



# Burton Street News

**Our school's mission is to provide a safe, courteous and stimulating environment where children are accepted, valued and expected to learn.**

May 2002

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## From The Health Room

### **A BUSY TIME OF YEAR**

Dear Parents,

The end of the 2001-2002 school year is closing in on us and there is so much left for us to do and your children to learn. September 11th seems so longer ago, and yet the reality of such a tragedy is a painful reminder not easily forgotten.

On a much lighter note, our school year at Burton St. has been a positive one. Everywhere, I turn I see evidence of happy children working and playing. I have seen so many parents at school as well. Before vacation, our third graders gave the speech of their lives (how many of you were required to give a speech in front of 50+ people when you were in 3rd grade?). This past week, 60+ kindergartners and their parents dressed in "jammies" were listening to stories and enjoying milk and cookies at our fourth Reading Riot Night. On Wednesday, first grade authors read their books to parents at their annual Spring Fling while our multi-age kids hosted their annual Poetry Tea. Next week, the "seniors" in our building will be dancing and singing at our annual 4th Grade Musical, directed by Mrs. Decker. Soon after that Mrs. Damon and the Fine Arts Department will host our annual Fine Arts Night. Art work of 620 students is already filling up the halls and display cases throughout the building!

Not to be out done by authors, artists, and illustrators, on Saturday morning, elementary scientists from all grade levels will present fantastic science fair projects based on the scientific method. Throw in a field trip to the Madison County Landfill sight, the Morrisville Agricultural Farm, the newly restored Rippleton Schoolhouse at Lorenzo and the New York State Capitol and you realize what a busy place Burton St. School is and that's naming just a sampling of all that we do.

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Spring greeting from the Burton Street Health Room! A sure indication of spring is that we are seeing less illness at Burton Street as the weather improves.

With the arrival of May and June, many classes are going on field trips and spending more time outside. Please be cautious of over exposure to the sun. If your child will be attending outside activities, a little sunscreen applied in the morning may help protect their sensitive skin. Hats and sunglasses are also helpful in keeping sun off faces

If your child is attending a field trip and takes medication in school, please remind them to stop in to the Health Room first thing, before leaving for their field trip, to make arrangements to send their medication along with their teacher. I usually make these arrangements, but an extra reminder certainly helps!

Be sure to remind your child to give excuses to their teacher upon returning to school after an illness.

*Cindy Hirt RN*

Cindy Hirt R.N.



**Tuesday, May 21  
7 A.M. to 9 P.M.  
High School  
Auditorium**

### Important April Dates

**May 7 - 9 NYS Math Test  
Grade 4**

**May 17- Parent/Teacher  
Conference Day - half day**

**May 21 - School Budget  
Vote**

**May 27 - Memorial Day  
No School**

**May 29 - 31 ESPET Science  
Test - Grade 4**

### **WELCOME TO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL ORIENTATION**

On **Thursday, June 13, at 7:00 PM** there will be a "Welcome to the Middle School" Orientation. The purpose of the program is to acquaint 4th grade students and their parents with the Middle School facilities, the 5th grade schedule, daily activities, the 5th grade teachers and the special programs and services that will be available next year. A letter will be mailed home to all fourth grade students and their parents later in May giving them the schedule for the evening of June 13th. Please put this date on your calendar!! We look forward to having you visit the middle school on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Please call Jennifer Glasgow, Middle School Counselor, if you have any questions or concerns (655-1315).

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The month of May will be just as busy and on top of all the regular end-of-the-year activities, May is testing month. You'll get newsletters from your children's classroom teacher asking that you send children who have had a good breakfast and are well-rested to school on those days. Under the best of conditions, tests can be stressful so anything we can do to make the experience more positive and relaxing helps.

May is also the time that we start planning class lists for the following year. As you already know, we don't allow parents to request a specific teacher, but we do allow parents one "not request" addressed to me in writing by June 1st. By doing this, we're able to create classrooms that are well-balanced and educationally sound. We take so many things into consideration when we plan classes: academic ability of each student, chronological age, male/female ratio, personality, social/emotional level, special services, learning style, and teacher style. We have been fortunate to be able to keep class size lower than average at the elementary level and to have strong remedial and special education programs and services. Put all this together with a quality teaching staff, supportive parents, and children ready to learn and we have a Blue Ribbon School. You already knew that, though!

Enjoy the next two months. I know Burton St. School kids will.



Principal  
Burton Street Elementary



As an enhancement to our regular program and an extension of the curriculum, local artists were invited to Burton Street School to share their time and talents with our students.



Artist, Lisa Coddington, who is currently writing and illustrating a counting book for children, visited Burton Street to demonstrate to the fourth grade students the art of botanical illustration. Lisa's visit was planned as a tie in with a previous unit on Georgia O'Keeffe's flowers. Along with a brief history of botanical art and botanical illustration, Lisa introduced the concept of poetry of color to the students. Student drawings and paintings will be on display in the school along with their color poem.

