



JOHN A. BISHOP SCHOOL



Principal's Update – February 10, 2012

First 100 Days at Bishop

Parents, Staff, and Students of Bishop,

Monday, February 13th, marks the hundredth (100) day of school. As I sit at my desk reflecting on this milestone, I have this to say:

Our students, your children, make Bishop what it is today; a community of children, ages 5-11, growing, thriving, learning, having fun, being respectful, responsible, and showing regard for others and their differences.

This incredible community of children, students, cannot navigate their way rudderless, however. It is our amazingly talented, dedicated, and passionate staff who work tirelessly, day in and day out, fostering a love for learning and life within each and every child. I am a fortunate principal to have this group of professionals to work with.

I have come to learn that the Bishop parent base is one of advocacy, respect, intellect, and collaboration. It is through our work together that will ensure the success of these young minds at Bishop.

My first 100 days have been nothing short of remarkable. Thank you for everything you do!!

Bishop's 1st Annual Spirit Week!

February 13-17, 2012

Let's celebrate our community and reinforce our school community's core values of *Respect, Responsibility and Regard for Others*. We'll have fun activities each day to bring our school community together around common identity and shared goals.

- Monday** Spirit Day – wear blue and gold, Kick-off our Community Service drive
- Tuesday** Friendship Day – wear red, friendship celebrations (12:30 release)
- Wednesday** Get a bear tattoo at lunch! PTO Spirit table sale today
- Thursday** All school vote to name the Bishop Bear
- Friday** Spirit Day, Final day for our Community Service drive, Den meeting @ end of day

Bishop Bear Naming Contest



Bishop students will get to name our new Bishop Bear mascot. Each classroom will collaborate Monday and Tuesday and submit one name for consideration. A selection committee will choose the finalists, and there will be a school-wide vote on Thursday. The winning name will be announced at the all-school Den Meeting on Friday.

Upcoming Events:

Week of Feb. 13-17
Bishop SPIRIT WEEK

Tuesday, Feb. 14
Early Release
School dismissal at 12:30 – lunch will be served

Feb. 20-24
School Closed for the Winter Holiday

Monday, Feb. 27
1st day back from break!

Wednesday, Feb. 29
PTO Meeting 7:00pm

Spirit Days



Participation counts! The classroom with the highest participation for both Monday and Friday combined will earn school-wide recognition.

A Spirit Table sale is set for Wed, 2/15, weather permitting. Look for us at drop off and pick up.

Want to order a shirt before Spirit Day? Download the order form at (<http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/Bishop/communitySpirit.asp>) and send it in with payment through backpack mail. We will send your goodies home with your child the same day.

What does Community Mean?



We are encouraging all students to reflect and share what community means to them. Their impressions will be displayed on a special bulletin board in the school lobby and other locations around school. Tell us what your community does for you!

Community Service Project: Funds drive for "Cradles to Crayons", serving kids 0-12



In the spirit of recognizing people within the metro Boston community who are in need, we will be holding a fund drive for "Cradles to Crayons" Monday through Friday morning.

We're looking forward to a great week! Feel free to contact the PTO Spirit Team with any questions.

Amy Speare (aspeare@verizon.net)
Heather Hewitt (heh1211@verizon.net)
Joanne Routenberg (jroutenberg@yahoo.com)

Need for Used or Donated New Laptops

The District has recently supplied every classroom with new document cameras, which are an upgrade to the overhead projector that we all are familiar. Document cameras are small cameras that connect to LCD projectors that project real time images. The driver for a document camera is a laptop or desktop computer. Teachers have been using their laptops to use the document camera, however, they have to 'break down' the unit (projector, laptop, and camera) every night so they can take the computer home to work.

Ideally, our goal is to have a laptop for each teacher, dedicated to the document camera and projector. This set up will enable the teacher to turn the system on and be ready to project within seconds.

If you have or know someone who has a used laptop (in working condition) sitting around, or if you know someone in the private sector, preferably technology, who would be willing to donate laptops to the teachers at Bishop, we would be forever grateful!

Please contact me directly if you have a laptop to donate. Thank you so much!

For more information on the IPEVO P2v click on the link below:
<http://www.ipevo.com/prods/Point-2-View-USB-Camera>

PTO NEWS

The February PTO Meeting has been rescheduled to Wednesday, February 29, starting at 7:00pm. We will have a shortened agenda so that we may again have our Bishop redistricting committee rep, Tsachi Avrahami, give us an update on the progress of the last meeting and expectations for the next redistricting committee meeting (Mar 6). The redistricting portion will begin at 8.

Please see the PTO webpage for minutes from the January meeting:

<http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/bishop/community.asp>

Tsachi's presentation from the last meeting can be found here:

<http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/bishop/documents/redistricting1-25-2012.pdf>

New friends are soon to arrive! The PTO is taking orders for new stuffed bears in blue or gold! Order forms were distributed earlier this week - also available here: <http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/bishop/communitySpirit.asp>

Bishop School Directory

Our 2012 Bishop Community Directories are currently being printed! Please look for them in backpacks next week.

COMMUNITY NEWS

KidsZone is coming to Bishop School this spring.

Sponsored by Arlington Community Education, KidZone is offering about nine different enrichment programs for kids of all ages both before and after school. Classes range from foreign language to chess to exercise. On March 8, Kids Cooking Green, a popular program in the past for Arlington kids, is returning to teach pasta making here at Bishop for kids grades 3-5. Sign up soon, as the classes fill up quickly. A full description of the courses is here: http://arlingtoncommunityed.org/2012/ACE_kidzone_spring_2012.pdf

Have a Great Weekend!

Yours in Respect, Responsibility, and Regard,

Mark