

581 South Winding Drive, Waterford, MI 48328



BURT B BGCAT BANNER

School Office: (248)682-5110
Safety Line: (248)674-5919
Child Care: (248)738-4702
Fax: (248)738-4726
www.waterford.k12.mi.us/burt

NCA Accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges Schools

September 23, 2011

SHAKE IT OFF AND TAKE A STEP

One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally he decided the animal was old, and the well needed to be covered up anyway; it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey.

He invited all his neighbors to come over and help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone's amazement he quieted down.

A few shovel loads later, the farmer finally looked down the well. He was astonished at what he saw. With each shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up.

As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and happily trotted off!

Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well is to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is a stepping stone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping and never giving up!

Sincerely,
Mary Barghahn
Principal



**A friendly reminder about the Homework
Folders, Classroom Magazines & Planners:
If you haven't already donated please turn it
in to your child's teacher as soon as possible.
Thank You!**

Mark Your Calendar!

| | |
|-------|---|
| 9/27 | Destination Imagination Meeting 7:00pm @ Pierce Middle School |
| 9/28 | Bus Safety – D-Day Respect Circle @ 8:45AM |
| 10/4 | D-Day Respect Circle @ 8:45AM |
| 10/5 | Student Count Day |
| 10/6 | Hearing Screening – K, 2 nd & 4 th grades |
| 10/7 | Hearing Screening – K, 2 nd & 4 th grades |
| 10/7 | Burt School PTO Fun Run – PM Only |
| 10/10 | Fun Run Pledge Sheets Go Home |
| 10/11 | MEAP Testing Begins |
| 10/17 | Fun Run Money Due – Burt Skate Night |



Get your raffle tickets now for the Bat Puppet! A ticket will be drawn on October 10th. Tickets are on sale (25¢) before school starts in the morning. Look for the Safety Patrol Student in the Lobby.

BANNER RESPONSE COUPON

I've read the Banner!

Comments, Questions, Compliments:

Signature _____

Student _____ Room _____

Return to school for a drawing!



Waterford Mission Statement

We guarantee to every student the knowledge, skill, and attitudes needed to become an effective citizen of the world.



MEAP TESTING BEGINS!

MEAP testing is just around the corner, **October 11th – 21st**. Your child's attendance is crucial during this time. The state requires that 95% of all 3rd, 4th and 5th graders take and complete the test within the MEAP window. To give you an idea of what that means, in a grade that contains 70 students, only 3 students can miss the test, regardless of sickness, vacation or personal rest. Anything lower than 95% will automatically disqualify us from attaining adequate yearly progress at the state level, regardless of how well our other students do. As in general achievement, **attendance is the number one indicator** for student success. In this case, showing up is literally 95% of the battle.

BIRTHDAY TREATS:

Please make sure that when you are sending in Birthday Treats that they are small individual items. We **CAN NOT** do pizzas, large cakes, balloons, etc. All that fun stuff can be saved for home. Please make sure that all items are small and easy to grab. Remember this is a quick informal celebration that will take place the last 10 minutes of the day. Please make sure to drop off Birthday Treats at the Main Office.



TOO EARLY:

Please do not send your children to school before 8:20am. There is NO supervision for children before then, and it is NOT a safe situation. If you cannot make other arrangements, and your children **MUST** be dropped off, child care is available. Please call 248-738-4794 for more information. Safety Patrol Students may start their positions at 8:15am, but their siblings are not to come before 8:20am. Thank you for your cooperation.

WILL YOUR CHILD BE ABSENT OR TARDY?

If your child will be absent or tardy, please call the school's 24-hour absentee line at 248-674-5919. Please leave your child's name, teacher's name, reason and length of absence.

INTERESTED IN GETTING REMINDERS ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS, HALF DAYS & SCHOOL CLOSINGS? PROVIDE THE OFFICE WITH YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS AND WE WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S CLASS:

We want to welcome parents/guardians to support Burt and your child's classes. However, we ask that you not ask for the teacher's time and attention when they are responsible for and needed by over 25 students, **including times when students are entering and leaving the building before school and at dismissal.** Teachers often get caught in the dilemma of either attending to a parent at the doorway or to the students. It is crucial that teacher time is spent engaging and working with students and to assist in providing a safe school environment by welcoming students and monitoring hallway traffic. To maintain a safe environment conducive to learning right up to the last minute of school, the following procedures are to be followed.

1. Parents/guardians bringing and picking up students from school are to drop off or pick up students in the student drop off or pick up area or park in a designate parking space.
2. All visitors **MUST** sign in at the office to obtain a visitor's badge telling the office staff the reason for your visit. Visitor Badges are for classroom volunteers.
3. All visits are to be arranged with the teacher a minimum of 24 hours in advance.
4. Classroom visits are for observations not consultation. If you wish to meet with the teacher, please schedule a conference outside of the instructional day.

HALF DAYS FOR 2011-12

All students will be dismissed at 11:46 am on

the following days:

November 11, 2011

November 15, 2011

December 7, 2011

January 11, 2012

January 27, 2012

February 1, 2012

March 14, 2012

May 2, 2012

June 15, 2012

**S
A
V
E**