Debra Hoagland, multi talented artist and mom of Douglas and Isabell Hoagland, was the guest visiting artist for our third grade classes. Her love of art and the energy she puts into the project is a very positive model for our students. Debra worked with classes to make textural weavings. She encouraged students to incorporate things like feathers, pipe cleaners, and ribbons into their weavings. These will be on display at the school Fine Arts Night.

Sue Parker was the guest visiting artist for the second grade classes. Sue, an experienced weaver, introduced the fun process of preparing raw wool for the loom. Students learned that you must first wash, card, dye and spin wool just to make the yarn that will become the fibers of the weaving. After they tried these activities, students realized that it takes a lot of work to make yarn the old fashioned way.

Wildlife artist and wildlife rehabilitator Cindy Page and her beautiful teaching birds were welcomed by our first graders. Cindy's talents as an artist and her knowledge of animals fascinates the children. She is able to bring drawing animals right to their level, so that they can be successful artists too.

## Better Speech and Hearing Month

by Nancy Saya and Netti Goeler,  
Speech Therapists

May is Better Speech and Hearing Month. The focus of this month is designed to raise awareness to those individuals who may need further information regarding speech, hearing and language skills. There are many different forms of communication. Speaking, singing, smiling, braille, sign language, skywriting, voting, letter writing, smoke signals, etc. are just a sampling of the ways in which people communicate with each other. However, there are over 42 million Americans that have speech, hearing or language difficulties that affect how well they may communicate with others. These difficulties can limit a child, teen or adult at home, school or work.

Anyone, of any age, can have or develop difficulty with his/her hearing, speaking or understanding of language. Some speech and language difficulties are developmental, others are caused by an accident, injury or illness.

Treatment for communications disorders can be obtained through a variety of sources to assist the individual in eliminating or minimizing the area of difficulty. For infants and preschool age children, services are available through county programs and are often free of charge to the parents. School age children often have services available to them in their home school depending on the nature of the difficulty and extent of the services available. Outside agencies also provide a wide range of speech and language services to assist the child and/or adults. Early intervention is very important in helping to overcome or minimize the individual's speech and language difficulties, improve their overall communication and make learning easier.

If you suspect that a child you know has a speech/language or hearing problem, you can contact us at school, or ask your pediatrician for a referral to an outside agency for assistance.

## A Trip Back in Time

On Tuesday, April 23, Mrs. Mitchell's fourth grade class tried out the new immersion program that will be offered to classes at the Rippleton Schoolhouse located in the Lorenzo Historic site. Ms. Deanna Pace, the senior interpreter at the Schoolhouse, took the class back in time to 1887. She became Miss Buckland who was a real teacher for the school back then. Each student became a member of her class by adopting the name of a real student from her class and dressing in clothes similar to that day. They took part in lessons that could have actually been taught because they used reproductions of books from that time.

A lot of classroom planning went into this learning experience. In addition to becoming a real student from the past, each child had also spent time imagining what it would be like if their whole family was time warped back to 1887. What would their parents' jobs have been? How would they have gotten to school? What would their clothing have been like? What games would they have played? How would their homes have been different?

Planning lunches was especially daunting for the students. Remember, plastic bags, aluminum foil, Fruit Roll Ups, packaged snacks and juice boxes were not in existence. What a crisis!! Moms and dads rediscovered wax paper and butcher paper. Some kids used tin pails, the teacher brought a picnic basket, and the rest settled on paper bags. Homemade cookies, breads, jams and jellies, and fresh fruits became the order of the day.

Recess - which is always a much anticipated part of the day was a disappointment because the weather didn't want to cooperate. The students did go out for a shortened game of tag and then came back inside to try out a game planned by Miss Buckland. It was the only snag in her carefully made plans and did not go as expected - which both she and the students alike agreed upon. They all commented how the day had gone off with out a hitch, yet a simple game confused everyone.

The students of room 25 agreed

## From the Library

May already! With the end of the school year approaching, there are some dates to keep in mind concerning the library. The last cycle for the students to sign out books will begin May 30. All student books will be due in the library on June 6. Please help your child to return his/her books by this date. This allows us time to account for all the books and ready the collection for the next school year. It's also a good time for families to get in the summer habit of going to the public library for books! As in past years, I will be offering summer reading lists to jump start summer reading.

Enjoy the spring, and the sharing of books with your child.



## Book Talk...

### Saving Sweetness

a fiction picture book by  
Diane Stanley

Sweetness is a precious, yet resourceful orphan, who's plain had enough of the orphanage where all she does is scrub the floors with a toothbrush. She runs away, only to have the sheriff try to find and "save" her time and time again. In reality, it's Sweetness that rescues the sheriff each time. Read [Saving Sweetness](#) and see how Sweetness orchestrates the best solution for herself, the sheriff and all the other orphans.



