

Birch Grove Community School & Community Service Weekly Newsletter

May 18, 2023

Dates to Remember:

- Tuesday, May 23 ~ Invasive Plants Species Presentation for 4/5
Friday, May 26 ~ Field Trip: Mini-Golf and Beach in Grand Marais
Monday, May 29 ~ No School, Memorial Day
Tuesday, May 30 ~ Tickets To Treasure Drawing
Tuesday, May 30 ~ Saplings Year End Celebration from 10:00-11:00
Wednesday, May 31 ~ Earth Day Clean Up
Thursday, June 1 ~ Field Trip: Black Beach & Swimming at AmericInn
Friday, June 2 ~ Last Day of School ½ Day: K-5 Graduation Celebration is at
10:30 and Early Release at 12:00
Saturday, June 10 ~ Gala for the Grove ~ *The Roaring 20's!*
Monday, June 12 ~ First Day of Campsite Kids & Summer Saplings

Mission Statement:

Birch Grove Community School will promote academic excellence utilizing our unique natural setting to prepare students to become socially and environmentally responsible, self-directed, life-long learners.

From Ms. Diane Blanchette:

*Director, Birch Grove Community School
Lead Coordinator, Birch Grove Community Service*

The biggest news this week is Wolf Ridge! 2/5 always looks forward to this incredible end of the year trip. Second-Fifth graders left on Wednesday for their three-day, two-night trip and will return to Birch Grove on Friday afternoon. Students will take buses home as normal on Friday. They will have many stories to tell when they get home! In the meantime, you can check out the school Facebook page for pictures of 2/5 in action at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center!

While the "big kids" were gone on Wednesday, the Saplings and K/1 class had special visitors! Cook County Law Enforcement presented the "911 for Kids" program in the afternoon. The children

learned about when and how to dial 911 in an emergency, they paid serious attention when they saw all of the tools law enforcement uses, and they got to check out the law enforcement truck. A goodie bag went home with each child. Thank you to Cook County Law Enforcement!

Also while the “big kids” were away, Saplings enjoyed eating lunch with K/1 in the lunchroom (gym) on Wednesday, Thursday, and they will again tomorrow, on Friday. It is just a little change that they enjoyed very much!

The end of the school year can get busy and exciting with lots of special events and activities that don't follow our regular schedule. Please be sure that your child is getting enough sleep so that they can successfully navigate these special year end days. New adventures have been posted above in Dates To Remember.

We spend lots of time outdoors! Please remember to check your child for ticks when they get home – it is the season. Please see the tick information from Cook County Public Health at the end of this newsletter.

We are done checking out library books for the year. Notes were sent home with students who still have library books at home. Please search for these books and return them to school as soon as possible. Thank you for checking at home!



Picture of the Week!

[Birch Grove Community School and Community Services #4145 | Facebook](#)

Please have your child read (or be read to) a minimum of 20-30 minutes per day/night. If there is one thing that you can do at home that has a huge positive impact on your child's academic growth, this is it! Happy reading!



