The background of the entire page is a soft-focus photograph of numerous pink cherry blossoms. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some showing prominent yellow stamens. The lighting is bright and airy, creating a gentle, spring-like atmosphere.

Burr Oak Community Schools
326 E Eagle St
Burr Oak, MI 49030

Burr Oak Community Schools
Oak Openings

April 2024

OWENS' OUTREACH

Community and School Improvement

School improvement is a continuous effort the entire year. It brings community stakeholders together through multiple avenues; surveys, discussions, committee meetings, board meetings...and the list goes on. It takes a ton of data and input to make things happen.

This spring, our board members, parents, coaches, and students came together to give the ball diamonds a much needed facelift. This saved the district thousands of dollars, which can now go toward improvements that are needed in other areas. This type of community involvement is what we are trying to teach our students through community service requirements to graduate and through our expectations in school. (Be Safe - Be Respectful - Be Responsible)


Reading month activities have also brought community members into the school daily. We embrace these moments and look forward to more involvement whenever possible.

Many assignments in core subject areas ask students to identify and reflect on values. The expectation of values carries over from the classroom into extracurricular activities.

Guiding good human beings with a core set of values and good work habits that they can take with them beyond their graduation date is the overarching goal of BOCS. Yes, we teach English, social studies, math, science, and the fine arts every day, but without personal and community values, the subject material will not go far.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the community members and organizations that help support the school through time and effort.

Sincerely, Mrs. Owens



Looking Forward:

- *May 17th - Seniors Last Day*
 - *Senior Walk & Senior Breakfast*
- *May 19th - Graduation*
 - *Baccalaureate - 2:00pm*
 - *Commencement - 3:00pm*
- *May 21st 8th Grade Graduation*
- *May 22nd Kindergarten Graduation*



Classroom News



Mrs. Lemley GSRP

March has flew by. We got a visit from Bluey for March is reading month. We really enjoyed the older children coming in and reading books with us. We learned how to read a recipe and made our own playdough. We worked on number recognition and letter recognition.

The Leprechaun visited our room and put footprints all over. He made a mess. He left us a note that said he was sorry he didn't have time to clean up but left us a prize.

Thank you to everyone who made it to parent/teacher conferences.

Mrs. Ditmer and Mrs. Lemley wish everyone a fantastic Spring Break!!

When we return in April we will have only 7 weeks left of school. We will be working on skills to transition to kindergarten. We will talk about the weather changes and what we need to bring to school to wear. Information will be sent out at the end of April to schedule End - Of-Year home visits.

Mrs. Lutz Kindergarten

This school year is just moving right along. I can't believe we only have two more months of school left! Our third quarter was full of learning so many new things and preparing for our last quarter!

We just finished up March which included a ton of reading! The kindergarteners are becoming stronger readers each and every day. Each of the students were able to read at least five books during class time AND pass a quiz on each of the books. I am so proud of them for working hard towards this goal. So many of them met the goal and then kept going and exceeded the expectation! Special shout out to Oktober, who read twenty books and passed all twenty quizzes! Way to go! Beyond that, we enjoyed fifteen minutes every single day where the students were able to just focus on reading. It was so fun for them to read me the books instead of me reading them to the class.

When we come back from Spring Break we will be ready to take on this last quarter! The students are also preparing for their final NWEA testing. I am excited to see the progress they have made.

Mrs. Randol-Yockey First Grade

First Grade finished up their 3rd reading unit of the year! They will be working on Unit 4 next which ties in history with their reading. They have been working on timelines to show a story and have learned about biographies and read several about important people in history. They also have been working on vowel teams and working very hard to read words in chunks instead of letter by letter. They have gained a lot of reading skills since Christmas and I am beyond proud of their progress. We are looking forward to Spring and are ready to finish the year strong!

