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Bishop Weekly Update: January 31, 2019

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Tomorrow 2/1 (Fri): Spirit (wear) Day - PATRIOTS GEAR!!

2/7 (Thu): [Parent and Teacher Diversity and Inclusion Group \(DIG\)](#)

2/8 (Fri): Family Dance and Social

2/18 ~ 2/22 (Mon ~ Fri): February School Break

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KEEP UP TO DATE

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Bishop Community ~

Having Courageous Conversations about Race with Our Children

Dear Bishop Parents and Guardians,

One of the actions the parent-led Thompson Diversity and Inclusion Group (DIG) is to organize an educational forum to help parents and guardians with the challenges of talking to kids about race and racism.

FORUM: Having Courageous Conversations about Race with Our Children

DATE: Thursday, January 31 from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

LOCATION: Thompson School gym at 187 Everett St, Arlington, MA 02474

COST: Free but you must register

REGISTRATION: <https://tinyurl.com/CourageousRegister>

The forum will be led by **Dr. Liza Talusan** who has “22 years of experience in Pre K-20 education, Liza is an engaging facilitator in conversations about diversity, racism, unconscious bias, privilege and power and creates environments that allow for people to discuss these difficult topics openly.” You can read more about her at her website:

<http://www.lizatalusan.com>

Dr. Talusan will lead a workshop entitled “Having Courageous Conversations about Race with Our Children.” To encourage community participation, the Thompson DIG invites parents and guardians of all elementary students within the Arlington Public School district to register and attend.

Please register in advance because the Thompson gym has limited seating.

REGISTRATION: <https://tinyurl.com/CourageousRegister>

Notes:

(1) The event is for parents/guardians of students who attend an elementary school within the APS.

(2) No childcare will be provided, and attendance is limited to adults only.

The forum will have a Question and Answer section at the end. We ask that questions be submitted online prior to the forum date. All questions are anonymous. Depending on volume, we may not get to every question.

ASK QUESTION to DR. TALUSAN: <https://tinyurl.com/CourageousQuestion>

Parent-led Diversity and Inclusion Groups have the support of and collaborates with principals and district administration. Each Arlington School has a DIG. The parent-led group's overarching goal is to raise awareness for all our children and their respective families regardless of race, color, religious views, national origin, sex, gender, identity and expression, age, ancestry, family-marital status, sexual orientation, disability, source of income and military status to help maintain a safe and welcoming learning environment. The Thompson DIG-organized forum is one example of initiatives started by DIGs. Please contact Sarah Popper at sarahepopper@gmail.com if you would like more information about Bishop's DIG initiatives.

We encourage you to take advantage of the January 31st forum to support our community's efforts to make APS an inclusive and welcoming learning environment for all of our children and families and staff.

Show our teachers some love with Valentine Stars!

February in New England can be a dreary time so send your child's teacher(s) some warm fuzzies with a **Valentine Stars** certificate on February 14th. Your child's teacher gets a Stars certificate from you and the Arlington Education Foundation receives your donation and puts it to work to support the teachers we all value - a true **love fest for all!**

A donation of \$20 for an individual teacher or \$60 for a cluster at OMS and Gibbs by Friday, Feb 8th will ensure **Valentine's Day** delivery.

Get a Star here: <https://www.aefma.org/stars> Thank you! The cupids at the Arlington Education Foundation

Arlington EATS Vacation Schedules

2019 February Vacation Lunches

Tuesday, February 19 - Friday, February 22

2019 April Vacation Lunches

Tuesday, April 16 - Friday, April 19

2019 Summer Vacation Lunches

July 8 - August 16 - Monday - Thursday

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Thompson Elementary School

Save the Date

Bishop's Annual Art Show (To be held separately from the chorus concert this year) -

Thursday, April 11th @ 6:30pm

Bishop's Annual Spring Choral Concert -

Thursday, May 9th (K-2 and 3-5 will have their own times TBD)

Bishop's 5th Grade Recognition -

Monday, June 17th @ 9:00am - Reception to follow

PTO NEWS

In Search of Fundraising Assistant

We have a critical need for the Fundraising Assistant to help the Fundraising Coordinator in the following duties: oversee and schedule PTO fundraising events with the Co-Presidents, generate ideas for future events, and manage ongoing fundraising initiatives with the Fundraising Coordinator.

