

# BELMONT ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER



## B.E.S.T. BETS

Volume 23 Issue 5

January, 2014

### OUR YEAR AT B.E.S.



It's hard to believe that the year 2014 is here! 2013 was a wonderful year for Belmont Elementary. I would like to review just a few of our highlights at this time of reflection.

The year began with a smooth and successful transition to all new grade levels by students and families.

We have continued to improve our science, language arts, social studies and math programs this year and have a new writing program. We have been busy aligning all of our curriculum with the new Common Core State Standards for language arts and math that have been adopted by New Hampshire, along with more than 40 other states. Our social studies and science programs are aligned with state standards. We have several new staff members this year; they have brought a great deal to BES.

B.E.S.T. and our volunteers continue to be the backbone of this school. We received the NHPIE Blue Ribbon Award for volunteerism for the 28<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. We honor our many volunteers and appreciate their support.

We have again worked collaboratively with the naturalist from the Prescott Conservancy Nature Center this year. Through funding from BEST, BES has had the advantage of having a nature educator in the school every week to work with teachers on integrating outdoor programs into our current curriculum. This collaboration has brought about increased use of the outdoor

classroom and trail systems behind the BES building.

Our co-curricular programs have, as usual, been very active and were well supported by volunteer coaches and advisors. Thank you to everyone, we could not do it without you!

Sincerely, *Emily Spear*

### B.E.S.T. NEWS



At the December meeting, members celebrated with a holiday party and Yankee gift swap. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at 6:00 P.M. in the BES Library. Hope you can join us!** Remember there is always a gift raffle for those present. **For your convenience, free baby-sitting will be available for this meeting.**

### WINTER CONCERT

The BES Winter Concert is scheduled for **January 22, 2014 at 6:00 PM.** (Snow Date Jan. 23, 6:00 PM) The third and fourth grade choruses, vocal ensemble and the recorder band will be performing under the direction of Mrs. Jennifer Shaw and will be accompanied by Mrs. Leighlan Prout. We look forward to a great performance!

The BES Ensemble performed at the Deck the Village celebration

on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> and again at the Belmont Senior Center on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>.

### B.E.S. BASKETBALL

Belmont Elementary's Basketball Program will begin on Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup> this year. The Saturday instruction and games will begin with an instructional clinic. We are delighted that once again this year the B.H.S. Basketball Teams will instruct students and coaches on Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>. We are also very grateful to all of the volunteer coaches who will be making this program possible for our students. A special thanks to Mrs. Stephanie Derosier for facilitating the program this year.



### HATS OFF!!!

**!!!HATS OFF!!!** is a feature of the *Belmont Elementary Newsletter* that recognizes some of the many wonderful school volunteers who help to make BES the exemplary school that it is. This month our column will feature a volunteer who puts in a great deal of hard



### Inside This Issue

*Parents Make The Difference*

**Jan. 8 BEST Mtg. 6:00 PM, BES Lib**

**Jan. 17 BEST Movin' and Groovin' Night**

**Jan. 20 NO SCHOOL ML King Day**

**Jan. 22 Gr.3/4 Winter Concert, 6:00 PM**

**Jan. 24 NO SCHOOL Teacher Workshop**

work at B.E.S.....

**LISA TUCKER!!!**

Mrs. Lisa Tucker has been an active member of BEST and a hard-working volunteer helping students at BES. She has also worked during the past few years on many school events and BEST functions. Lisa is the vice president of BEST this year. She has a son, who attends BES in grade 1. She works faithfully at volunteer events and enjoys being in classrooms whenever possible. Thank you, Lisa Tucker for all you do!!! We appreciate your time and dedication. Hats off to you and THANK YOU!!!!



**STORY TIME VERY POPULAR WITH STUDENTS AND PARENTS**



Twice a month BES staff members, Sheila King and Jenn Deware, hold Story Time in

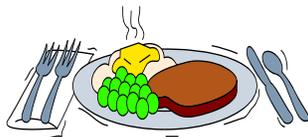
the BES Library. Students really enjoy hearing a special story and then participating in a related activity. Children and their parents are invited to join Story Time at 6:15 to 7:00 PM every other Tuesday evening in the school library. It's great fun!

**WINTER CLOTHING**

REMEMBER – If your child is in need of winter clothing and you are experiencing financial difficulties, please contact the school nurse, Rachele Ashe, at 267-6568.



**JOIN YOUR CHILD FOR LUNCH**

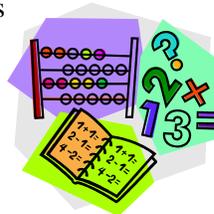


Please feel welcome to have lunch at BES with your child. Eating lunch at school with your son or daughter allows you to meet your child's friends and experience an important part of the school day. It offers an opportunity to bond with your child in a setting unique to his/her day. Lunch for adults is just \$3.50. We would love to have you join us! As with all visitations, please check in at the office.

**SECOND GRADE DONATES TO ST. JUDE'S**

Congratulations to the Second Grade participants in the St. Jude's Hospital Mathathon.

Many students worked together to raise a total of **\$1,313**. We are very proud of grade 2 students for their hard work and their generosity!



**B.E.S.T. BETS**

**WELCOME TO BES**

**Aaron Jones**

We are delighted to have Mr. Aaron Jones join the BES staff as our new fourth grade teacher. Mr. Jones attended Ithaca College for a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Plymouth State University for his Master's Degree in Elementary Education. He has two sons and lives in Laconia with his family. In his free time, Mr. Jones likes to spend time with his family. He also enjoys coaching athletics, outdoor activities, exercise and reading. Before coming to Belmont Elementary, Mr. Jones taught at Belmont Middle School for several years and at two elementary schools in Laconia. We welcome Aaron Jones to our staff and feel fortunate to have him here!



**A HAPPY NEW YEAR**