

Charter Chatter

Briar Meadow BRONCOS Newsletter

April 29, 2009

Issue # 32

Writers in the School

The 2009 Young Writers Reading is Celebrating Writers in the Schools 25th Anniversary Discovery at the Green Main Stage in Downtown Houston, Sunday, May 3, 2009 at 3:00 P.M. All parents are invited to attend. Writers in the Schools (WITS) would like to congratulate the following young writers from Briar Meadow Charter School for having their work selected for [The Young Writers Reading](#). The winning authors were chosen out of approximately 18,000 students from 350 WITS classrooms and community centers in Houston.

THE WINNERS ARE:
Maria Fernanda Chavez
Amelia Kester

CONGRATULATIONS AND KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!! Both of you deserve this great honor.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- **Writers in the School**
- **Chess Champs**
- **Swine Flu**
- **Superintendent Search...you are needed!**

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Swine Flu

Even though no suspected swine flu cases have been reported in Houston, the district is intensifying its preventive efforts in response to the outbreak of swine flu in other cities.

– **Parents:** If your child appears to have **flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, fatigue)**, please keep him or her at home and call your doctor. TAKS testing is being conducted this week, so it's important that your child get a good night's sleep and a good breakfast. Attendance for this testing is very important, but at the same time if your child exhibits flu-like symptoms and particularly a fever, please do not send your child to school.

– **Employees:** If you develop flu-like symptoms or a fever, please stay home to avoid the possibility of spreading the flu to coworkers and students. Call your doctor.

– **Teachers/School-Based Employees:** The district urges teachers and other employees to send a child who appears to have flu-like symptoms to the school nurse. Nurses have been instructed to report all flu-like cases to HISD's Health and Medical Services Department, which in turn will report them to the Houston Department of Health and Human Services for follow-up. Connect-ED telephone messages stressing the effectiveness of good hygiene in preventing the spread of the flu virus have been sent to all parents and employees. Of course, HISD schools stress good hygiene with students year-round, and key steps to take include washing your hands frequently and coughing or sneezing into a tissue, handkerchief, or sleeve rather than into your hands. For More information about swine flu and precautions everyone can take to help prevent the spread of the virus is available at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/swineflu_you.htm.

Important Numbers

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



April 27th- May 1st, 2009 is TAKS WEEK!

Please make sure that your child gets plenty of rest, and tons of encouragement this week! Briarmeadow School is home to the best students who are supported by great parents and wonderful teachers. Remember, your child needs to come to school on time, be present every day unless it is unavoidable and **SHOW WHAT THEY KNOW!**

Superintendent Search

The Houston Independent School District [Board of Education](#) wants to hear from you as it begins developing a profile of the leadership qualities to be sought in the district's next superintendent of schools.

The public and HISD employees are invited to forums to provide input into the superintendent search. HISD's superintendent of schools is one of the most important and influential officials in Houston. Attend one of these forums and provide your thoughts on the profile of the next leader.

April Calendar

- 27th LAT Testing (3rd & 4th Grades)**
- 28th TAKS Math (3rd, 4th, 6th, & 7th)
LAT Reading (3rd, 4th, 5th, & 8th)**
- 29th TAKS Reading (4th, 6th & 7th)
Retest (3rd & 5th)**
- 30th TAKS Science (5th & 8th Grades)
LAT Science**

May

- 1st TAKS Social Studies (8th Grade)**
- 5th TEACHER'S DAY!**
- 6th PTO General Meeting**

Attention Briarmeadow Families

WHAM Ministries offers assistance to residents living in the 77063 and 77057 zip codes. There is an urgent need for donations at their local food pantry.

Beginning May 4, 2009 through May 20, 2009 Briarmeadow Charter School will accept donations of non-perishable food items and cash. Cash will be used for rent assistance, and to purchase food items that the pantry currently has a low supply of. Please place all food donations in the box in the lobby. Cash donations should be given at the front desk in a sealed envelope marked WHAM.

Each child donating will be permitted to participate in a day of wearing shades and a hat to school!

CHESS NEWS

Ten students from Briarmeadow Participated in the HCA scholastic chess event at Friendswood High School on Saturday April 25. BCS Primary and Elementary divisions did not have enough players to win a team event but two individual place trophies were awarded to Viola Dagher and Hayden McCallum who each had three wins out of five rounds played. The Middle School team consisted of Gio Dagher, Jesus Martinez, Rodrigo Hercules, Delfino Santizo, Eduardo Vela, Jeffrey Santizo, and Johnathan Pullen. There were also two individual trophy winners. They were: Johnathan Pullen(4th) place with a score of four wins out of five rounds, and Gio Dagher who won 3 out of five rounds for a 6th place showing. Coaches' Honorable mention goes to Everett Dagher who worked very hard to win two of his five rounds and draw one game for a score of 2.5. WAY TO GO BRONCOS!! Next tournament will be at John Cooper School on May 2, in the Woodlands. Visit the official regional website to check entries at www.chess.jliptrap.us

Special Olympics

This year Cynthia Oropeza competed in the Special Olympics. This past Saturday she competed at St. Johns. She ran the 50 meter dash and we are proud to say that she got a silver medal for second place. She was close to get the gold. She'll be competing again next Saturday at Strake. Job well done Cynthia...you are amazing!