

Charter Chatter

Briar Meadow BRONCOS Newsletter

March 26, 2008

Issue # 28

Exemplary Rating for Reading TAKS

Briar Meadow students did a fabulous job on their TAKS Reading. We had 100% passing rate in the eighth grade. Way to go Broncos!

On March 4, students across Texas took the **first administration** of the TAKS Reading test in 3rd, 5th and 8th grades. Students who did not pass on this first time will have a 2nd opportunity to take this test in April when 4th, 6th & 7th grade students will be taking it for the first time. Fifth and eighth grade students will have the same requirement for TAKS Math coming up in April. This is part of the Texas Student Success Initiative which requires 3rd, 5th & 8th grade students to pass these important tests in order to be promoted to the next grade. Our 3rd, 5th, & 8th grade students performed extremely well on this first administration with 98% passing and 49% commended in 3rd grade. Scores in 5th grade were 91% passing and 30% commended, and scores in the 8th grade were 100% passing and 74% commended. We congratulate Briar Meadow students, teachers and parents for a job well done!

Spring Safari Carnival

It's a jungle out there! Or at least it will be on April 5, 2008, in front of BCS. Join us from 11 – 3 for the 2008 Spring Carnival Safari. The Carnival has free admission, reasonably priced attractions, fun games, great prizes, tasty food, live animals, and a lot of fun. Oh, did somebody say silly string? I think they did! See the attached flier for more details, and coupons for free games. Homeroom parents will be rounding up volunteers, so please respond generously as we honor our yearly commitment to our kids and our school. Work a little, play a little and we'll make this an incredible and memorable carnival for our children.

Anyone needing additional information or wanting to help should call Carrie Robertson at 713.715.5060, or Monica Harrington at 713.857.9045. Can't wait to see you there on the 5th!

Briar Meadow goes to Washington

Thirty one of our eighth graders made the annual trip to Washington DC on March 13th. They, along with sponsors Frank Vasquez, Kate Harris, and Debi Russell, got a heavy dose of history along with liberal splashes of fun. One full day with a tour bus brought them to various memorials as well as Arlington National Cemetery and Mt. Vernon. Students were also able to experience a public bus and many rides on Metro, the DC subway system. When they weren't using public transportation they did plenty of walking around our beautiful capital. There were visits to the National Zoo, Smithsonian museums, and the Holocaust museum. The additional activities included a movie night, dinner at the Washington Harbor, and pizza at the hotel on their final evening. The children used their Briar Meadow manners and made their sponsors very proud. Check out the 8th graders in Washington DC <http://pages.mhlearningnetwork.com/dctrip/>

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www.briar Meadowtechnology.com

Important Numbers

Phone (713) 458-5500 Fax (713) 458-5506

March Calendar

- 28th Talent Show Practice**
28th Attendance Reward – Middle School Students attend a Movie at the AMC Theater.

April Calendar

- 1st Name That Book Middle School**
2nd Elementary Report Cards PTO Board Meeting 6-8
5th BCS Carnival 11-3
7th LAT Math Test 5th & 8th Grade
8th TAKS Math 5th and 8th Grades 7th Grade Field Trip to Minute Maid Park
10th West Region 5th Grade Parent Meeting for Gifted and Talented 6:30 – 7:30
11th Talent Show Practice Science in the Movies Presentation
18th Earth Day Picnic – BBQ Talent Show Practice
19th Barnes & Noble Book Fair
21st Name That Book Elementary
23rd Middle School Report Card
24th Auction Item – Skate Party 10 Students
28th LAT Math Test 3rd, 4th, 6th, & 7th S.D.M.C. 4:00 – 5:00
29th TAKS Math 3rd, 4th, 6th, & 7th
30th TAKS Reading 4th, 6th, & 7th PTO General Meeting 6:00 – 8:00

Spring Testing Schedule

TAKS M (5 th & 8 th)	April 8
LAT M (3 rd , 4 th , 6 th & 7 th)	April 28
TAKS M (3 rd , 4 th , 6 th , & 7 th)	April 29
TAKS R (4 th , 6 th , & 7 th)	April 30
RETEST R for 3rd, 5th & 8th	April 30
TAKS Science (5 th & 8 th)	May 1
TAKS Soc. St. (8 th)	May 2
RETEST M 5th & 8th	May 13

Auction Items – Fabulous Job!

Thank you parents and teachers for coming to the Auction; your donations and time were truly appreciated! We also want to thank Michelle Alexander, her team of volunteers and the PTO for an outstanding job! They raised over \$20,000 for our school. Thank you!

Listed below are the auction items by catalog number and the parent(s) with the winning bid. We look forward to the sleepovers, dinners, skating and other activities. Parents, thank you for your support and hard work.

- 1- Principal for the Day - 2 winners, Phil & Alice Lebkuecher and Penne & Rusty Graham
- 3 - Boys Rule Slumber Party - Bret & Christina Kimmel
- 5 - Girls Rule Slumber Party - Prudence & Robert Allwein
- 8 - Don't Run...But Skate Instead - Prudence & Robert Allwein
- 411 - Stories by Debi - Mary Ro Flynn
- 412 - Name the Art Studio - Prudence & Robert Allwein
- 413 - Name the Computer Lab N - Louie Alafifi
- 414 - VIP Parking for the Prof - Margaret & Kim Wheless
- 419 - Name the Library - Prudence & Robert Allwein
- 800 - Dinner with Mr. Heinze - Violet O'Brien
- 801 - VIP Parking - Dave & Victoria Locascio
- 803 - Name the Computer Lab S - Jeff Fetzer
- 812 - Name the Fine Arts Hallway - Margie Dugey
- 820 - Name the Science Lab - Steve Levine

College Readiness Night 5th Grade Parents

Is your 5th grade student ready for middle school? Do they know which classes to take in middle and high school so they will be prepared for college? The West Region will host a 5th grade College Readiness Night for parents on April 10 from 6:30 - 7:30 here at Briar Meadow. There will be two presentations: one in English and one in Spanish. See attached Flyer