# **BRES WILDCAT NEWS**

Kindness

Responsibility

Self-Control



Mrs. Jordan's kindergarten class asking our school community to "Keep Us Safe!" during this holiday season!

A note from Superintendent Dr. Keith Laser,

As we see the escalating impact of COVID-19 across our state and the nation, we recognize that friends and families are looking for ways to connect and to maintain normal traditions in an abnormal time. As the holiday season approaches, it is critically important that our school communities continue to do everything we can in order to keep our schools safe, open, and able to provide in-person instruction.

This may mean making the safe and difficult choice to limit holiday gathering and travel, as we know that both have additional risks for exposure and transmission of the virus. The United States Center for Disease Control has issued strong guidance to the American people to limit our interactions and travel this holiday season, so that we can all gather safely in the future. Further details of the CDC's recommendations can be found, here.

Based on the recommendations of the community health experts, we strongly encourage our staff and students to celebrate each holiday within your current household only, and to limit any large gatherings.

Any staff or students who travel to any state other than New Hampshire or Vermont (no restrictions for these two states only as of 11/16/20; subject to change), they will be required to either

- 1. quarantine for 14 days upon return to Maine, or
- quarantine until receiving a negative test result. The test must be taken either: in the state you are visiting and no more than 72 hours prior to your return to Maine, or once you return to Maine.

Any staff or students who have travelled to restricted states will not be permitted inside the school building until either the negative test result or 14 days has occurred.

This is not dependent on the length of time spent within the restricted states, meaning that a day visit still requires any person to quarantine for 14 days or until a negative test result is confirmed. All members of the household who travel must test or quarantine if over 12 months old. Testing site information for Maine can be found, here.

Any person who is quarantining should stay home, and not have in-person contact with others unless there is an emergency. A non-traditional Thanksgiving can be hard on all of us, and CDC has some suggestions on healthy alternatives and precautions to consider that can be found, here. Please stay safe, and help us to keep our school community safe and able to provide for the students we serve.

## Family Christmas Ornament Decorating Contest!

\$100 gift cards and other prizes will be awarded!



Prizes for adults and children in 3 age categories.





Drive thru ornament pick up will be at the Eastside Waterfront Park at 65 Atlantic Avenue on November 21st from 10 - 2. Mr. & Mrs. Clause will deliver the ornament bags to your car! Look for the elves! Ornaments are free!

If you choose to enter the contest ornaments should be placed in a bag with entrant's name and contact information with a \$5.00 entry fee and returned to the Elves at the Park on Saturday, December 5th between 10 and 2. Ornaments will be judged at 3:00 and winners will be notified on Sunday, Dec. 6th. If you choose not to enter the contest, hang your decorated ornament on your tree at home!

We hope you will join us in celebrating the spirit of the season!



 <u>Pies of all kinds:</u> Apple, Pumpkin, Pecan, Blueberry, Chocolate.
<u>Call 633-6290 to order your pies</u> starting on November 10th. <u>Pick up your pies</u> on November 25th from 9 ~ 2

At the Community Center.



#### **Important Dates**

## Wednesday, Nov. 25 NO SCHOOL

Teacher In-Service Day

## <u>Thursday, Nov. 26</u> NO SCHOOL

Thanksgiving



## <u>Friday, Nov. 27</u> NO SCHOOL

Holiday Break

## BRES Parent/Student <u>Handbook</u>



To access our handbook online please click onto this link: BRES Student/Parent Handbook 20/21

#### Winter Weather

Fresh air and daylight provide a good healthy break in our day and a chance for free play with friends. Students are expected to go outside for recess, weather permitting. Please make sure your child arrives to school each day dressed for the cold weather. If you need help providing winter outerwear to your student, let us know. Talk to your teacher, Guidance Counselor, the Main Office or the Nurse.

## **BRES Tardy Policy**

Parents are obligated to call the school from 7 to 8 am on the days their child will not be present, if you do not call, your child's absence will be recorded as unexcused.



Our bell rings at 7:45. Students who arrive after 7:50 will need to check in with the staff in the front office.

Students who arrive after 10 am will be considered present for a half-day. Students who are dismissed after 10 am will be marked present for a half-day. Students who enter school after 1 pm will be marked absent for the entire day.

Students who arrive after 9:30 am will not be allowed to participate in after school activities. Exceptions will be granted if the tardiness is due to appointments that could not be scheduled outside of school hours. Parents are urged to make medical appointments outside of school hours.

#### December Dates To Remember

Wednesday, December 2 Remote Learning

Wednesday, December 9 Remote Learning

Wednesday, December 16 Remote Learning

Wednesday, December 23 Remote Learning

Thursday - Friday, December 24-31 No School, Holiday Break

Friday, January 1 No School, New Year's Day



BRES PTO IMPORTANT INFORMATION

"Be Safe! Be Healthy!" Until further notice, because of the increasing COVID-19 numbers we have decided not to hold PTO Meetings.

As always if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions please contact: President: Anna Giles (<u>annagiles1976@gmail.com</u>) Vice President: Katrina Dunsmore (<u>katdunsmore99@gmail.com</u>) Tresure: Sarah Badwin (<u>sbadwing acos8schools org</u>) Secretary: Gail Christopher (<u>gailchristopher2003@vahoo.com</u>)

### <u>Planned Family Absences</u>

When a family plans an absence from BRES while school is in session, the family must notify the Teacher(s) and Principal in writing or by email.

Procedures depending on the length of the absence:

One to twenty days:

- Parent notifies Principal and Teacher(s)
- Teachers have the following options for missed work:
- Provide assignments before departure.
- Assign an alternative assignment.

• Require the student to make up work upon his/her return.

• Assign online learning materials to be completed while absent or within one week of the student's return back to school.

Over twenty days:

• For a planned absence of more than 20 consecutive days, parents may elect to unenroll and home school their child or enroll in our Virtual Academy option.

### BRES Afternoon Parent Pick-Up

Dismissal will begin at 2:20 PM. Please remain in your vehicle in the lower parking lot by the tennis courts, someone will assist you in calling your child down. If you have your child's name and grade on paper visible that will help speed up the dismissal process. Thank you for your assistance.