

Charter Chatter

January 21, 2009

Issue #19

2009 Inauguration

Yesterday marked the official day for the first African American President of the United States of America...President Barack Obama. The students of Briar Meadow witnessed the swearing in and the inauguration speech of President Obama. The teachers shared and completed activities with the students and discussed the election and inauguration process with them.

Art News

Be sure to check out our Art display boards in the front lobby; our students have created some outstanding artwork!! Among them you'll see various pieces inspired by Rousseau and his tropical landscapes, Picasso and his Blue Period, and Stuart Davis' Color Space Theory. Also, don't forget to check out our Art Web Site for more student artwork, podcasts, and great resources for inspiring artists. Go to BriarMeadowTechnology.com and click on Class Web Sites/Art.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

● *2009 Inauguration*

● *Hoodies & T-Shirts*

● *Important Dates*

Briar Meadow Charter School
3601 Dunvale Road, Houston, Texas 77063
Phone 713.458.5500 Fax 713.458.5506
www.briarMeadowTechnology.com

Briar Meadow Spelling Bee

Parents you are welcome to attend the Briar Meadow Annual Spelling Bee. The Bee will take place on Thursday, January 22, 2009. The elementary Bee will begin promptly at 1:45 and the middle school Bee will begin promptly at 2:30. Mr. Dorfman, the spelling bee coach, is working hard with our students and they are preparing everyday. Please work with your child(ren) at home so that on the day of the competition they are ready to win. Good luck and keep up the great work!

School Uniforms

All students are required to wear the school uniform daily. Please review the school uniform policy with your child so that they are aware of the expectations. A copy of the school uniform policy went home in the January 14th edition of the Charter Chatter. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Students who are not in school uniform will be sent to the office to contact their parent(s) to bring them the appropriate school uniform. Thanks for your understanding and for adhering to the policy. **Middle school students are allowed one day of free dress per month.

National School Board Recognition Month

Briar Meadow would like to thank Board Member President Harvin C. Moore for his continued support and for his contributions to the students of the west region and Briar Meadow Charter & Middle Schools. Your commitment to the students of the Houston Independent School District speaks volumes to our community and parents.



Look what's coming...

Let's get ready for FUN FOOD FRIDAY! A variety of foods will be sold to all grade levels. Pre-Sale tickets will be sold for this event. Check out next weeks Charter Chatter for more details!

Ocean of Stars Night

Ms. Boston, the school librarian, will be hosting the Oceans of Stars night on Wednesday, February 4, 2009 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Pre-K to 5th grade parents you are welcomed to bring your child(ren) to this event. We will have telescopes, microscopes, and mythology. Snacks and book will be sold. It will be fun to use the telescopes, microscopes, and to hear some really good stories. Can't wait to see you there!!!!



January Calendar of Events

- 19th Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (no school)
- 20th **Stanford 10 testing begins /1st-8th grades**
- 22nd Spelling Bee – Elementary~1:45
Middle School~2:30
- 22nd Soccer game at West Briar @ 3:30 p.m.
- 26th **Stanford 10 Testing ends/1st – 8th grades**
- 29th Soccer game at West Briar 3:30 p.m.

February

- 4th Ocean of Stars Night w/ Ms. Boston
- 20th Fun Food Friday!



Peanut Butter Recall

When the initial recall of King Nut peanut butter was announced, HISD checked all of its supplies and determined that the district had none of the product. Additionally, the recall did not affect retail peanut butter brands and posed no danger to our students who bring their lunch. Now a voluntary recall of peanut butter crackers has been added, which does affect the district and, potentially, students who bring their lunches to school. One of the brands listed in the recall is in vending machines across the district, so an order was immediately issued to all HISD facilities to shut down the machines until the vendor arrives to remove the products. Since the recall seems to be evolving, HISD is taking the additional precaution of pulling all peanut butter products districtwide, until the safety of the products can be assured. HISD school cafeterias will also provide entrees to students in exchange for peanut butter crackers and sandwiches brought from home and the district will inform parents of the recall and the action the district is taking through an automated phone message which will be sent out today. This is the second time HISD has been affected by a peanut butter product recall. In February of 2007, after a nationwide recall of salmonella-tainted peanut butter, HISD Food Services replaced thousands of peanut butter sandwiches that children brought from home with safe sandwiches from the school cafeterias. The district also notified parents of that recall through a district wide automated phone message.

(this article was taken from the Houston ISD website)

Hoodies & T-Shirts

Just a reminder that there are miscellaneous sizes and colors of Briarmeadow t-shirts and hooded jackets in stock. Our final order of the year will be placed on January 30th. Order forms are located on the parent information table in the lobby. Please complete the appropriate form, attach exact cash or check, and drop it in the PTO mailbox at the front desk. Orders received after January 30th will be returned. Orders will arrive in approximately two weeks once order is placed. Should you have any questions, Please contact Sarhita Vicic at 832.563.6458.