

# Charter Chatter

## Briar Meadow BRONCOS Newsletter

December 3, 2008

PTO MEETING TONIGHT 6:00 P.M.

Issue #14

### Holiday Gift Wrapping

Our 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will be wrapping gifts for Barnes & Noble customers from 5pm-9pm on Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. The bookstore will have all the supplies. We will supply the time and energy. Customer appreciation is shown through donations. We will need parents to volunteer time. We need one parent per shift. Please fill out the form that is attached with the Charter Chatter and have your child return it to Mr. Vasquez or Ms. Bays.

### Poinsettias Pick-up

The Poinsettias truck will arrive this Friday, December 5th. You will need to pick up your poinsettia orders beginning at 12:45 and ending at 3:15. All orders will be picked on the south side of the building (loading dock area). If you have any question please call Mr. Vasquez at 713-458-5500

### BCS Fundraiser

#### ORDER YOUR HOLIDAY GIFT CARDS!

Don't forget to stock up on gift cards for your holiday gifts! Orders are due by Tuesday, December 9th. Order forms are available on the parent table in the lobby, or stop by the gift card table before and after school this week!

#### LOS TIOS NIGHT!

Ready for a break from the Thanksgiving leftovers? Join us on Thursday for some Mexican food at Los Tios. The restaurant will donate a percent of proceeds to our school.

Give the attached flyer to your waitperson at Los Tios any time on Thursday (lunch or dinner!).

#### BRING YOUR PAPER FOR RECYCLING!

Drop off your paper recycling to our Paper Retriever dumpster in the parking lot. Although the dumpster states "No Cardboard", we have received confirmation that cardboard and paper board (cereal boxes, soda cartons, etc.) will be accepted. However, they **MUST** be broken down before they are placed in the dumpster!

### PTO Meeting Tonight

PTO meeting is tonight at 6:00 P.M. This will be the only meeting in December. There will **not** be a meeting with a performance on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

### Magnet School Forum and Open House

December 6<sup>th</sup> Hattie May White Building 9:00 A.M. to 12 Noon. **Saturday**

Open House begins December 8<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. at all Magnet High Schools. **Monday-Friday**

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- PTO Meeting
- Morning Arrival
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[www.briar Meadowtechnology.com](http://www.briar Meadowtechnology.com)

#### Important Numbers

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

## December Calendar of Events

### Poinsettias Pick-up Friday

- 3<sup>rd</sup> PTO Meeting 6:00 – 8:00
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Barnes and Noble Wrapping 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
5:00 – 9:00
- 4<sup>th</sup> Dare To Dream 3:30
- 4<sup>th</sup> Barnes and Noble Wrapping 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
5:00 – 9:00
- 5<sup>th</sup> Ike Make-up Day
- 5<sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal 12:35 PK-4 12:45 5-8
- 6<sup>th</sup> Magnet School Forum Hattie May  
Building 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon
- 8<sup>th</sup> Fifth Graders to Camp – Return  
Thursday
- 8<sup>th</sup> Magnet School Open House – High  
Schools
- 11<sup>th</sup> Third Grade Trip to MFA
- 12<sup>th</sup> PTO Teacher/Staff Appreciation Lunch  
1:00 – 3:00
- 12<sup>th</sup> Winter Dance 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade –  
Permission Slips Required
- 12<sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal 12:35 PK-4 12:45 5-8
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dr. Saavedra's Ice Cream Party for our  
Middle School Teachers and Staff
- 17<sup>th</sup> Faculty Meeting 4:00 – 5:00
- 18<sup>th</sup> SDMC Meeting 4:00 – 5:00
- 19<sup>th</sup> Last Day of School for 2008
- 19<sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal 12:35 PK-4 12:45 5-8

WINTER HOLIDAY – **December 22<sup>nd</sup> to Jan 5<sup>th</sup>**

**STUDENTS RETURN – January 6, 2009**



### **Morning Arrival**

It's that time of year when reminders need to go out about the importance of timely arrival at school. Our children must attend morning reading and be present when instruction begins at 7:55 a.m. At Briar Meadow, we have 2 major priorities: the safety of our children and the academic success of every one of our students.

Arrival after 8:00 a.m. affects academic success because students miss instruction. Those who do not attend morning reading **WILL** perform at a lower level on academic measures than those who attend. With 10% of the children arriving after instruction begins, the remaining 90% of the children are experiencing an interruption of their learning opportunities.

It is for these reasons that timely arrival was included as a critical part of enrollment at BCS. We are a school of choice and to remain enrolled, parents must sign the Parent Commitment Form, which addresses excessive tardies. Enrollment at BCS will be jeopardized by tardies and attendance.

Parent conferences will be scheduled before the winter holiday if your child has excessive tardies and/or more than 5 unexcused absences (a written excuse was not turned in within 3 days).

### **Toy Drive**

The girls in BCS Girl Scout Troop 20202 know that people working together can make the world a better place. As part of their community service commitment, our Girl Scouts are operating a drop-off location for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots 2008 toy drive. They need your help. All students, parents, teachers and staff are encouraged to participate in helping the Marines provide happiness and hope to disadvantaged children in the Houston area. Please make a toy/gift donation at our school or a monetary donation online, between December 1 and December 12. See attached flier for details.