



BE CONNECTED
INFORMED
HEARD

December 2023 Newsletter



Upcoming Events

Enrichment: Winter Slime

December 1 - 3:00 - 4:15pm

Enrichment: STEM Beginnings (3-5)

December 4 - 3:00 - 4:10pm

December LINK Meeting

(Tuesday) December 5 - 7:00pm

Enrichment: Winter Themed Coasters

December 5 - 3:00 - 4:00pm

Enrichment: Holiday Gift & Cards

December 6 - 3:00 - 4:15pm

Enrichment: STEM Beginnings (3-5)

December 11 - 3:00 - 4:10pm

Enrichment: Holiday Gift & Cards

December 12 - 3:00 - 4:15pm

Enrichment: Gingerbread Houses

December 13 - 3:00 - 4:15pm

Enrichment: Holiday Karaoke

December 14 - 3:00 - 4:15pm

Enrichment: K Crafts - Winter Wonderland

December 18 - 3:00 - 4:15pm

Enrichment: Holiday Carnival

December 20 - 3:00 - 4:30pm

Enrichment: Board Games

January 4 - 3:00 - 4:10pm

January LINK Meeting

January 4 - 7:00pm

Fall Semester in Review...

As we bring the first half of the school year to a close it's amazing to reflect on all that has happened and all that is still to come! Our Fall was busy with the Welcome Dance, enrichment, Schartner Farm's corn maze and more. Thank you to all of our volunteers for helping make everything happen!

The book fair was a great success. Our earned Scholastic Dollars are used each year to add new and requested titles to our library collection at BMS. And, this year we invested in books for the soon-to-be installed "BMS Free Library" and we started our collection for an initiative that will kick-off in the 2024-25 school year... Birthday & Celebration Books. There is nothing better than seeing kids excitement as they shop the fair! And, it's a bit sneaky but effective, to get some math skills in as well as they add up the cost of each item and stretch their dollars as far as possible.

The 4th and 5th grade families generously supported the first Teacher Appreciation event as, "The Boos & Ghouls of BMS" appreciated our teachers and staff with a scary and sweet apple bar. Two more events take place in the new year... 2nd and 3rd grade parents keep an eye out for our Valentine's event in February, and 1st and K parents - you are on deck for the appreciation event in the Spring. Details will come as we get closer to each of those events.

Many of you have been with LINK at events this year and in years past, and we hope you have experienced improvement in how we manage enrichment registration and payment, volunteer sign-ups, and communications. It takes volunteers to make all of it happen and we're always looking for time and skill to continue making our BMS community a strong one. Consider coming to a monthly LINK meeting, supporting an event as your time allows.

Finally, however you choose to celebrate the season, LINK, Inc. wishes all of our BMS Families a healthy and happy holiday. We look forward to doing more together in the new year!

About LINK

LINK is the gathering of parents and teachers to support and sustain Berlin Memorial student success! Whether you want to volunteer at an event; offer an exciting enrichment program bringing new and interesting learning experiences to our students; or become involved in the planning and management of LINK activities; there is a place for you here. Welcome!





Volunteers of the Month

The LINK, Inc. December Volunteers of the Month start with Hillary Kuhn! Hillary is Mom to 3rd grader Anya. Hillary has taken on leadership in the BMS Arts committee, supported numerous events from the summer through this first semester of the school year, and continues to be a voice for involvement and improvement in all that LINK can do for the students of BMS. Thank you Hillary!

We also recognize Saima Rana as a December Volunteer of the Month! Saima is Mom to kindergartner Fayzan and preschooler Zeeshan. New to BMS this year, Saima has made a point to help when needed. She participated in events like the book fair, enrichment, and more. She volunteers, and supports all the activities that LINK holds at BMS... for all of these reasons and more, we recognize and celebrate her. Thank you Saima!

LINK is an organization that makes amazing things happen for our BMS students with the helping hands from volunteers. We are grateful to all who supported the activities and events in November! If you want to participate, be sure to visit our website for the latest opportunities to get involved.

Committee Updates

Our three committees are making progress moving towards their respective goals.



