



Belcher Elementary

Home of the Bobcats



April 2019

2215 Lancaster Drive Clearwater, FL 33760

727-538-7437

Volume 1, Issue 3



From

Principal Roth



Dear Families and Friends of Belcher,

I can't believe how fast the school year has gone! We are in the last grading period with lots of learning left to do. I am very proud of the work our teachers and students have done this year. You will not find teachers who are more committed to their students and highest student achievement than the teachers at Belcher! Our school's theme this year was "Be!" As in Be inspired, Be kind, Be Awesome. We have certainly accomplished that with our efforts and hard work!

I want to continue stressing the importance of being on time and at school each day. Being on time sets the tone for your child's day. They can get settled in and ready to start the day in a calm manner instead of missing instruction and being rushed. This is especially important as students participate in state testing in April and May. Research shows that students who take the tests on time with their peer groups, rather than having to take them in make-up do better. I appreciate your efforts since you are the ones responsible for getting your children to school. Thanks!

If you haven't already, please register your child for Summer Bridge. Summer Bridge will be here at Belcher Elementary this year for grades Kindergarten completed through fourth grade completed. It begins on June 11th and runs through July 18th. Not only is there an opportunity for remediation, but enrichment as well. You can also sign up for wrap-around child care provided before and after Bridge and all day on Fridays provided at Belcher by our YMCA.

Sincerely,

Lisa Roth

April

4th- PTA Spirit Night- McDonald's 5:00-7:00 PM
5th- Volunteer Café 9-10:30 AM
9th- 5th Grade Enterprise Village Field Trip
9th- PTA meeting 4:30 PM in Media Center
9th- SAC meeting 6:00 PM in Media Center
11th- Spring Concert 6:00-8:00 PM
11th- Science Expo
11th- Honors Assemblies
12th- Volunteer Appreciation Event 9-10:30 AM
19th- Pro Ed Day- NO SCHOOL for students

Up-Coming Dates -May

3rd- Volunteer Café 9:00-10:30
9th- Spirit Night- PDQ- 5:00-7:00 PM
14th- PTA meeting 4:30 PM in Media Center
21st- PreK/VPK Moving-up Ceremony
24th- Kindergarten Water Day
27th- Memorial Day Holiday- NO SCHOOL
28th- PreK/VPK Water Day
29th- Last Day of School for Students

April— Self Control

Managing your emotions and choosing acceptable behavior.

May— Caring

Being kind, friendly, considerate and willing to listen, give and share.

News you can use

Attendance Incentives

Rock the Door

A class from each grade level with the best attendance gets their door decorated each month.

School Store

For a period of ten days, students earn stamps for attending school and arriving on time. They use their stamps to "shop" at our school store.



Thank you to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers



Bucs Vision Mobile Presented by Glazer Family Foundation

Homework Helpline

Pinellas County Schools Homework Helpline, (727) 547-7223, offers free homework help for students in grades 1-12. The Homework Helpline is staffed by teachers certified in math, science, language arts and social studies. Help is available from 5 to 8 p.m., Monday through Thursday, on all school days, except when there is no school the following day.



Hello students and Parents,

We are getting closer to summer time but make sure your outstanding student knows some safety tips for the road. I want to share some tips when traveling to and from school. 1. Plan a walking route to school or the bus stop. Choose the most direct way with the fewest

street crossings and, if possible, with intersections that have crossing guards. 2. Walk the route with your child beforehand. Tell him or her to stay away from parks, vacant lots, fields and other places where there aren't many people around. 3. Teach your child to never talk to strangers, or accept rides or gifts, from strangers. Remember, a stranger is anyone you or your children do not know well or do not trust. 4. Be sure your child walks to and from school with a sibling, friend, or neighbor. Last, be sure that your child knows his or her home phone number and address, your work number, the number of another trusted adult, and how to call 911 for emergencies.