Mr. Hunt Second Grade

Second grade has been learning about counting coins/money in math. They started by learning how to identify each coin and how much it is worth. Then they added up different combinations of coins. The class ended the unit with adding up how much some pretend items would cost and then grabbing the correct amount of coins.

In science they have been learning more about animals and their habitats. They learned about some of the unique characteristics animals and plants have that help them survive in harsh environments like the desert, arctic, etc.

Mr. Hernandez Third Grade

The 3rd grade class are quite the readers. We have many students that are reading books and taking tests everyday, sometimes even multiple tests a day. They are also becoming amazing poets as they practice writing poetry during writing workshop. I love reading their poems!

The students shared their favorite math activities in 3rd grade Math: Karen, Rylynn & Willard enjoy working with fractions. Chance, Dominic, Jameson, and Landon, all like math Prodigy, while Isaac and Lexi love multiplication. Madi and Ryker like division, Harper enjoys math Jenga. Nathen, Jaxzon, Cassidy and Esmeralda all enjoy the product game. Jaxzon likes math wrap-ups. Liam likes to play with math manipulatives, and Aliya likes working with equivalent fractions.

Happy Easter to our special 3rd grade friends - Karen, Harper, Madisyn, Rylynn, Isaac, Lexi, Landon, Nathen, Ashton, Jaxzon, Liam, Jameson, Willard, Ryker, Cassidy, Esmeralda, Aliya, Chance & Dominic.

Mr. Johnson Fourth Grade

Welcome to April! This month in fourth grade, we are diving into the exciting world of persuasive writing. Persuasive essays are a powerful tool for expressing our opinions and convincing others to see things from our perspective. Here's what your child will be learning:

1. ****Understanding Persuasive Techniques****: We will explore various persuasive techniques such as emotional appeal, logical reasoning, and the use of evidence to support arguments. Students will learn how to craft compelling arguments to sway their audience.
2. ****Brainstorming and Organizing Ideas****: Your child will learn how to brainstorm ideas effectively and organize them into a coherent essay structure. We will focus on creating clear thesis statements and supporting them with relevant points.
3. ****Writing with Voice and Confidence****: Writing persuasively requires confidence and a strong voice. Through practice and feedback, students will develop their unique writing style and learn to express their opinions with conviction.



Classroom News



4. **Editing and Revising**: Revision is an essential part of the writing process. Students will learn how to self-edit their work for clarity, coherence, and persuasiveness. Peer feedback will also play a role in improving their essays. In math, we will be focusing on measurement throughout April. Here's what we'll cover:

- Length, Mass, and Capacity**: Students will learn about different units of measurement for length (such as inches, feet, centimeters, and meters), mass (ounces, pounds, grams, and kilograms), and capacity (cups, pints, quarts, and liters). They will practice converting between units and solving real-life measurement problems.
- Estimation and Precision**: Understanding when to estimate and when to be precise is crucial in measurement. Students will develop their estimation skills and learn strategies for measuring accurately.
- Exploring Tools for Measurement**: From rulers and measuring tapes to scales and graduated cylinders, students will explore various tools used for measurement. Hands-on activities will allow them to gain familiarity with these tools and understand their purpose.
- Applying Measurement Skills**: Measurement is everywhere! Students will apply their measurement skills to solve word problems involving length, mass, capacity, and more. They will also explore how measurement is used in different contexts, such as cooking, construction, and science.

Mrs. Summey
MS Science/MS History

Last Marking Period of the year!! Parents please check your child's grades and keep them focused to finish out the year. We will be testing again before the end of the year and we want to see improvement in all students. Hopefully with the warmer temperatures we will be able to get outside more for Science! At least as long as the behaviors allow us to! Hope everyone has or had a great spring break!! Let's finish the year strong!!

Mrs. Skidmore
M.S/H.S. English

Happy Spring! We're so close to the end of the year! With all that excitement going on, we are still hard at work!

10th graders have finished up their, The Yellow Wallpaper, unit and are moving onto independent reading.

