



BIRCH PTA, Monday, September 26, 2011

**Ms. Schlissel has posted a SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER on the Merrick website!
Check it out at <http://www.merrick.k12.ny.us/BirchSchool.cfm>.**

Quote for the week: "Teaching kids to count is fine, but teaching them what counts is best."

MAIN OFFICE - Parents... Any change in information, i.e., telephone numbers, contacts, needs to be updated in our records. Please send a letter in to your child's teacher or to the main office requesting such change in information.

BIRCH WEB - Go to www.birchschoolpta.org. Scroll down to "Join Email List" and register your email in order to be notified of important school information via email. Soon the weekly flyer will be delivered right to your inbox.

PTA MEETING - Please join us for our first PTA meeting on Monday, September 26, 2011. New Parents meeting is at 7:00 p.m. and the General Meeting is at 7:30 p.m. We will be voting to accept the budget.

6th GRADE PHOTO – The 6th grade outdoor photo will be on October 4th at 1:20p.m.

MEMBERSHIP - Join the PTA! It's just one of the many fundraisers that benefit our school and children. You must be a member of the PTA to attend our sponsored trips. Any questions, please call Debbie Tolipano at 223-2252 or dt0423@aol.com.

GIFT WRAP - Please participate in our biggest fundraiser of the year! 50% of all sales go directly to our school. Sale dates are September 12 – October 4, 2011. Any questions, please contact Jennifer Lopez at 377-1102 or erictinamarissa@aol.com or Sharon Curry at 408-8679 or currySJB@aol.com. Orders may also be placed at www.prestigefundraisinginc.com.

PICTURE DAY - Please be advised that picture day is on October 12th. A specific schedule for children from K-6 will follow. If you have any questions, please contact Vicki Auersperg at 868-3171, Maria Larsen at 208-3559 or Karen Vargas at 771-5235.

VENDOR BOUTIQUE – This is a wonderful opportunity to promote your business and help our school. Showcase your merchandise at our Vendor Boutique on Thursday, November 17th from 4:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. If you are interested in finding out more about our event and joining us, please contact Debbie Tolipano at 223-2252 or dt0423@aol.com for an application.

CAFÉ BIRCH - Log on to www.orderlunches.com. School lunch password is **beaver50**. If you have any questions: Grades K-2 contact Debbie Rizzo at 474-1717 or dlrizzo_98@yahoo.com; Grades 3-4 contact Clare Fine at 223-2568 or Clare@birchschoolpta.org; Grades 5-6 contact Carmela Palmese at 377-3784 or Carmela@birchschoolpta.org. If you do not have a computer, Birch will have computers

available for your convenience. Each month there is a beginning log on date and a final date to place your order. See below:

Lunch Menu Cycle Dates	Order Start Date	Order End date
Oct 1 – Oct 30	9/12/11	9/26/11
Nov 1 – Nov 30	10/3/2011	10/17/11
Dec 1 – Dec 31	10/31/11	11/14/11
Jan 1 – Jan 29	12/5/11	12/19/11

HEALTH and SAFETY - Please contact Tara Casimano at tara.casimano@touro.edu or Erika Cohen at lorah1973@aol.com for all issues regarding the health and safety of the children at Birch School.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION - Please clip your box tops from participating manufacturers and send them in to school. Please watch for expiration dates. A collection box is set up in the lobby of the school.

TREASURER'S NOTE - No Cash! Please write in the memo section of your check what the check is for (i.e. Café Birch, gift wrap, etc.)

PICTURES - Attention all parents, if you captured a Birch event, please forward your photos along with your name, telephone number and who is in the picture to Gina Kelly at ginavkelly@gmail.com. Any questions call 377-4844.

❖ ***Please Note: No Latex balloons.*** We have children with severe Latex allergies. Mylar balloons are the only type of balloons permitted in the building. Please make sure no Latex balloons or products enter the building.

❖ ***Parents*** - When sending in items for classroom celebrations or birthday parties, please consult your teacher's directions regarding food in the classrooms. We have children with MANY varieties of allergies.

❖ ***A gentle reminder to all committees and staff at Birch, any information for the Monday flyer must be submitted to Mary Ellen Montalbano via e-mail at mel2161@verizon.net on or before the preceding Wednesday evening by 8:00 p.m., please.***