Marissa B.  
Grade 1



May Winners



Emily M.  
Grade 3

that their day was not only educational, but entertaining. They're sure all classes are going to enjoy Ms. Pace's new program.

## Good Sports of April

A Good Sport is...

- someone who plays fair
- someone who treats others with respect
- someone who always gives 100% effort
- someone who is proud of their accomplishments as well as those of others
- someone who puts the team before them self

Congratulations to the following students on a job well done, keep up the good work!

Connor C., Cody D., Shelby C., Samantha P., Delanie S., Grace G., Billy B., Courtney B., Rebekah K., Jeffrey S., Mikala H., Joseph T., Morgan K., Maximillian D., Melanie A., Georgia M, Jackie K., Rachel G., Tess R., Adam L., Austin H., Jazmine P., Nicole F., Devon C., Sarah F. and Jayme C.

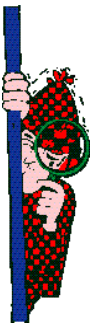
## Cazenovia Lake Week

Fourth graders will be participating in the fifth annual Cazenovia Lake Week, April 29th to May 3rd. After our mild winter and extremely warm spring, the lake is already being used for what is typically summer sport recreations. What the students will be focusing on is how to protect our lake and its watershed for generations to come. For example, these warm temperatures might cause unprecedented weed growth, how can we keep fertilizers and pollutants from adding to the problem? What is the community doing to improve the lake's surroundings and who monitors the water quality? All this and much more will be discussed and studied with the help of guest speakers, classroom activities and field trips.

There are a few new additions to this year's program. The Lake Association has donated maps of Cazenovia Lake which will be combined with an art project and laminated for use as a place mat. Each classroom will also design a poster, encouraging watershed protection, to be used to decorate the "weed truck," for the 4th of July parade. Don't forget to watch for the artwork!

The program is funded through Madison County Planning Department and is coordinated by Julia Smith.

## Pond Study



The third grade students and teachers would like to thank Mrs. Pat Hill for her outstanding presentations to each third grade class about the life of a pond. All the third graders learned a lot about the habitats of a pond community. The classes are looking forward to continuing their studies on pond life at Highland Forest in a few weeks.

## Budding Scientists

Kindergartners have been expanding their science knowledge by studying plants and animals. Marigolds, sweet peas and tomatoes have been observed, studied and planted in our rooms. Many plants are now ready for transplanting to bigger pots.

Incubators were delivered to the classrooms and we are all hatching chickens. Some classrooms will have duck eggs to hatch.

The children are benefiting from our hands on approach to science and will carry what they have learned to next years science classes.

## First Grade Spring Fling

All first grades celebrated the beginning of spring with their annual Spring Fling. On the evening of Wednesday April 24 each class had their own program sharing the children's work, songs, writing and enthusiasm for spring!

Parents and family members enjoyed the programs and the refreshments. This family tradition is always a welcomed activity by all.

## Second Grade Pen Pals

The second graders in Mrs. Gifford's room have pen pals in a second grade class in La Mesa, California. The students have exchanged letters, pictures and holiday greetings. The cross-curricular program is sponsored by Fuji film and Scholastic. The students are eager to use their penmanship and share their school experiences.

Mrs. Wills' second grade class has pen pals attending the College School of Webster Groves, in Missouri. The children have exchanged letters and photos, and made brochures in computer class telling about Cazenovia to send with a video of the Cazenovia area. Over spring break, Sidney Stehle visited our pen pals while she was visiting her aunt.

## Morrisville College Field Trip

The Second Grade classes enjoyed their field trip to Morrisville College on April 25th.

The classes toured the dairy barn and learned about the food cows eat and how much milk they give, They learned what happens to the milk after it is milked from the cow. Each class made butter with the Dairy Princess and enjoyed eating it on crackers.

The students toured the greenhouse and saw many different varieties of plants. They planted some begonias to bring back to school.

The classes, also, had the chance to learn about making maple syrup, hatching chicks and the crops farmers have to plant for their cows to eat.

Everyone enjoyed their visit to the wildlife museum.

Our thanks to Prof. Jim Curtis for arranging this wonderful field trip.

## Discovery University 2002

Mark your calendars!  
August 12 - 16!!!!

What: One week of fun, excitement and adventure!  
Who: Students currently in grades 3 - 6  
When: August 12 - 16, 2002  
9 am - noon  
How much: Free to residents of the Cazenovia Central School District

Discovery University is funded by the Enrichment Committee of the Cazenovia Central School District

*Look for course descriptions and registration forms in the May issue of the **Blue and Gold***