

Birch Grove Community School & Community Service Weekly Newsletter

May 16, 2024

Dates to Remember:

Thursday, May 16 ~ Wolf Ridge Trip for 2-5th

Thursday, May 16 ~ 911 for Kids! - Saplings & K/1

Friday, May 17 ~ Wolf Ridge Trip 2nd/5th

Saturday, May 18 ~ Gala for the Grove!

Monday, May 20 ~ Climb Theater Show for K-5

Tuesday, May 21 ~ School Board Meeting at 4:00

Wednesday, May 22 ~ K/1 Field Trip- Black Beach & Pool!

Tuesday-Thursday, May 21-23 ~ North House Folk School for 4/5

Friday, May 24 ~ Let's Plant Trees! ~ All School

Monday, May 27 ~ No School

Tuesday, May 28 ~ Magic Show/ Anti-Bullying

Wednesday, May 29 ~ 2/5 Field Trip-Black Beach & Pool!

Thursday, May 30 ~ Last Day of Saplings

Friday, May 31 ~ Last Day of School - End of Year Celebration at 10:00 with Early Release/Parent Pick Up at 12:00

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:

School Director, Birch Grove Community School

Lead Coordinator, Birch Grove Community Service

The end of the year always seems to go so quickly, and this year is no exception. Wolf Ridge, off-site trips, special guests, and special events at the end of the year keeps everything moving quickly towards that last day. Please be sure to check the Dates To Remember for upcoming events and activities. There are a few more things happening that will be announced soon, so be sure to stay up to date.

2-5 are off on the annual Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center trip that lasts for 3 days with 2 overnights. This is a special trip where not only learning takes place, but memories are made. Please go to the school Facebook page for pictures. Pictures were posted as they came in, but staff are pretty busy adventuring with the students so it has been sporadic. Students have been keeping a journal while on this trip and will be writing about what they learned and what their favorite part of the trip was when they come back. Writings will be viewed by school board members at the June board meeting – the board looks forward to reading them!

Please turn in all school library books! Students will no longer be checking out library books, rather they will be returning them. Please look at home for stray books – don't forget to have your child look under the bed! 😊 Thank you!

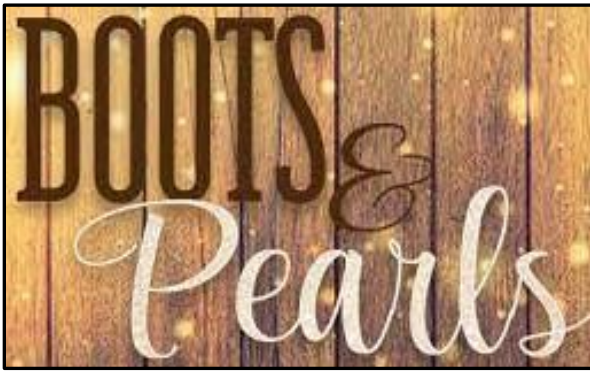
Saplings parents: Please note that there will be no Saplings on Friday, May 31. The Saplings last day is on Thursday, May 30.



Birch Buddies ~ HIKE!
after school program
final hike was
Cascade!

12 hikes happened this
school year! We look
forward to this program
coming back in
September!





It's finally here! The Gala for the Grove is this Saturday the 18th! With \$11,000 in sponsorship and 80 guests coming to the event, we are excited to see what this spirited "Boots & Pearls" themed night will bring! See you at the beautiful Lakeside Ballroom at Surfside in Tofte - thank you Bluefin for the incredible venue! Yee haw!

Just Announced!! Birch Grove Community School received "High Quality Charter School" status from the Minnesota Department of Education! Only 17 of Minnesota's 181 public charter schools met or exceeded the High Quality Charter School criteria. BGCS received this distinction along with an invitation to apply for funding to significantly expand or replicate Birch Grove Community School... "Where Roots Grow Deep and Branches Reach High!"



The last day of K-5 school is on Friday, May 31 and families are invited to celebrate with us! The End of Year Celebration will start at 10:00, with early release at 12:00. Please take your child home at 12:00 or make pick up arrangements for your child, as there will be no busing available at the end of the school day, ending at noon. Please let us know if this is an issue for you as we may be able to help. Thank you!