Conner Davis

Pinellas County School Police

School Safety Officer

Belcher Elementary School

727.538.7437, ext. 2009

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Parents,

School begins promptly at 8:45 AM. Please be sure to have your children on time as we begin FSA testing.

Specials

Physical Education

The Benefits of Active Play

Your child is designed to move! Most kids like to climb, crawl, run, jump, swing, tumble, twist, stretch and peddle. In fact, active play is the "work" of childhood. According to Michigan State University Extension, by moving more and sitting less, your child also learns to live in a healthful way.

Active play promotes:

- Cooperation and sharing as your child plays and learns to get along with others.
- Curiosity and creativity exploring his or her world.
- Confidence and independence while learning to make choices and control his or her actions.
- Learning through play your child's body and brain develop a better ability to learn.
- Stress relief and good sleep as your child uses up extra energy and learns a healthful way to get rid of stress.
- Healthy weight since moving more and sitting less helps lower the chances of overweight.
- Lifelong health. Keeping your child active now helps protect your child from getting diabetes at a young age. Moving more helps lower the chances of diabetes and heart disease later in your child's life.
- Active play can develop body skills:
- Strength, flexibility and endurance to explore and experience the world safely.
- Coordination of small and large muscles which helps with overall learning.
- Body awareness as your child learns what his or her changing body can do.

So get the family together and go play!

Oceans of Fun Concert



All Kindergarteners, 2nd Graders, and Chorus members are invited to perform on this outdoor event on Thursday, April 11th at 6pm.



Bring your lawn chairs. No seating will be provided.

Chorus: report to the music room at 5:40 wearing your chorus shirt and black pants.

Kindergarten: report to the 2nd grade hall at 5:45 pm.

2nd Graders report to the covered court at 5:45 pm.

No special dress is required for Kindergarten or 2nd Grade.

Art



Please take advantage of the FREE opportunities for digital art summer camps for you child. Go to: <https://www.pcsb.org/Page/26999> for an application.

Bully Free Zone!

5517.01 - POLICY AGAINST BULLYING AND HARASSMENT Statement Prohibiting Bullying and Harassment It is the policy of the School Board that all of its students, employees, and volunteers learn and work in an environment that is safe, secure, and free from harassment and bullying of any kind. The Board will not tolerate bullying and harassment of any type. Conduct that constitutes bullying and harassment, as defined herein, is prohibited. This policy shall be interpreted and applied consistently with all applicable State and Federal laws and the Board's collective bargaining agreements. Conduct that constitutes bullying, harassment, or discrimination, as defined herein and in F.S. 1006.147, is prohibited. For more information...

<https://www.pcsb.org/site/default.aspx?PageID=3651>

From the clinic



BE SUN SMART



Put on a Shirt



Put on Sunscreen



Wear a Hat



Wear Sunglasses



Stay in the Shade



SHARE THE SUN SAFE STORY
WITH YOUR CHILD

Kids Risk Dehydration During Summer Months

Did you know?

- » By the time they are thirsty kids are roughly 3% dehydrated
- » Kids are at greater risk than adults because they generate more heat but sweat less
- » Dehydration can lead to heat exhaustion and even heat stroke

How much water should a kid drink?

- » About 250 ml every 15 minutes whilst playing on hot summer days



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I NEED TO STAY HOME IF...

I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
Temperature of 100 degrees F or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with itching or fever	Itchy head, active head lice	Redness, itching, and/or pus draining from eye	Hospital stay and/or emergency room visit

I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM...

Fever free without the assistance of medication for 24 hours (i.e., Tylenol, Motrin, Advil)	Free from vomiting for 24 hours.	Free from diarrhea for 24 hours.	Free from rash, itching or fever. I have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home.	Free from drainage and/or have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Released by my medical provider to return to school.
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If your child has strep throat or another bacterial infection, he/she should stay home until the antibiotic has been given for at least 24 hours and your health care provider has given permission for your child to return to school. We encourage you to seek medical attention when your child is sick and to follow your health care provider's recommendations about returning to school and other activities.

