

PAWPRINTS

BARBARA BUSH ELEMENTARY BOBCATS – NOVEMBER 4, 2009

Houston Independent School District
www.bushelementary.org
 CHARACTER EDUCATION THEME: RESPECT

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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|----------------|------------------------|--|
| November 4 | 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | Papa John's Pizza Pick-up at Bush |
| November 5 | 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Picture Retakes |
| November 6 | 9:00 a.m. | Bush Vanguard Neighborhood G/T Forum |
| November 7 | 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | West Region Elementary and Middle School GT/Magnet Information Session @ Westbury HS |
| November 9 | 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | 2 nd Grade – Express Theater/Hershey Park |
| November 11 | 3:15 p.m. | BEC Meeting - Library |
| November 12 | 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. | 4 th & 5 th Grade Chorus – Nutcracker Market/Double Dave's |
| November 13 | | Free Dress Day |
| November 17 | 8:00 a.m. | Tea With Theresa |
| November 25-27 | | Thanksgiving Holiday – No School |

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE LAW

The Texas Legislature has passed laws stating that a student shall be required to attend school for the entire instructional period (school year). If a student is absent from school without excuse for any portion of the school day for three (3) days in a four-week period or for ten (10) or more days in a six-month period, the student and the student's parent or legal guardian are subject to prosecution by the Harris County Justice of the Peace Courts. The student may also be referred to a juvenile court.

Please remember to schedule your family vacations and trips out of the country during regular school holidays like Thanksgiving, winter break, spring break, and summer vacation. Family vacations cannot be considered excused absences by the State of Texas. As a result, they are recorded as unexcused absences. Thirteen unexcused absences are considered grounds for retention. Every day at school is important. All students **MUST** attend school up to and including the last day on May 27, 2010. Report cards will go home on May 27.

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

SPECTACULAR SCIENCE

Here is the Spectacular Science Word for the week of November 2: classify

BOBCAT NEWS

NEWS FROM YOUR HISD TRUSTEE

Mr. Greg Meyers, our HISD Trustee, would like to invite you to attend one of two District VI Town Hall Meetings. These meetings will give you a chance to learn more about the great things happening in District VI. You will also get the opportunity to meet Dr. Terry Grier, HISD Superintendent, and learn about his vision for the district.

The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the Sharpstown High School Auditorium with a special performance by the Sharpstown Jazz Ensemble. The second meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18 in the Westside High School Auditorium at 6:30 p.m. with a special performance by Westside Inertia Dance Company.

COMMITMENT TABLE

Bush Elementary is committed to celebrating our students' success! As a reward at the end of the first nine weeks, Kindergarten-5th grade students who return their signed report card on November 5 will get to make a visit to the "Commitment Table." Pre-K students will visit the commitment table on November 19.

Ms. Rose, Mrs. Delaughter, and Mrs. Tiet will give out big "Woo Hoos" and congratulate students individually for their commitment towards their education. In addition, students will receive a special prize. Please make sure the signed report card is returned so your child may attend the "Commitment Table" celebration.

TEA WITH THERESA

On Tuesday, November 17, Tea with Theresa will focus on the educational implications of the book, **Outliers**. This summer, all Bush teachers read the book and participated in enlightening discussions on what schools can do to ensure all students have the opportunities for success. Now, it is time for the parents to discuss the book, **Outliers**. Even if you do not have the opportunity to finish or read **Outliers**, still plan to attend to discover tips for encouraging and furthering your child's potential.

BUSH BOBCATS SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

There is still time to help make life a little more comfortable for our troops serving overseas. The gift drive will end on November 11th. For more information, please refer to the flyer that came home today.

Thank you for your support. Your gifts mean so much to our troops.

PRIVACY CODE

The school district maintains "directory-type" information on all students. The district does release this information upon request. Each year, we send out a notice to inform parents of their right to privacy. Parents who do **not** want "directory type" information released must sign the form and return it to our office.

