



Birch Grove Primary School Parent Update

October 27, 2025

Dear Families,

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful parents and the TEPTO for providing our staff with an absolutely incredible Staff Appreciation spread! The display featured an amazing assortment of charcuterie items, pastries, beverages, and even an apple nacho station. Your generosity and creativity truly made our day special — we are so grateful for your continued support!

On **Wednesday, October 29**, students and staff are encouraged to wear pink in honor of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Let's show our support together!

Picture Day took place last Tuesday, and all students who were present were photographed. Picture retake day is scheduled for Tuesday, December 2. If you would still like to purchase a picture package, you may do so online using the link below:

[Picture Order Form](#)

We're also excited to share that the Family Resource Center is starting [Birch Grove Bookworms](#), a fun after-school book club for students in grades K–2. Meetings will take place in the Birch Grove Primary School Library.

Please note the following important reminders:

- **Tuesday, October 29** is an **Early Release Day** for professional development. Dismissal will be at **12:55 p.m.**

- **TEPTO Lyman Pie Pickup is scheduled for Monday, November 3, from 4:30–6:30 p.m. in the BGP cafeteria.**
- **Parent/Guardian–Teacher Conference information** was emailed to families last week. The conference **sign-up form** can be found on the **main banner of the BGP website** and in the **Digital Backpack section** under Quick Links. **Virtual conference links** will be sent out the **week of conferences**.
 - Conferences will be held on **Wednesday, November 6**, and **Thursday, November 7**, with an **Early dismissal at 12:55 p.m. on November 6 and no school for students on November 7.**

Preschool Families:

On **November 6**, only the **AM class** will attend. For all other non-Wednesday Early Release days, the schedule will be:

- **December 23:** PM class attends
- **March 5:** AM class attends
- **March 6:** PM class attends

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in making Birch Grove such a special place to learn and grow!

Upcoming Events:

- **[Flu Vaccine Clinic](#)**
We will be hosting a **Flu Vaccine Clinic** offered by EHHD on **Thursday, October 30, from 3:00–6:00 p.m. at Tolland High School in the cafeteria.** This clinic is open to all staff, students, and families ages 4 and up. If you have insurance, please remember to bring your insurance card.
- **[Tolland Family Resource Center's Vamos Español](#)** – The first session of this elementary Spanish program is coming soon! This program helps children learn Spanish language and culture through fun, hands-on activities like dancing, music, games, art projects, reading, and science.

Reminders:

Veterans Day Celebration Invitation

We would like to invite all veterans and active military members from Birch Grove Primary School families to our special Veterans Day Celebration on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, in our gymnasium. We would be truly honored to have you join us!

Please note that there will be two assemblies that day. Be sure to check which assembly your child's class will be attending.

9:30-10:10 Assembly (check in no earlier than 9:15)

AM Preschool

FRC Preschool - Gray

Kindergarten Readiness - King

Kindergarten - Hollenbach

Grade 1B - Boisvert, Harrington, LoVoi, Young

Grade 2 - Ameral, Caron, Martin, Womersley, and Zajac

2:30-3:10 (check in no earlier than 2:15)

PM Preschool

Kindergarten Readiness - Lachut

Kindergarten - Bardos, Gardiner, Jones, Littell, Margelony, Sklenar, Wasielewski

Grade 1A - Kaufman, Kelley, Moynihan

Grade 2 - Semrow

To help us celebrate, Birch Grove students and staff are encouraged to wear red, white, and blue to school on November 11. Students who are Scout members are welcome to wear their Scout uniforms. Veterans and active military guests are also welcome—and encouraged—to wear their uniforms if they wish.

If you have more than one child at Birch Grove Primary School, please complete a separate form for each child. We look forward to celebrating this meaningful day together as a school community.

Please complete the form below no later than Wednesday, November 5, 2025.

[Veterans Day Sign-up](#)

We are excited to share that **Thursday, October 31** will be our next Birch Grove Spirit Day. This month's theme is **Scarecrow Day!** Students and staff are encouraged to dress like a scarecrow or wear plaid or flannel to join in the fun.

We also want to highlight that the **Tolland Elementary PTO has scheduled their meetings** for the year. Please see the attached [flyer](#) for dates. We encourage parents and guardians to attend. These meetings are a wonderful opportunity to learn about all the great things the PTO does to support our schools and how you can get involved.

Finally, our **Lost and Found section is growing!** Please take a look at the [linked photo](#) to see if any items belong to your student. We'd love to reunite these belongings with their owners.

TEPTO is here to help you stay organized. Calendars and excuse pads are available for sale in the main office at both Birch Grove Primary School and Tolland Intermediate School. Please see the [flyer](#) for more details.

Mandated vision and hearing screenings will begin at **Birch Grove Primary School on Wednesday, October 2.** Please see the attached [letter](#) for more information. If you wish to opt your child out of these screenings, please complete the opt-out form and return it to school as soon as possible.

Please see the following information from Tolland Elementary PTO:

Please excuse the mistake in the TEPTO Calendar for the month of February. February 18 is a school day. We apologize for this oversight. Additionally, please note that we recognize the clip of the BOE calendar included at the top of March does not accurately reflect April 2026. Thank you for being patient with these two incidents, and thank you for supporting TEPTO!

New Students

If your student is new to the district (all kindergarten students, new first and second graders), please review the linked document on how to sign on to [PowerSchool](#). Tolland Public Schools uses PowerSchool's online parent portal to allow you access to your student's current grades, attendance, and other information. Wherever you have online access (home, work, public library, etc.), you can view information on your student.

General Information

School Hours - 9:00-3:30

Early Release Days - 9:00-12:55

[**2025-2026 School Year Calendar**](#)

Volunteer Approval: If you have not yet completed the paperwork to become an approved volunteer, please do so at your earliest convenience. After completing the form, please remember to call the BOE to provide your SS number. Approval is valid for three years and allows you to participate in classroom activities, field trips, and events like **Field Day**. Thank you for being such an active part of our school community!

BGP Summer Reading Challenge

Summer Reading Letter	Summer Reading Journal
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Supply Lists

Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
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Transportation

Valet Parent Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures - Please follow the links to review the procedure for valet drop off and pick up. **Parents are expected to have identification visible to the BGP staff as they enter the pick area.**

Arrival. Dismissal	Traffic Flow Picture	BGP Drop Off and Pickup Procedures 2025-2026
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Bus Route Information - [click here](#)

Please use the above link to find your child's bus route. Make sure you are using the information starting on page 9 for the elementary bus routes.

Special Transportation Form - [click here](#)

Please use this form if you require special transportation busing outside of the routes to school and back home.

Everyday Pick-up Form - [click here](#)

Please use this form if you are planning to pick up on a consistent basis (daily or a certain day of the week, every week).

Bus Stop Release Form - [click here](#)

First Student Bus Company requires a signed bus stop release form for each student. Please use the above link to complete the Google form.

Food Services

Students who qualify for free or **reduced-price meals** will be eligible to receive one free breakfast and one free lunch daily. **ALL OTHER LUNCHESES WILL BE CHARGED AT THE CURRENT LUNCH PRICE PER SCHOOL.** Payment for these lunches is the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

[Breakfast Program](#)

[School Lunch Price List](#)

Important Dates for October:

10/29 - Early Release - dismissal at 12:55

10/31 - Scarecrow Day - dress like a scarecrow - wear plaid or flannel

Please see the [Superintendent Bulletin](#) and the [Birch Grove Primary School Handbook](#) for more helpful information.

Sincerely,

Tom Swanson
Principal, Birch Grove Primary School

Suzanne Guglietta
Assistant Principal, Birch Grove Primary School