

PAWPRINTS

BARBARA BUSH ELEMENTARY BOBCATS – SEPTEMBER 23, 2009

Houston Independent School District
www.bushelementary.org
 CHARACTER EDUCATION THEME: SELF-ESTEEM

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September 23	6:00-7:30 p.m.	Girl Scout Meeting at Bush
September 24	3:00-6:00 p.m.	Influenza Vaccinations – Public Welcome
September 25		INDIVIDUAL PICTURE DAY
September 28		HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL
September 29		Bush Night at Papa John's Pizza
September 30	9:30 a.m.	Renzulli Learning System Training at West Briar
October 14	3:15 p.m.	BEC Meeting
October 16	8:45 a.m.-2:15 p.m.	1 st Grade – Houston Arboretum
October 19-23		Book-a-Palooza Week
October 22	9:00 a.m.	Prospective Parent Information Session
October 26-30		Book Fair Week
October 29		Book Fair Night & Italian Dinner
November 3	9:00-11:45 a.m.	½ 3 rd Grade – Museum Fine Arts
November 4	9:00-11:45 a.m.	½ 3 rd Grade – Museum Fine Arts
November 6	9:00 a.m.	Bush Vanguard Neighborhood G/T Forum

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Parents, please be reminded you should not leave your children unattended while attending sporting and other school events such as Ice Cream Social, Book Fair, Math and Science Night, etc. Parents are asked to supervise their children when visiting the campus for any and all after school events.

The entire handbook is available at:
www.bushelementary.org

SPECTACULAR SCIENCE

Here is the Spectacular Science Word for the week of September 21: scientific method

BOBCAT NEWS

OUR DREAM IS A REALITY

The new accessible playground was dedicated this morning during a moving ceremony outside by the playground. The weather was spectacular as the students and members of the Bush community came together to celebrate two years of work that culminated in a playground for ALL Bush students. Thank you Bush Elementary students, faculty, and staff for a perfect ceremony. A big “Woo Hoo” goes out to Tina Vesey, Mary Hacopian, Rose Ennis, Jim Watson, Judy Gajeske, Charles Norman, Denise Wilfur, and Barbara Nassab for all their work in making today a special and memorable occasion!

BUSH VANGUARD NEIGHBORHOOD G/T FORUM

The Bush Vanguard Neighborhood G/T Forum met last Friday. The powerpoint presentation is available on the Bush website at www.bushelementary.org. On the left hand side in the “About” section, click on the link to “Bush Vanguard Neighborhood G/T Program.” If you have any questions about the powerpoint, please call Cindy Tiet at 281-368-2150.

There will be a Renzulli Learning System training for interested Bush and West Briar parents of G/T students on **Wednesday, September 30** from **9:30 am – 12:00 pm** in the West Briar auditorium conducted by the West Region Advanced Academics department. The Renzulli Learning System is an on-line program that provides all students (K-5th) the opportunities for enrichment and/or intervention based on students’ interests and learning styles. This program is available to all students at home and at school.

Save the date! The next Bush Vanguard Neighborhood G/T Forum is scheduled for **Friday, November 6 at 9:00** in the Bush multi-purpose room.

CLASS SIZE WAIVERS

The state of Texas has a class size limit of 22 students to one teacher in kindergarten through fourth grades. This semester, Bush Elementary requested class size waivers for the following classes that are over the 22:1 ratio: Di Benedetto, McCormick, Fox, Castaneda, Brown, Cramer, Baldwin, Ennis, Strange, Traylor, Dunbar, Keller, Ringrose, Dow, Jay, Colom, Ross, Jensen.

PLEASE NOTE!

Parent GradeSpeed access has been postponed until Monday, September 28.

PAPA JOHN'S PIZZA NIGHT

When you order pizza from Papa John's Pizza on Tuesday, September 29 they will donate 20% of your orders back to Bush.

UNWELCOME GUESTS

During lice season, it is really important that all parents check their own children for lice. The process is not pleasant, but it is simple! Separate and examine portions of hair, especially at the nape of the neck, over the ears, and at the crown of the head. The nits are waxy looking and elliptical in shape. They adhere tightly to the hair shaft. Unlike dandruff or other flaking, the nits cannot be brushed or flicked off of the hair. They have their own super glue! **If your child does have lice, treat him/her immediately and please notify us.** Your child's doctor can recommend a course of action, or use over-the-counter shampoos available at your pharmacy. Remember that shampooing is not enough; all eggs must be removed from the hair shaft. Household items such as pillows, bedspreads, sheets, plush toys, etc. should also be washed, treated, or put in plastic bags.