Amazon Smile Awards Program Update

A lot of us shop on Amazon but forget to do it on Amazon Smiles, which requires going to that specific website. But, there are ways to automate routing all of your shopping to Amazon Smiles. If you're shopping on your computer web browser, you can create "extensions" that will automatically re-route you to Amazon Smiles anytime you go to Amazon. Depending on the web browser you use, click on the link below and follow the instructions to install the Amazon Smiles extension for your web browser. Ask your family and friends, too.

[Smile Always](#) for Chrome

[Amazon SMILE!](#) for Firefox

[SmileAllDay](#) for Safari

Thanks to parent, Jasper Rosenberg, on pointing out the Chrome extension!

For how to register using your browser or on your iPhone, please see [the easy instructions](#).



UPCOMING PTO-SPONSORED EVENTS

Family Dance and Social Friday, 2/8, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in Bishop Gym

Already sick of snow? Come work off your and your kids' energy at the Family Dance and Social next Friday, February 8th from 6:30-8:30 pm. This community event features a professional DJ, a simple photo booth, light refreshments, and fun for the whole family.

February Enrichment Programs

Wednesday, February 6 and Thursday, February 7, Kindergarten

Animals in Winter: Habitat programs
What strategies do animals use to adapt to cold weather? How does animal behavior change in winter? Through this customized in-school program, students will examine animal specimens, animal shelters, and a live animal visitor as they learn more about the strategies animals use to survive changing weather conditions. Students will find out more about migration, hibernation, and dormancy, which local animals employ these strategies, and who remains active. Birds, insects, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians will be represented.

Monday, February 11, 3rd grade

Plimoth Plantation - Pilgrim Classroom Visits
A Museum Teacher will portray a resident of 1624 Plimoth Colony, using their life story to frame the program. The educator will bring reproduction artifacts and will share the Pilgrim story, from hiring the Mayflower in England, through the journey and the first winter, to Thanksgiving in Plymouth. As a highlight of the program, several students will be invited to try on Colonial clothing!

The Green Team Friday Mornings at 7:30 AM in Bishop Library

In the coming weeks, the Green Team will be thinking about renewable energies and how they might be incorporated in a future building design of Bishop and its grounds. We will be drawing some ideas this week that we hope to translate to 3D models for display at Arlington's Eco-fest this coming March.

Mary Poppins Jr.

Please bookmark the [play website](#) for links to key information and updates. Refer to the [online schedule](#) for the latest information on rehearsal content and participants. For questions, please visit the www.bishopschoolpto.com/bishop-school-play or email thebishopplay@gmail.com.

WANTED: we're looking for a **tea cart** (vintage is the best). If you have a tea cart that you can lend until the end of the performances, please contact email thebishopplay@gmail.com. Thank you.

IMPORTANT DATES

	Cast A	Cast B
Dress Rehearsal	3/23 (Sat) 12-2:30 PM	3/23 (Sat) 2:30-5 PM
1st Performance	3/29 (Fri) at 7 PM	3/30 (Sat) at 6 PM

2nd Performance

3/30 (Sat) at 2 PM

3/31 (Sun) at 2 PM



STAFF SPOTLIGHT!

Each week we spotlight a member of the Bishop staff on the bulletin board outside the main office to get to know them better. Did you guess the last week's staff?

STAFF OF THE WEEK:

Family: Husband

Birthday Month: July

Hobbies: Yoga, barre class, running, playing with my puppy, beach

Pets: Dog

Favorite Book: After the Fall (Children's book)

Favorite Food: Ice cream

Favorite Color: Dark purple

Favorite Candy: Pink starbursts, dark chocolate

Favorite Vacation: Wellfleet, Cape Cod; Ogunquit, ME; Disney World

Favorite Music: Sara Barielles

From Last Newsletter:

Family: Lives in upstate New York

Birthday Month: April

Hobbies: Art, playing with my dog (Indi), downloading therapy apps

Pets: Border Collie/Lab mix

Favorite Book:

Favorite Food: Mac and Cheese & BBQ

Favorite Color: Purple

Favorite Candy: Twizzlers

Favorite Vacation: Snowboarding in Denver, CO

Favorite Music: Alternative

When I grow up . . . I want to retire and own a dog rescue service.