9th graders are working hard on finishing Fahrenheit 451.

8th grade has finished The Hunger Games and are moving onto The Other Side of the Sky.

7th grade is hard at work with The Giver.

5th graders are working on How to Train Your Dragon, independent books, and working on their spelling!

7th Grade RTI class has been working on their EdPuzzles and Women's History Month pamphlets.

We had a great time at Quiz bowl! Winners of the spelling bee will be announced soon.

Mr. Ultz
History/ History of Foods

US History 8B

The class will be studying the growth of cities and the influx of European immigration during the mid 1800's. Outstanding students are: Hanna Perry, Peyton Roggow, Linda Ultz

History of Foods

The fifth graders are a very active group of students. They are so eager to learn. It has been a challenge to get them to understand there are safety rules that go along with working with sharp knives, 400 degree temperatures, and groups of students walking around. This group of students started out making Bird's nest and donut holes. They will progress to more challenging projects as the term goes on.

Drama History of Theatre

The students are learning their lines in preparation for the upcoming production of the spring play. The play which is titled Frantic Family Vacation by Regina M. Ballard will be presented to the school on April 19th at 8:30am. The public performance will be on Apr 20, 2024 at 7pm in the old gym

Career Prep

A graduation requirement for our seniors is that they must prepare and present a portfolio. They then must successfully complete an exit interview. This year the seniors will present their portfolio to the evaluators on the afternoons of April 23rd and 24th.

We feel that by going through this interview process they will develop skills they can use after graduation.

Mr. Royer
Industrial Tech/ MS

Well it has been quite a year so far! The shop classes are doing final finish sanding before the clear coat finish goes on the projects. The tables and stools are beautiful and the students have done a fine job.

Outdoor Education is being introduced to the sixth grade and are learning about the special places right here in our home state! Many have seen our state bird picking worms in their front yards. Yes the Robins are back, and spring has sprung!

Remember, we're all in this together!

Mr. Bucklin
K-12 Physical Education

Warm weather is coming, try to get out and go for a walk or throw a ball around as a family. We need to show students that physical activity can be fun and should be fun. Everything is progressing as planned in P.E. classes here at the school. You can definitely tell it's been getting closer to spring break, some of the kids could use a break away from classmates and the school. Be proud of your Bobcats, they continue to work hard and make great physical gains.



Classroom News



Mr. Sutton HS/MS History

The 7th grade social studies class is finishing up their unit on Ancient Empires. Next, students will be exploring the similarities and differences between some of the world's major religions. Students will also learn about cultural differences between the major religions.

The 9th grade class is learning about Cold War conflicts. They are studying different confrontations between democracy and communism that were seen after World War II. Next, students will be learning about the easing of tensions in the Cold War after Vietnam.

The 10th grade World History class is learning about the Russian and Asian communist revolutions. Next, students will study the effects of the Cold War on Europe and Asia.

The U.S. Government class is currently learning about our two-party political system. Next, students will study how elections are run in the United States.

Mrs. Sutton MS/HS Science

Life Science - Students have been learning about mitosis and meiosis. There will be a lot of new science vocabulary your students will be learning. Also, we will be doing some virtual labs to help extend their knowledge of these topics

Physical Science - We are learning how to balance chemical equations. After that, we will learn about the chemical equations and the different types.

Earth Science - Students are learning about weather. Your students are becoming meteorologists!

8th grade - We are finishing our unit on the Earth, Moon, and Sun. The next unit in the Amplify curriculum is natural selection. Students use workbooks/handouts along with learn.amplify.com to learn important science concepts.

Exploratory Science - Our small hydroponics garden is growing. We are also going to start working on building balsa wood bridges. We will test them and engineer our models to make the best bridge we can.

Congrats to the High School Robotics Team on a successful district season! Not only did you do well at competitions, but you all were wonderful examples of our school! Thank you all for being awesome!

