec. 9-16 – Candy cane/Hot cocoa sale – benefits student activities – Delivery Dec. 18th at lunch
- Dec. 10 – Band Concert at Godwin Auditorium 7:00 pm
- Dec. 11 – Elementary Concert at Godwin Auditorium 7:00 pm
- Dec. 12-13 – PTO Holiday Shop K-5th grades
- Dec. 19 – Gingerbread house decorating 3:15-4:30 - 6th-12th grades

Student Awards and Recognitions

Fall Cross Country: The boys and girls teams both placed 3rd in the conference. Samantha Anderson medaled in the conference meet placing 9th and was also awarded an All-Conference medal for her performance through out the season. The boys team included Cole McElroy, Tate Anderson, Elijah Coffey, Arthur Scott, Xavier Coffey, and Ian Emmelkamp. The girls team included Samantha Anerson, Kinzie Anderson, Paige DeVries, Torie DeVries, Alydia Coffey and Ruth Apotheker. Congratulations on a great season.



Student of the Month September :



K-2 Grace Pike
3-5 Aiden Heinz
6-8 Ian EmmelKamp
HS Abbi DeWitt

Character Awards for displays of Cooperation and Teamwork



Caleb Hicks, Ava Leys, Lilliana Miller, Curtis Colegrove, Abigail Rocheleau, John Ganka, Vivian Hicks, Laura Shronts, Kaiden Coffey, Bayley Houghmaster, Lia Franson, Braydon Smigiel, Joshua Hoort, John Duncan, Addison Laplow, Gracie Duncan, Gracie Leys, Joselyn VanDussen, Rachel Steffen, Taryn Jenison-Curtis, Nick Seldomridge, Ava Syswerda, Landon Plunkett, Anna Leyrer, Samantha Anderson, Abbi DeWit, Joshua Hoppe, Emily Shrontz, Sarah Buchanan, Tim VanderZee, David Jones, Danielle Deyoung, Molly DeVries, Logan Timmer, David Batt, Alicia Verburg, Meredith Jager, Paige DeVries