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 ~ 218-663-0170

Website: www.birchgroveschool.com

School Spirit Store Link: <https://birchgrove.logosoftwear.com/> You can use GRAB15 for 15% off and free shipping for orders over \$125

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



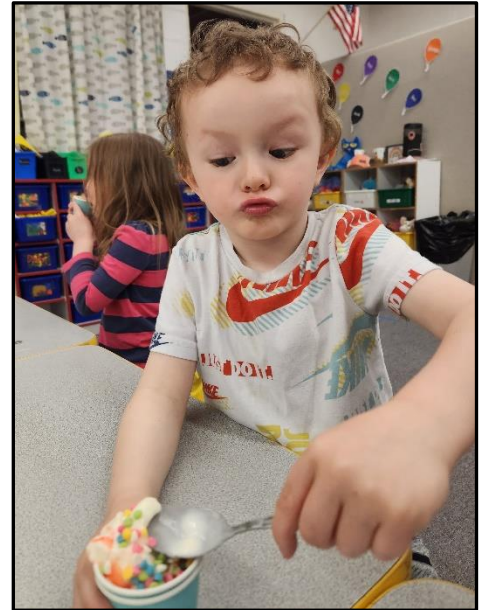
From Ms. Rista Sharma-Connor

Sapling Teacher, Birch Grove Community Service

It has been a great week! Saplings are helping out with doing some yardwork and cleaning up our backyard. Wednesday was spent mostly outside.

Saplings explored the letter I for Insect and went for few walks looking for them along with our magnifying glasses. Not much insects were found but the worms always kept us entertained.

To celebrate learning the last letter of the year we collectively decided to celebrate with I for Ice cream. They got to make homemade Ice cream in a bag. The experiment turned out delicious with some special toppings of choice. They seem very eager to try this at home too and know their ingredients!



Saplings also took part in a lot of sensory play and made homemade play dough this week – it turned out great!

Saplings year end celebration is on Wednesday May 29th at 10:00 am. We are excited to have you! Also, please note that the Saplings last day is on Thursday, May 30. There will be no Saplings on Friday, May 31. Thank you!

Have a great weekend!

218-663-0170 ext. 21

rista.sharmabgcs@gmail.com

jessica.klemmerbgcs.com

From Ms. Sara Knottski

K & 1st Grade Elementary Teacher

K/1 enjoyed a beautiful and windy day at Tofte Park on Wednesday. They had a picnic with donuts, PB & J's, Kool-Aid, a fire to keep them warm during lunch, and plenty of play time. They all loved playing at the beach and creating their rock shops. They created their own currency of sea glass and traded rocks all afternoon! It was a wonderful celebration!

We are reviewing all of our 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 two 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.

Have a great weekend!

218-663-0170 ext. 22

sara.knottskibgcs@gmail.com



From Ms. Samantha Forster

2nd & 3rd Grade Elementary Teacher

It is Wolf Ridge Week! As you are reading this, we will be at Wolf Ridge learning about weather, forest ecology, Ojibwe heritage, and doing a rope course! We are thrilled and having a wonderful time!

Monday and Tuesday this week, were a little different as we prepped for our trip talking about expectations and answering any last-minute questions. We spent time working through different math problems in the morning, as that is always one of our favorite parts of the day. We read a fantasy story on Monday and practiced a sequence of events graphic organizer. Lastly, we worked on a fun canvas project to show our families at the end of the year!

The last two weeks will be fun filled with outdoor math and reading activities while enjoying all the hard work that we accomplished this year!



218-663-0170 ext. 26

samantha.forsterbgcs@gmail.com

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**From Ms. Laurie Roberts**

*4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Elementary Teacher*

This week during our writer's workshop, we have been putting the finishing touches on our opinion podcast writing. The students will be doing a mock podcast for each other during the last week of school. We will also be touring WTIP radio next week to see how a real recording studio works. They will even get to make a short recording while we are there.

On Wednesday this week, 4/5 went to Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center for the annual 3-day, 2-night trip and will return to Birch Grove on Friday. While I am not along on this trip, I am thinking of them and I know that they are having fun! You can check out the school Facebook page to see what they have been up to!

Have a great weekend!

218-663-0170 ext. 23

[laurie.robertsbgcs@gmail.com](mailto:laurie.robertsbgcs@gmail.com)