Mr. Herrmann MS/HS Math

Think spring and it may eventually get here!!! The seasons should change soon and the temperature should be warming up. All of my classes are moving smoothly toward the end of the year, marking off the expectations as they go. Algebra 1 is working through a unit where they are learning the properties of expo-

nents. Algebra 2 is continuing to prepare for the SAT and working on properties of logarithms and exponents. Geometry is working on a unit where they are learning the properties of area and perimeter of various shapes. My senior math class is continuing to work through their accounting and consumer math classes. They are also collecting items to put into their portfolios for their presentations in April. The 6th grade is working through a unit on basic statistics and graphs.

As always, my students know that my door is always open for questions and help and I hope that they continue to take advantage of this. Please feel free to stop by if you want to say hi or speak with me about any concerns you may have regarding a student's progress and thank you to all the parents who have contacted me with questions and concerns.

Mrs. Rifenburg MS Math/ MS History

Middle School Arts and Crafts: The 7A Group is well into the rotation and will be making both lanterns and string art. They have been painting and doing some drawings. They are very motivated and take their time to complete the projects to the best of their ability.

Pi Day Celebration: 3.14

7th and 8th Grade students celebrated Pi Day by earning some real Pie by completing some calculations using Pi.

7th Math: As we prepare for the MSTEP, we will be touching on the concepts we have not yet covered. Those topics include some Geometry and concepts of proportionality. My main concern is that students don't seem to learn concepts for a lifetime. They just learn them long enough to take a test and then they are no longer important to remember. We will begin testing the second week in April so please encourage them to give their best effort.

8th Grade Math: With MSTEP just around the corner, we have covered three different ways to find the solutions to a system of equations. We will be studying transformations and then 3D Geometry. Again, we need to help students prioritize their learning as it seems as if we are just spinning our wheels and reviewing the same topics over and over. We will begin testing the second week in April so please encourage them to give their best effort.

GREAT JOB 8th Grade

I would like to acknowledge the 8th grade students for the wonderful job they did at their 8th Grade Orientation Evening. The students prepared a delicious meal for their parents and then presented their prepared portfolios.

The overall supervisor of the meal and portfolios was Mr. Rick Ultz and Mrs. Jan Summey oversaw the preparation of the portfolios. The students are lucky to have you both.

Please encourage your students to do their best while at school. Your encouragement and academic expectations are the most powerful influences they have.



April 2024



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	1	2 Spring Portraits w/ Prater Studios Baseball vs. Camden 4:00pm Softball vs. Camden 4:00pm	3 Paraprofessional Appreciation Day! Softball at Reading Doubleheader 4:00pm	4	5	6 Softball at Homer (Tournament) 10:00am
7	8 School Board Meeting 7:00pm	9	10	11 Baseball vs Climax- Scotts 5:00pm Softball vs Climax-Scotts 5:00pm	12 Softball at Plainwell Doubleheader 4:00pm	13 Softball Tourn. at Sturgis 10:00am
14	15	16 JH Track at Pittsford 4:00pm Baseball vs. Colon 4:00pm Softball vs. Colon 4:00pm	17 Varsity Track @ Bellevue -Time TBD 4:00pm	18 Bible Release 8:30	19	20 Drama Public Performance 7:00pm
21	22 Golf Jamboree at Ella Sharp Park 4:00pm School Board Work Session 7:00pm	23 Transportation Appreciation Day! Senior Exit Interviews JH Track at Colon 4:00pm Baseball and Softball vs Mendon 5:00pm	24 Senior Exit Interviews Varsity Track at Camden-Frontier Time- TBD	25 Baseball vs. Athens 5:00pm Softball vs. Athens 5:00pm	26	27 Softball Tourn. at Tekonsha 10:00am
28	29 Golf at The Hills of Baw Beese 4:00pm Softball at Pittsford Doubleheader 4:00pm	30 NWEA testing K-11 7:45am JH Track at Climax-Scotts 4:00pm Baseball at Climax-Scotts 5:00pm Softball at Climax-Scotts 5:00pm				



April Breakfast Menu



Menu is subject to change.