Volunteer

**April is National
Volunteer Month!**

Heartfelt 
THANKS
TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

PTA

everychild.one voice.

Joining our PTA is fast
and easy!

Please email Tiffany
Young, our

membership chair, if you are interested at
Youngti@pcsb.org. Membership forms and
school t-shirts are available for purchase
anytime between 8:00-2:30. Please see Ms.
Young in the office

Our next meeting is April 9th, 2019.

Outstanding School Volunteers
Congratulations to this year's
Outstanding Volunteers at Belcher
Elementary School!

**Hunter Koch, Kristina Tubbs, &
Kathy Wills**

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION



BREAKFAST



WHEN: APRIL 12TH, 2019

**WHERE: BELCHER ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

WHO: VOLUNTEERS & MENTORS

TIME: 9:00-10:30 AM

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

April 1st & 2nd– Door Decorating 9:00 AM

April 5th– Volunteer Café 9:00-10:30 AM

April 9th– Enterprise Village

**April 12th– Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
9:00-10:30 AM**

May 1st– Volunteer Café 9:00-10:30 AM



ALL students
receive free
breakfast and
lunch.

Lunch menus for the district can be found
at: <https://pcsb.nutrislice.com/menu>

Payments to lunch accounts can be made
at: <https://www.myschoolbucks.com>

Enrichment Clubs



PMAC

The Principal's Multicultural Advisory Committee, known as PMAC, is a multicultural group that models and promotes tolerance and acceptance of people regardless of their appearance, gender, race, ethnic group, religion, or physical ability. Belcher's PMAC Committee is in need of more 4th grade dedicated and enthusiastic members!

We meet on the first Friday of each month.

Girlfriend's Club

Mission: To create a supportive environment for young ladies in Pinellas County that will promote student achievement, encourage positive behaviors, enhance self-discipline, develop personal dependability, cultivate high self-esteem, build strong relationships, encourage community service, and provide positive role models.

Here at Belcher our Girlfriends Club meets weekly on Thursdays.

Students Targeted for Educational Performance

(S.T.E.P.) program is comprised of minority students who maintain a cumulative 2.5 or higher GPA and FCAT scores that fall within level 3 in reading and /or math.

The S.T.E.P. program will provide a school-based supportive structure for minority students in order to optimize academic achievement through encouragement, support, and guidance.

We will be attending a field trip this month to St. Petersburg College Clearwater campus to explore college and career opportunities. We will be discussing student success skills in this month's meeting.

Gifted Update- Mrs. Stefanko

Gifted classes are working on Historical Fiction projects at home and are studying the historical events of the 1970's and 1980's in class. We are still working on the construction of our Decade Parade floats for April. I would like to ask for registered volunteers to help with making floats for the decade parade and designing displays for the media center event in May. We will begin making floats and displays in April. Please contact Mrs. Stefanko or Ms. Young if you are available to volunteer.



Fishing & Estuary Club

Fishing club is fishing in Allen's creek catching redfish, sheepshead, and black drum. We are currently fishing with our 3rd and 5th grade students. We meet weekly on Fridays.



STEM

2nd grade STEM is learning about wing design and building their own gliders. 3rd grade STEM is learning about parachutes and building their own parachute canopy to keep a washer in the air longest. We meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays.

Garden Club

We meet the first Thursday of every month. The garden club met with the girlfriends club last month and all received tulip bulbs to take home. I am curious to see if anyone got their bulb to grow, as mine did not. Next month is our last meeting so we will be going over how to wrap up the garden for the summer. A BIG bobcat thank you to Diane Barber who is our volunteer master gardener. Without her we would not of been able to do a garden this year.

Thank you to Home Depot on Gulf to Bay for the donation of mulch & homer buckets.



Promise time

Promise time is an extended learning opportunity to our students. This is provided by the use of a digital learning program I-ready and small reading and math groups. This program takes place Monday-Thursday here on campus.

Student's in Promise Time will be completing their end of year diagnostic testing this month.