

Charter Chatter

Briar Meadow BRONCOS Newsletter

March 25, 2009

Raffle Tickets on Sale until April 13th

Issue # 27

PTO NEWS

In lieu of our May Board of Directors Meeting, the PTO will have a general meeting on May 6th. Elections for next year's Board of Directors will be held and nominations will be taken through Friday, April 17. If you would like to nominate yourself or any other committed parent for a position, please see the attached form or contact Jeff Fetzer, board President, at jfetzmse@comcast.net. Please include a brief bio. Everyone is invited to attend the general meeting and take an active role in deciding our new Board of Directors 2009-2010.

Welcome Back

Welcome back from Spring Break. It's great seeing everyone excited to be back at school. We have lots to do between now and the end of the school year. Everyday is a very important learning day for your child. Please make sure they are here and on time. April is the season when the students get soaked with knowledge so they can bloom in May.

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- A Science Night Thank You
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Science Week at BCS

By Linda Carlson

I was very pleased to see the show of spirit for learning fill our school with conversation, questions, and laughter, as we shared the experience of March 10th Family Night and a special program on March 12th.

*Thanks to all the middle-school students who designed, planned, and implemented science activities to engage, minds and curiosity.

*Thanks to fifth graders for creating their enthusiastic games and healthy snacks. Their efforts earned \$250 for our Outdoor Learning Center's development.

*A special thanks to all parents who embraced this community event, and supported it by bringing students and contributing to the evening with your insights and participation.

This was a fantastic example of a Learning Community in action!

*Thanks to the Briar Meadow P.T.O for sponsoring a special program on Thursday, March 12th called **Science in the Movies**. Students learned how science concepts are used to create special effects in movie scenes. The program created lots of excitement, as students enjoyed the action filled science presentation. Thank you, Mrs. Boggs for selecting this fun event for our students.

*Thanks also to all the teachers and staff members who gave of their time, energy, and expertise to help create Family Science evening for our families. At Briar Meadow students, teachers, and parents are committed to service and excellence and I am proud to be part of this team!

Important Numbers

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

March Calendar

- 25th Grade Chair/Department Chair**
- 26th CHIP Medicaid Outreach 2:30-4:00pm**
- 27th Talent Show Practice 1:00-2:30pm**
Early Dismissal 12:35 Elementary K-4th, 12:45 Middle School 5th-8th
- 28th Odyssey of the Mind - Spring Forest Middle School**
- 3/30-4/3**
- 1st Report Cards/Stanford and TAKS Scores**
Third Graders to WITS
PTO Board Meeting 6:00-8:00pm
- 2nd School Wide Skate Party 6:00-8:00pm**
- 3rd Early Dismissal 12:35 Elementary K-4th, 12:45 Middle School 5th-8th**
Middle School Dance – Spring Fling 7:00-10:00pm

After school tutoring for our first graders is Monday through Thursday.

Math tutoring is Tuesday through Thursday.

The students must have a permission slip to attend the after school tutoring program.

TAKS Math (5 th & 8 th)	April 7th
TAKS Math (3 rd , 4 th , 6 th , & 7 th)	April 28th
TAKS Reading (4 th , 6 th , & 7 th)	April 29th
RETEST Reading 3 rd , 5 th & 8 th	April 29th
TAKS Science (5 th & 8 th)	April 30th
TAKS Social Studies (8 th)	May 1st
RETEST Math 5 th & 8 th	May 19th

The Student Success Initiative grades are 3rd, 5th, and 8th. These grade levels are given three opportunities to test in TAKS Reading and TAKS Math (5th & 8th only). The third retest is taken in summer school for grades 3rd, 5th and 8th. Briar Meadow students are well prepared for their TAKS Tests and they have already stated that they will be rated **Exemplary** in both elementary and middle.

TAKS Scores

The students at Briar Meadow are using their intellect to succeed. One hundred percent of our 8th graders passed the Reading portion of the TAKS Test. Not only did the 8th graders pass, but 79% of the students scored at the Commended Level.

The 3rd and 5th graders also did a wonderful job. Third grade had a passing rate of 91% with more than half scoring at the Commended Level. Fifth grade had an 89% passing rate with 32% at the Commended Level.

I applaud the students, teachers and parents for preparing our students for the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills.

TAKS and Stanford Scores will be coming home with the BCS Report Card on Wednesday, April 1st.

I know you are as proud as I am on your child's accomplishments! Thanks Mr. Heinze

Parental Agreement

Parents that are planning on returning next year please remember that you signed an agreement with the school that you will be an active member and help with your child's education. You are required to attend parent conferences when needed. You promised to work with you child every night, especially when it comes to reading in the early grades. You agreed to get your child to school on time and to make sure they do not have any unexcused absences. Parent conferences are being held now to ensure that you understand your obligations.

Tennis Camp

A Tennis Camp flyer has been included in this week's Charter Chatter. The tennis center is located at the Westheimer Indoor Tennis and Fit Center at 3035 Crossview. One lucky middle school student will receive a full scholarship to the camp.

CHIP & Medicaid Assistance

Danyell Davis will be here at Briar Meadow on Thursday, March 26th from 2:30-4:00pm to assist parents in getting their children health insurance. Please look at the attached flyers!