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

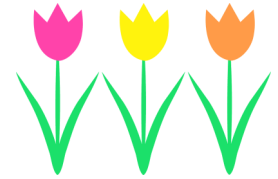
Friday

1 Animal Crackers Trix Cereal Bar Raisins Apple Juice	2 Cinnamon Poptart Blueberry Vanilla Bites Craisins Orange Juice	3 Strawberry Banana Yogurt Chocolate Chip Muffin Apple Slices Grape Juice	4 Rich's Breakfast Round Pineapple Cup Apple Juice	5 Blueberry Waffle Fresh Pear Orange Juice
8 Strawberry Poptart Cherry Yogurt Craisins Grape Juice	9 Cheese Stick Mixed Berry Crunch Bar Strawberry Cup Apple Juice	10 Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Bread Bar Apple Slices Orange Juice	11 Chocolate Chex Mix Golden Graham Bar Mixed Fruit Cup Grape Juice	12 Cinnamon Cream Cheese Bagel Grapes Apple Juice
15 Bug Bites Fudge Poptart Apple Orange Juice	16 Maple Waffle Applesauce Grape Juice	17 Apple Cinnamon Bread Bar Orange Apple Juice	18 Peanut Butter & Grape Jelly Sandwich Frozen Peaches Orange Juice	19 Cinnamon Elf Grahams Super Bakery Donut Craisins Grape Juice
22 Scooby Snacks Strawberry Nutrigrain Bar Apple Grape Juice	23 Chocolate Tiger Bites Banana Loaf Mandarin Orange Apple Juice	24 Banana Chocolate Chunk Bar Pear Orange Juice	25 Cinnamon Pull Apart Applesauce Grape Juice	26 Cinnamon Teddy Grahams Cinnamon Bun Apple Grape Juice
29 Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Bar Strawberry Yogurt Chex Applesauce Orange Juice	30 Apple Cinnamon Nutrigrain Bar Chocolate Bunny Graham Crackers Pears Grape Juice			All BOCS students receive free breakfast and lunch daily.

All Meals Include Choice Of White or Chocolate Milk



April Lunch Menu



Menu is subject to change.

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

1 Chicken Nuggets Steamed Peas Baby Carrots Clementine Applesauce Cheetos Puffs	2 Taco Burrito Baby Sweet Peppers Pinto Beans Diced Pears Banana	3 Peanut Butter & Grape Jelly Sandwich Cucumber Baby Carrots Strawberry Kiwi Sidekick Pear Heart Pretzel	4 Swiss Steak w/ Gravy Mashed Potatoes Dinner Roll Celery Sticks Strawberries Pineapple Chunks	5 Pepperoni Pizza Marinara Cup Broccoli Grapes Mixed Fruit
8 Chicken Tenders Steamed Corn Baby Carrots Nacho Doritos Diced Pears Clementine	9 Beef Soft Taco Romaine Ribbons Broccoli Shredded Cheese Black Beans Mandarin Oranges Apple Slices	10 Scrambled Eggs Cinnamon French Toast Cucumber Dragon Juice Mixed Fruit Blueberries	11 Italian Goulash Dinner Roll Baby Sweet Peppers Celery Sticks Pineapple Banana	12 Garlic 3 Cheese Pizza Steamed Peas Baby Carrots Peaches Apple Chocolate Chip Cookie
15 Teriyaki Beef Dippers Green Beans Baby Carrots SunChips Garbanzo Beans Tropical Fruit Apple Slices	16 Cheese Bosco Sticks Marinara Cup Broccoli Mixed Fruit Grapes	17 Chicken Sandwich Celery Sticks Cauliflower Pineapple Grapes	18 Chicken Drumstick Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Buds Diced Peaches Banana Roll	19 Macaroni & Cheese Breadstick Cucumbers Dragon Fruit Strawberry Pineapple Mix Clementine
22 3 Pepperoni Calzonettes Steamed Carrots Baby Sweet Peppers Diced Pears Clementine	23 Corn Dog Cauliflower Kidney Beans Applesauce Sidekick	24 Cheeseburger Potato Smiles Cherry Tomatoes Diced Peaches Gala Apple	25 Chicken w/ Gravy Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Banana Mandarin Orange Chocolate Chip Cookie	26 Pepperoni Pizza Green Beans Broccoli Pineapple Chunks Granny Smith Apple
29 Cheeseburger Twins Cucumbers Sweet Potato Fries Apple Slices Peaches	30 Popcorn Chicken Baby Carrots Steamed Corn Pineapple Grapes Cheez-its			All BOCS students receive free break- fast and lunch daily.

