

Charter Chatter

Briar Meadow BRONCOS Newsletter

May 20, 2009

Issue # 34

WAY TO GO TAKS BUSTERS

CONGRATULATIONS to our Briar Meadow Broncos for doing a great job on the TAKS Test. You've worked hard and showed what you knew on the test. As always, keep up the good work. All 4th, 5th, 6th 7th and 8th have earned free dress because of their progress on the test. Students in 4th, 6th, 7th and 8th will have free dress until the end of the school year and 5th graders will have free dress for the remainder of this week only.

Gifted & Talented Expo

Congratulations to Leena Alafifi, hanna Regalia, Sarah Michael, Meredith Knight, Barbara Fagundez, Courtney LeBlanc, Preston Graham, Omar Hattab, and Nicholas Fetzer for representing Briar Meadow at the West Region GT Expo. Each of you did an outstanding job on your presentations. Watch out HISD, Briar Meadow Broncos are on the move!

ANGEL CHAVEZ & Lemonade Day

Congrats to Angel Chavez for doing an outstanding job with selling lemonade. He sold 300 cups of lemonade during 4 masses. Two hundred dollars was donated to the church pre-teen group at St. Cyril. He did lots of promotion and advertisement. He was very instrumental in gathering volunteers from his classmates, church and younger brother.

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www.briar Meadowtechnology.com

Important Numbers

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

Your Input is Needed!

Please give your feedback on our PTO fundraising programs! Thank you to the parents who completed a survey at the PTO General Meeting last week. If you did not attend the meeting or have not completed a survey, please take a moment to fill out the fundraising survey attached in Charter Chatter.

Return your survey to the front desk no later than **Friday, May 22**. Your input is essential in helping us plan next year's programs!

Awards Ceremony for 2009

The school year rapidly coming to an end and we are making preparations to celebrate the success of our students. Each grade level will have an awards ceremony and parents, family and friends are invited to Briar Meadow share in the achievements of all students. The schedule for the ceremonies is listed below.

Grade	Date	Time
Pre-Kindergarten	Friday, May 22 nd	9:00 – 11:00
Kindergarten	Thursday, May 21 st	9:00 – 10:00
1 st /2 nd	Thursday, May 21 st	1:00 – 2:00
3 rd /4 th	Thursday, May 21 st	10:00 – 11:00
5 th /6 th	Wednesday, May 20 th	10:00 – 11:00
7 th	Thursday, May 21 st	12 noon
8 th	Friday, May 15 th	6:00

Please make arrangements to attend these special ceremonies. We look forward to seeing you there!

Talent Show

BCS Idols has completed another year. We began with try-outs in January and had regular rehearsals throughout the semester to prepare for the big show. We had 22 Acts this year that included everything from singing and dancing to playing the harmonica, drums, and hand chimes. We had to say goodbye to one of our regular acts, Ali-Ann and Austin Rushing made their final performance at this year's Idols. Look for the performances to appear soon on our PodCast page, and we are also selling DVD's of the entire show for only \$5.00. Please consider buying a copy to help support our Nature Center's Cactus and Succulent area. See Mr. Slone for DVD purchases.

PTO Fundraiser

Thanks very much to those who have turned in the fundraiser survey! If you have not yet turned in your survey, please drop it at the front desk by Friday, May 22. Extra copies of the survey can be found on the parent's table in the lobby.

An update on Box Tops - you can now find them on Avery office products. So, check out your office supplies and find even more Box Tops for the school!

Also, check out the attached flyer about a school-wide "Cash for Trash" contest to see who can save the most fundraising items (box tops, Campbell's labels, Coke points, etc.) over the summer!!

Yearbooks for Sale

YEARBOOKS are selling fast!!! There are only a few yearbooks left. Make sure to purchase yours today before they are all gone. Please give your order to your teacher or you can buy at the front after school.

What a steal!! A limited number of 2008, 2007, and 2006 editions are also available for a very cheap price. Come to the front table every day after school for details.

New PodCasts Added

New PodCasts that have been added to www.briarmeadowtechnology.com include:

1. Bromeliads by Ms Gabriela (student art work)
2. Pre-K visits the Oil Ranch
3. 8th Grade Goes to Washington
4. 5th Grade End of Year trip to Austin
5. BCS Field Day

You can watch them right on your computer (with quicktime) or download them to your iPod to watch later.

New Computer Labs

In addition to the iMac Lab that opened this year, Briarmeadow now has two new PC Labs. Our Reasoning Minds Lab now has 25 new desktop and 3 new laptop computers to help students learn Math with this award winning program. Our Research Lab is now open in the Library with 25 new desktop computers. The students use HISD online resources including NetTrekker, World Book, and Groliers online to help with projects, and class assignments.

Library News

THE BAD NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY: ALL BOOKS CHECKED OUT TO STUDENTS ARE DUE. THE GOOD NEWS: THE LIBRARY WILL OPEN TO STUDENTS AGAIN NEXT YEAR. WE HAVE NEW BOOKS IN ALREADY!

Briarmeadow Book Exchange

Bring in your old books--May 18th-22nd

Student Volunteers will take them from you
Pick up different books May 27th (Note the change!)

Reading Celebration at Briarmeadow

Our Leadership Team is planning a HUGE reading celebration on May 27th Briarmeadow celebrates the 2008-2009 year!

The Garden

Have you seen the gardens? Ms. Felton has vegetables and flowers. Her lettuce and tomatoes look wonderful. Mr. Slone has succulents and cactus. Mrs. Carlson has cleared out beds and started new plantings. Ms. Boston bought copies of The Texas Bug Book, Butterflies of Houston and Texas Gardening. Got an interest in the outdoor space? Contact Ms Boston, lboston@houstonisd.org, and let her know.

Summer Reading 1st-6th

- *Need a free book?
- *Read 8 books
- *Fill out the Barnes and Noble form
- *Go to the Barnes and Noble on Westheimer and get your book! See Ms. Boston for details.

HISD Summer Reading Middle School

Fill out the HISD form from the library and get an award. Please see Mrs. Boston for more details. Remember, reading takes your mind many places that you may never be able to go. So read, there's nothing like it.