GREAT ITALIAN DINNER & BOOK FAIR

Over 450 people were served dinner at Thursday's Italian Dinner. Thank you to *Piatto Ristorante* for the delicious chicken and pasta dinner. We would also like to thank The Marquis on Briar Forest and Heritage Texas Realtors for all of their support in making the Italian Dinner a huge success.

The Book Fair was crowded the entire night! It was a perfect night with good food and good books. Thank you, Mrs. Zeagler for another fantastic Book Fair. Thank you to the PTO for organizing the Italian Dinner. Thank you to all the parents and teachers who helped with the Italian Dinner and to those who worked at the Book Fair! Woo Hoo to everyone involved in lending a hand in another successful Italian Dinner and Book Fair.

LET THEM EAT PIZZA!

Tonight is Papa John's Pizza -Teacher Delivery Night. Once again, instead of teachers delivering pizzas, families will come to Bush to pick up their pizzas from the teachers. The teachers and staff will be in the carpool lane "delivering" pizzas to the cars that pull up between 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Payment and tips will be collected in the carpool lane that night when you get your pizza.

This will be a fun **FUN**raising evening!

LET'S CELEBRATE

Fall has settled in and it is hard to believe it is almost Thanksgiving. Once again, Food Services will be offering a special lunch to celebrate Thanksgiving. This is a great opportunity for parents to join their students for lunch. The meal is scheduled to be served on Thursday, November 19th. This year the **adult menu** has been enhanced to include the following items:

Homemade Turkey & Dressing
Seasoned Green Beans
Dinner Roll
Sweet Potato Pie
Bottled Water

The cost of the adult Thanksgiving meal will be \$ 4.00.

FREE DRESS DAY

Back by popular demand! Make a \$5 donation and get a pass to wear FREE DRESS on Friday, November 13th! All money raised will benefit "Music, Movement & Machines" at Bush Elementary, also known as our Music, P.E. and Technology Departments! Just fill out the flyer that came home in today's red folder and return it to your teacher by Thursday, November 12th. On Friday, November 13th, you will receive a special sticker to wear in lieu of following our dress code guidelines.

BUSH VANGUARD NEIGHBORHOOD G/T FORUM

Save the date! The next Bush Vanguard Neighborhood G/T Forum is scheduled for **Friday, November 6 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Bush Multi-Purpose room. Parents of G/T students should plan to attend this meeting to see and hear from teachers about G/T classroom differentiation. We will also select parents to be on the Bush G/T Advisory Council. Also, come hear about the G/T testing of PK students and future kindergartners for a Vanguard Kindergarten class to start August 2010.

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: November 19, January 29, February 18, March 25, May 6, May 13, and May 21.

SCHOOL NEWS NETWORK

(articles submitted by other area schools)

WEST BRIAR MIDDLE SCHOOL

It's Carnival Time!

West Briar welcomes all of the families from our feeder schools to join in the fun! Bring the whole family and invite your neighbors and friends to the West Briar Fall Carnival on Saturday, November 7 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Enjoy inflatables, an obstacle course, games, prizes, food and music. This event is sponsored by the Booster Club and benefits all athletics & P.E. programs at WBMS.

WESTSIDE SALUTES AMERICA

On Tuesday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m., the Westside High School Music Department is proud to present its second annual Veterans Day concert to honor the heroes of the armed forces and instill patriotism in our community. Band, Choir and Orchestra will feature large and small ensemble pieces all centered on an American theme, and Westside JROTC will be prominently featured throughout the evening. The audience will enjoy performances by over 300 students with lots of surprises in store for our families, friends and community! The concert is free and open to everyone in the Westside community.

Prior to the concert, Westside Music Boosters will host a BBQ dinner in the Commons. Tickets to the dinner cost \$10 for adults and \$6 for children age 10 and under. More information about the dinner can be found in the WHS Main Office or on the band website www.wolfband.org. Please make your dinner reservations by November 6.

Questions about the concert or dinner may be directed to Barbara Thompson, Westside Music Boosters president, at 281-493-3035. Please make plans now to attend this patriotic and memorable event!

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.