*****All Meals Include Choice Of White or Chocolate Milk*****



Athletics Updates

Ryan VanDosen, Athletic Director

We are excited to announce that we will be having a track and field team this year! With generous help and dedication, we were able to update the softball and baseball fields. Thank you coaches, staff, athletes, volunteers and parents for graciously taking time to better our fields. We are super excited for the upcoming spring season for Burr Oak Athletics!



High School Track and Field

April 17th @ Bellevue

April 24th @ Camden

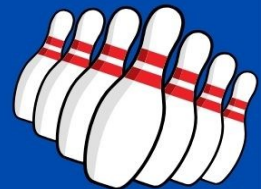
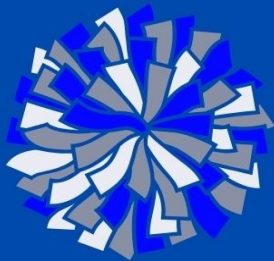


Jr High Track and Field

April 16th @ Pittsford

April 21st @ Colon

April 30th @ Climax



Baseball & Softball

April 2nd vs Camden (double header) 4pm

April 11th vs Climax (single) 5pm

April 16th vs Colon (single) 5pm

April 23rd vs Mendon (single) 5pm

April 25th vs Athens (single) 5pm



Thank you to all volunteers for this past winter sports season. Things would not run as smoothly as they do without you.



Hernandez Highlights

Title 1 - Reading is fun!

We wrapped up a successful month of reading in March. The students participated in many fun reading activities- buddy reading, drop everything and read, chair rides for caught reading, and the claw machine challenge for meeting reading goals. Keep up the great work reading everyone!



BLUEY JOINED THE READING FUN! 😊





**BURR OAK
PROM
2024**

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024

\$20 per person / \$30 per couple

The Party Place
1509 E Chicago Rd, Sturgis, MI 49091
8:00pm-12:00am

Grand March 10:00 p.m. followed by the crowning.

After Prom Casino Night

For Burr Oak High School
Students and Prom Guests
12:30-2:30 a.m.

May 12th

St. John's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

Looking for donations for this event:
Gift Cards/Certificates; Money; Prizes etc.

If you'd like to donate please
contact Cindy Hernandez 489-2213

Burr Oak High School Drama Presents: Frantic Family Vacation

Saturday, April 20 at 7:00pm

In The Little Gym

Pricing: Adults \$5 & Students \$3



BURR OAK

\$20

MS/HS YEARBOOK

5-12TH
GRADE



**LAST DAY TO ORDER
APRIL 19TH!**

2023-2024

**CASH OR CHECK TO LAURALI
IN OFFICE**

**Spring Portraits w/Prater Studios
Tuesday, April 2nd**



Kindergarten Enrollment

If you need to enroll your student in kindergarten we will have enrollment packets available in the office. Your student will need to be 5 by September 1. Please call 269-489-2213 and set up a time to enroll your student.

You will need:

- . Shot records
- . Birth certificate
- . 2-proofs of residency
- . Dental screening record



Welcome to Kindergarten