It is really important that all parents take an active role in checking and treating head lice. If a child has been infested, he/she should be treated quickly so that minimal instructional time is lost. One day is usually enough!

SMILE PLEASE!

Picture Day is Friday, September 25. On individual picture day, students do not need to follow dress code guidelines. However, students do need to be dressed appropriately for a regular school day. Ball gowns and suits are not practical for children to wear to school.

FOOD SERVICES NEWS

HISD Food Services offers an on-line payment system for purchasing your child's school meals. You can conveniently **prepay** for student meals using a credit card and avoid the hassles that can occur when your child carries cash. Visit www.parentonline.net and register an account for your child, or visit the food services website at www.houstonisd.org for more information. The system will ask for a username and password, school name, and student ID number. Both Visa and MasterCard are accepted. **Please note that there is a five percent convenience fee per transaction.** We hope you find Parent Online convenient and helpful in managing your child's health and nutrition.

PROSPECTIVE PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Do you have a child coming to Bush next year? Then come and join a prospective parent information session that will answer all your questions about Bush Elementary programs and curriculum. We will tour the school and discuss all of the wonderful things Bush has to offer. If you know a neighbor or friend who would like to attend one of these information sessions, please pass the invitation on to them. These sessions will take place at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates: October 22, November 19, January 29, February 18, March 25, May 6, May 13, and May 21.

FIRE DRILL

The City of Houston requires that schools conduct a monthly fire drill. All people in the building are required to leave the building whenever the fire alarm sounds. Parents and volunteers must exit the building as soon as they hear the alarm and follow the others in the hall to a proper evacuation site. Thank you for helping make Bush a safe and secure campus.

OUCH!

The Texas Vaccine Institute is going to be at Bush on Thursday, September 24 from 3:00-6:00 p.m. to administer flu shots to anyone who wants to get a flu shot. The vaccination is targeted for adults and children six months and older. Children under eighteen must be accompanied by a parent. The vaccine is not recommended for people allergic to egg products, with a fever, or pregnant in the first trimester. The cost of the flu shot is \$20 per person. The flu mist or inhaled nasal spray will cost \$30 per person. Payment can be made by cash or check. The vaccine is given on a first come, first served basis. For more information please refer to the flyer from the Texas Vaccine Institute which came home last week.

SAFE MORNING ARRIVAL

Parents may drop off their child in the carpool lane starting at 7:30 a.m. Please do not stop in traffic and let your child out of the car. We want all of our students to safely enter the building every morning. Please be extra cautious when driving around Bush and review safe walking procedures with your child.

SMOOTH SAILING

The carpool lane is moving along quite well. The students know their numbers and do a great job walking safely out to their cars. Parents are also doing a fabulous job by staying in their cars and having the back seat cleared and ready for kids to hop in. The Bush faculty and staff on duty each afternoon are very diligent in their supervision of the process. Thanks for everyone's efforts in making dismissal flow smoothly!

SCHOOL NEWS NETWORK

(articles submitted by other area schools)

WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL DANCE WITH INERTIA!

Join Westside High School's INERTIA Dance Company for an exciting performance experience! The Inertians would like to invite you to perform with them during halftime on **Saturday, October 3rd**! First, attend the rehearsal in the WHS Gym from **12:00p-3:00p** to learn all the moves the Inertians are famous for. Then meet at Delmar Stadium at 6:00p to perform at halftime! This clinic is open to **girls and boys ages 5-14**, and the cost is \$40 per child which includes instruction, game ticket, game t-shirt, snacks and door prizes. Application forms are available in the Bush office. **For more information contact Abby Cramer at 713-898-0135 or n.cramer@sbcglobal.net**

BOBCATS WIN IN 2009-2010

It is the policy of the Houston Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of age, color, handicap or disability, ancestry, national origin, marital status, race, religion, sex, veteran status, or political affiliation in its educational or employment programs and activities.