

The Somerset Hills School District

Bernardsville Middle School

141 Seney Drive, Bernardsville, NJ 07924

(908) 204-1916

Dr. Lynn Kratz
Principal

Shawn Kelly
Assistant Principal

May 3, 2013

Dear Fifth Grade Families,

During the week of May 20th Bernardsville Middle School will participate in the Child Assault Prevention (CAP) Project. The CAP project aims to prevent child assault by teaching children to recognize and deal with potentially dangerous situations, and by training teachers and parents to help prevent the victimization of children. The program has three components: a parent program, a teacher/staff in service, and classroom workshops for fifth graders.

The fifth grade presentations are given by CAP facilitators during your child's literacy class. Your child's literacy teacher will be also in attendance.

Mrs. McMillan May 21 & 23
Mrs. Tchorz May 22 & 24
Mrs. Obert-Thorn May 21 & 24

The classroom workshop combines guided group discussion with a series of role plays focusing on situations children may encounter such as bullying, stranger-to-child situations and unsafe touch by a known adult. Discussion helps children identify what options they have to protect themselves. The strategies we focus on are self-assertion, peer support, and telling a trusted adult.

Our parent program will be held on May 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School library. As parents concerned about the safety of your children, we hope you will join us in participating in this program. The program includes information on child sexual assault, identification of child assault victims, reporting of abuse, and crisis counseling skills. There will also be a detailed description of the children's workshop. The success of the CAP project depends on the support of the school community. Because we encourage children to share their experiences and concerns with adults, it is important for parents and school staff to be willing and able to respond to these concerns. As part of the Bernardsville Middle School community, we invite you to attend the CAP parent program.

Sincerely,

Chris Habermas