The BMS Arts committee supported the Veteran’s Day program and will continue to boost arts initiatives throughout the new year.



The Science Fair committee is working to gather information about supporting each grade’s curriculum goals while building out the details for a science fair to become part of our annual BMS tradition.



And finally, the marquee committee is working with our town’s Zoning & Planning groups to bring necessary changes to town policy so that a sign can be installed. We know that in order to obtain a marquee sign for the school, town bylaws will need to be amended at the town meeting in May. The committee will share more updates and information regarding that final vote as we get into the Spring.

Quick shout out to our seasonal decorating team for turning the doors of BMS into a winter scene.
Thanks to:
Amanda Tedesco
Corinne Spangler
Emily Manual
Beatriz Bailon
Julie Felo



Page 2

Financial Corner

Current Account Balance (10/11/23):	\$28,059
Expenditures to Date (11/02/23):	\$3,869.71
Fundraising to Date (11/02/23):	\$1,706.69
Upcoming Events/Expenses (estimated):	\$2,000
Fall Cultural Show	\$1000
3rd Grade Recorders	\$500
Turkey Trot	\$500

...erwriter and Joint Bookman

Enrichment Program Updates & Information

(all programs register **ONLINE** at bmslink.org)

Enrichment scholarships are available for families in need. Please reach out to: linkenrichment@gmail.com. All inquiries will remain private.

Winter is Coming... Slime!

All kids know how much parents hate the mess of making slime at home...so come and make some at school with your friends! Participants will make winter themed slime and decorate special slime jars to take home.



Date: Friday, December 1st
Time: 3:00-4:15pm
Grades: K-5
Cost: \$9/student
 Min 8/Maximum 16 students

Gingerbread House Building

Come and use your unique style to decorate your very own Gingerbread House. Students will be able to bring their own unique creations home.



Dates: Wednesday, December 13
Time: 3:00-4:15pm
Grade: 1 - 5
Cost: \$10/student
 Min 5/Maximum 18 students

K Crafts: Winter Wonderland

We have winter season crafts for our youngest BMS students who may need some extra support. We'll practice fine motor skills while having lots of fun making winter crafts! From snowflakes to snowmen, it's going to be a winter wonderland of fun.



Date: Monday, December 18
Time: 3:00-4:15pm
Grades: K
Cost: \$12/student
 Min 8/Maximum 16 students

Winter Themed DIY Coasters

Students will make their own set of winter-themed coasters. Using winter images, students will decoupage them onto coasters to create their own set of four. These would make a great holiday gift or keepsake.



Date: Tuesday, December 5th
Time: 3:00-4:00pm
Grades: K-5
Cost: \$8
 Min 5/Maximum 16 students

Holiday Karaoke

Ms. Thompson is ready to lead our youngest BMS crew through holiday songs, movement and fun in holiday style karaoke! From Frosty the Snowman to Jingle Bells, this is sure to be a festive celebration in song.



Dates: Thursday, December 14
Time: 3:00-4:15pm
Grade: K-2
Cost: \$5/student
 Min 5/Maximum 16 students

Board Game Afternoon

Ease into the New Year with an afternoon of board games with friends. Students will play a variety of board games together in groups.



Date: Thursday, January 4th
Time: 3:00-4:15pm
Grades: K-5
Cost: Free
 Min 6/Maximum 16 students

Holiday Craft & Card Making

Let kids surprise their families with the great gifts and cards they can make and deliver for the season. This 2-day session will allow kids to create seasonal surprises. We have a couple of gift making options and some fun card making choices as well.



Date: Wednesday, December 6 & Tuesday, December 12
Time: 3:00-4:15pm
Grades: K-5
Cost: \$15
 Min 5/Maximum 16 students

Holiday Carnival!

The Holiday Carnival is back! With holiday games from many different traditions, cookie decorating, and more... this event will kick-off your holiday break with loads of laughs and fun.

Parents - the more kids we get, the more adults we need to help make it work. Please SIGN-UP to help out!



Date: Wednesday, December 20
Time: 3:00-4:30pm
Cost: Free
Grades: K-5
 Min 10/Maximum 100 students