Answer: Gabrielle Ambrosino, Speech Language Pathologist



COMMUNITY NEWS

Parent and Teacher Diversity and Inclusion Group (DIG)

Thursday, 2/7, at 6:30 PM in Bishop Library

Bishop School is excited to announce the formation of a Parent and Teacher Diversity and Inclusion Group (DIG)! In an effort to support all students and families in Arlington, Diversity and Inclusion groups have been formed at all seven elementary schools, Gibbs, Ottoson, and the High School. The Bishop DIG will hold a kick-off event for interested families, teachers, and community members on February 7 at 6:30 PM in the Bishop Library. At this event, Carlos Hoyt, the current Diversity Consultant for the Arlington Public Schools, will speak and facilitate a discussion. Dr. Hoyt, who holds a PhD in social work and is a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, is the Director of Community and Inclusion at the Chestnut Hill School. He teaches, speaks, and writes about issues related to social identity, social bias, and social justice education.

The goal is for the Bishop DIG to gain parent participation in order to create school goals that reflect the Bishop

community while working under the overarching DIG mission: to promote an optimal learning environment for all of our children by reinforcing diversity, equity, and inclusion as a valued part of the culture at APS Schools. We will strive to provide a safe and welcoming learning space for all our children and their respective families, inclusive of all identities. In doing so, we will prepare our children to be successful in an increasingly diverse world.

Help Bishop in joining all the other Arlington Public Schools in forming a Diversity and Inclusion Group! (DIG)

Additional Series of Guiding Good Choices

Monday nights: February 25, March 4, 11, 18, and 25, from 6:30-8:30

There will be an additional offering of [The Guiding Good Choices](#) workshop series at the Whittemore Robbins House. GGC consists of 5 workshops, held once a week for five consecutive weeks. This is an evidence-based program that requires participants to attend all five workshops.

Registration is via email at kkoretsky@town.arlington.ma.us



Parent Forum - Homesick and Happy: How Children Grow and Change When They are Away From Their Parents; Presented by Dr. Michael Thompson

Wed, February 6th, 7:00pm – 8:30pm at Ottoson Middle School

In this talk, Dr. Thompson will explain how the greatest maturation in childhood occurs when children are away from their parents. It will describe the experiences, excitement, fears and growth of situations away from home, especially in summer camps, that bring him to his conclusions. The heart of Dr. Thompson's work is lecturing to parents, teachers, and students about the development of boys, the social lives of both boys and girls, the parent-teacher dynamic, school culture, how to raise responsible children, and the psychological journey of children through school. He and his co-author, Dan Kindlon, wrote the New York Times best-selling book, *Raising Cain*.

See a full list of upcoming forums at: <http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/news/pdfs/parentforums.pdf>

AYBSA Spring Baseball & Softball Registration

Registration is now open for the Spring 2019 season, which will kick off in April. Go to www.aybsaonline.org to see the list of programs by age and experience. To register your child, click on "Register Online" in the left-hand menu.



KEEP UP TO DATE

Bishop PTO Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BishopPTO/>

Websites:

Bishop School: <https://bishopschool.net>

Bishop PTO: <http://www.bishopschoolpto.com/>

Contact PTO Executive Board members:

Co-Presidents: [Sarah Eastman](#) (Senior) and [Elisa Komoni](#) (Junior)
Co-Treasurers: [Ami Fatula](#) (Senior) and [Karin Moellering](#) (Junior)
Fundraising Coordinator: [Christian Na](#)
Communications Coordinators: [Junko Nagano](#) and [Christina Marko](#)
Recording Secretary: [Sheelagh Stirling](#)