If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us:
birchgrove@boreal.org ~ Birch Grove Community School Email
bgcommunityservice@boreal.org ~ Community Service Email
218-663-0170 ~ School Phone
218-663-0170 ext. 26 Community Service Phone
Website: www.birchgroveschool.com
School Spirit Store Coupon Link: <https://www.logosoftwear.com/coupons.php>
Face Book: [Birch Grove Community School and Community Services #4145 | Facebook](#)



~~~~~

**From Ms. Alayna Carrier and Ms. Ari Summerfield**

*Sapling Teachers, Birch Grove Community Service*

This week the Saplings chose to learn about plants! We learned how different kinds of plants grow like a root vegetable, poplar tree, and a flower. We also talked about what plants need to grow. During nature walks, each Sapling picked a plant they wanted to glue into their very own plant journal. During centers, a few Saplings helped to identify and write the names of the plants using different books with pictures. The Saplings had a choice between jalapeno pepper, green bean, or a basil seed. Once they picked, they got to plant their own seed in an egg carton with some potting soil to bring home. It has been the most perfect week to learn about plants, as the Saplings have discovered buds sprouting on trees, fiddleheads, a robin's nest with eggs, and a monster worm (of course we put it in our worm collection box).



A shout out to our special guests from Cook County Law Enforcement bringing us the program *911 for Kids!* The Saplings enjoyed joining the Kindergarten/First grade class and learning from the presenters. Getting to see and hear the sirens on the sheriff's vehicle was especially fun! The goody bags that each of the Saplings got to take home was greatly appreciated!

Have a great weekend!

218-663-0170 ext. 21  
[alayna.carrierbgcs@gmail.com](mailto:alayna.carrierbgcs@gmail.com)  
[arianna.summerfieldbgcs@gmail.com](mailto:arianna.summerfieldbgcs@gmail.com)

**From Ms. Sara Knottski**

*K & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Elementary Teacher*

K/1 helped clean up and care for the trees we planted in years past. They did a great job ensuring that these trees continue to grow for the years to come! We worked on several art projects this week.

We will have a beautiful end-of-the-year project that will get displayed during graduation. The older students were gone this week for Wolf Ridge. K/1 had the school to themselves! We used that opportunity to have extra playtime and spend time outside.

We are reviewing all of the math concepts that we learned this year. We played a few different games like mystery pictures and bingo. In language arts, we are continuing to practice reading and writing.

We only have a few weeks left of school for the students to earn tickets for tickets to treasure. Be sure to have your child continue to read and record it on the reading log! All library books need to be returned by next week. Notes were sent home on Friday for those who still have books checked out.

Earlier this week I found a tick on me after school. I also heard another student had one on them as well. Tick season is upon us! Check your child when they return home for any of those gross crawlers!

218-663-0170 ext. 22  
[sara.knottskibgcs@gmail.com](mailto:sara.knottskibgcs@gmail.com)

~~~~~  
From Ms. Sara Silence
2nd & 3rd Grade Elementary Teacher

2/3 is currently at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center having the best of times! For more pictures go to the school Facebook page. As always, pictures will be emailed to the family of every BG student at the end of the year. Wolf Ridge pictures will be included with many other pictures from throughout the 2022-2023 school year!

218-663-0170 ext. 26
sara.silencebgcs@gmail.com



~~~~~  
**From Mr. Jeff Hoffman**  
*4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Elementary Teacher*

4/5 is currently at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center having the best of times! For more pictures go to the school Facebook page. As always, pictures will be emailed to the family of every



BG student at the end of the year. Wolf Ridge pictures will be included with many other pictures from throughout the 2022-2023 school year!

218-663-0170 ext. 23

[jeff.hoffmanbgcs@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.hoffmanbgcs@gmail.com)



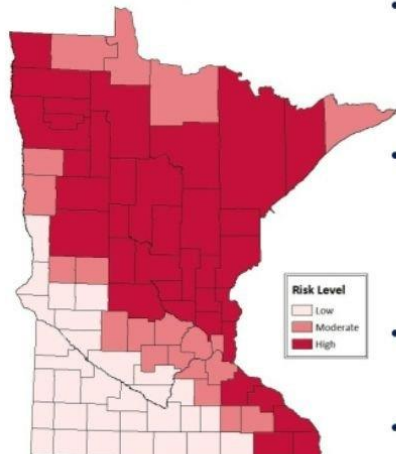
I had fun   
outdoors today...  
**Help me check**  
**for ticks!** 



**mn** DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

[www.health.state.mn.us/ticks](http://www.health.state.mn.us/ticks)

**Minnesota Tickborne Disease Risk**



**How do ticks find a host and feed?**

- Ticks live on the ground. In order to find a host, they wait on a plant near the ground until an animal or person walks by. They grab on and climb upward until they find a good place to attach. Ticks do not jump, fly, or fall from trees.
- Once a tick attaches to a host, the entire feeding process will take several days, and then the tick will drop off to complete its life cycle. During this blood meal, disease agents may be spread from the tick to a person if the tick is not removed quickly enough.
- Blacklegged ticks must be attached for at least 24 hours for Lyme disease bacteria to spread. Less common tickborne diseases may take less time.
- **Check yourself often for ticks when around wooded areas and promptly remove ticks.**

**PHHS: Tickborne Disease Prevention**

