

# Bozeman Summit School

Excellence in Montessori Education

September 2019

## UPCOMING EVENTS

October 11 - Fall Field Trip  
October 17 & 18 - No School - PIR Day  
October 25 - Fall Festival  
October 31 - Historical Halloween  
November 6 - Picture Retakes  
November 12 - Headwaters to Present to Upper EI Families  
November 14 & 15 - Conferences - No School  
November 26 - Thanksgiving Celebration at BSS  
November 27 to 29 - Thanksgiving Break - No School



## AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION

We are excited to share that we will be sending our Early Childhood teacher, Robyn, to the Indian Education for All - Early Childhood Educators' Conference. The conference is in response to the call for equity and responsiveness to cultural diversity in early education. We are thrilled to be able to send a staff member to this event. The conference will be taking place at the Salish-Kootenai College on the Flathead Reservation in Pablo Montana.

## ALOHA FROM FANA!

We were all excited (and surprised!) to see Fana (a previous Lower EI teacher) earlier this month. She was in town visiting from Hawaii and was able to share with us about her new home and new school. It was so great to see her!



## RECYCLE!

Tawnya from Four Corners Recycling visited our school this month and taught us so much about recycling. What can be recycled, what can not, how to recycle certain items, and more! Did you know that any plastic container that is not shaped like a bottle (the neck is narrower than the rest of the container) can not be recycled?! Did you know that items like pizza boxes, yogurt containers, and the 'clam shells' your fruit comes in can contaminate other recycling? Did you know that contaminated bins sends more items to the landfill? Ask your kids about what can and can not be recycled or visit [wecyclemt.com](http://wecyclemt.com) to learn more so you can set up good recycling habits in your home! We will be changing some of our habits here at BSS!

## INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY

International Peace Day also known as World Peace Day is observed around the world each year on September 21st. Established in 1981 as a United Nations sanctioned holiday it is a day dedicated towards a world of peace and absence of war and violence. Here at BSS, International Peace day sets the tone for our school community and how we want our students to conduct themselves.

We started the day with a whole school circle led by Ms. Tamela on what peace is, how we can be peaceful, what peace means to us and why our world needs more peace. We shared ideas, read books and then gathered around our Peace Pole on our natural playground where we sang "Light a Candle for Peace" at a dedicated time to coincide with Montessori schools around the world! From there the students did a peace dove activity on

what peace meant to them followed by classroom activities centered around peace.

It was a very peaceful day around here continuing a wonderful tradition at the beginning of our school year when many classes are focused on social and emotional topics.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

We are so grateful to all of the families that showed up to some of our back to school social events this month. Our Back to School BBQ was a wonderful start to the school year! Returning students got to work out some back to school excitement and socialize with friends they missed over the summer and new students got out their first day jitters and became more familiar with their new school. A big thank you to Dan Ruggles and Ryan Kennedy for manning the grill that night!

After everyone had a chance to settle into the school routine, BSS staff, parents, and board members had a lovely night out at the Chapweske's home for our annual Wine and Cheese Social. We'd like to extend a huge thank you to the Chapweske's for hosting and to the Neville's for providing some lovely food trays.

We look forward to many more social opportunities with families throughout the year!

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

## Early Childhood Classroom

September has been a busy month during which we were so excited to discover all the lessons and activities we'll be doing all year! The classroom routine is settling down, returning friends are going back to practice and new friends are being introduced to lots of new lessons! Everybody is eager to discover more lessons in the upcoming months!

We met Ms Trina, sang songs and played music with her, we moved our body with Ms Steffany who will be with us to practice gym inside or outside when the weather allows, we sang Spanish songs with Ms Alicia, our Spanish teacher and we made art projects with Ms Katie.

Our Kindergarteners were so excited for their first field trip and they had so much fun! They shared with their friends about the art exhibit, and brought some original creations to share with everyone.

In the classroom this month, we have been focusing on how to use our classroom, social skills, emotions and the autumn season. Ask your child about the Golden Rule, 'hands are for helping, not hurting', and lovelights

## BITS AND BYTES

### Lower Elementary Classroom

We are all loving settling into the year and getting back in routine! The children and teachers alike are eager to reconnect, build friendships, and get back in with our BSS community. We are all grateful to be here!

We have spent a large part of the first few weeks focusing on classroom expectations, social dynamics and group involvement, self-awareness, and responsibility. We have had many group circles to share ideas about such topics. Our group this year is a very social one, with many children who continue to display leadership qualities and set a great example for their friends and peers. It is quite fun to watch. Some of the big takeaways from our discussions have been:

- We can still be friends/friendly with people who have different interests than us.
- We may not have control over everything that happens around us, but we do have control over how we choose to respond to situations and people that may make us uncomfortable.

In addition to learning how to navigate new social dynamics, we have spent a lot of time practicing our writing skills, and specifically learning how to write personal narratives. The children are learning how to write in a step by step process: outline, rough draft, editing process, and final draft. Some children in the class are enjoying typing up their stories into separate chapters as well. This has been a fun and creative afternoon workshop that many of the children look forward to during the week.



## UE BUZZ

### Upper Elementary Classroom

We have had a lovely time getting to know each other better and working on group projects. We have played cooperative games, created our class puzzle for the year, learned songs and rounds, and interviewed each other in order to start our year off as a loving and collaborative classroom community.

Students have also been sharing with the class and working in groups. Rowan told us tales and showed us pictures and maps of her adventures in the Galapagos Islands. Lauren gave a presentation on her trip to Argentina, and she also brought in apples and honey for Rosh Hashanah and taught us a bit about this important holiday. Students have formed reading clubs and have weekly discussions about the book they are reading together. Students often meet for group outside, and sometimes they decide to read in the trees.

We are so fortunate to have a visit from several of our Upper Elementary alumni. It was fun to hear about their experiences of middle school and to work alongside some of our friends who are no longer with us at BSS. We even got to enjoy an impromptu ukulele lesson in our courtyard!



# WE NEED YOU!

Volunteer Opportunities at BSS

Fundraising Goal: \$33,900

Fundraising Income to Date: \$4,118

From: Pizza Friday and Snack Shop

## Volunteer Needs:

5k Race Organizers (February race - Planning starts now!)

Fall Festival Set Up and Support

Gingerbread Making Organizer/Set Up and Support

Family Night Out Dinner Locations

Restaurants willing to give back to BSS if we hold a Family Night Out dinner at their restaurant in November, January, April and May.

Other possible ideas are for businesses that will host families on a PIR Day.

## Facts about Volunteering

47% of volunteers say volunteering has improved their physical fitness

63% of 25-34 y.o. say volunteering helps them feel less stressed

81% of employers view employees who do volunteer work more favorably

Volunteering connects you to others!

Check this section each month for more ways to get involved!



## More Ways to Help:

A you free Friday afternoons? We could use a pizza pick-up parent! Check in with Alicia for more info!

We're looking for 5k race sponsors! Do you or someone you know own a business that would like to support this event?