



BAY POINT ELEMENTARY MAGNET SCHOOL

BROADCAST

April-abril 2008 Volume XI, Issue 9

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Dear Parents and Community members,

I hope each of you were able to enjoy the Spring break. Science Fair, Science Extravaganza, Butterfly garden work, Spring Concert, field trips, and School Improvement planning are activities that we will be working on for the next two months.

The FCAT went well and is over. I think most of our students felt good about their accomplishment. It comes during the flu and cold season, but our number of make-ups were down. Thank you parents! Our fifth graders felt well prepared for the Science portion and I attribute that to the fifth grade's intensity of science instruction this year as well as our science program... Congratulations on a job well done! Thank you PTA for the snacks. Our students are all working very hard and learning a great deal. I met with the kindergarten team and we reviewed grade level data. We were astounded at the growth and number of readers we presently have in kindergarten. There were a few that came in reading and now over 50% are reading.

The field day was great fun and the parent turn out was excellent. We appreciate the many volunteers, tutors, and mentors that help our teachers and children so much. Eckerd College students also have been working with our environmental club. A volunteer appreciation recognition brunch is planned for April 30th.

Magnet seats for next year have been filled and we are now holding waiting lists for each grade. State budget cuts are difficult and affect all aspects of our district. The school leadership team is reviewing possible areas to tighten our belts next year.

A SAC subcommittee is working out the details of the uniform policy for next year. We want to offer versatility and allow Friday free choice. A brochure containing details will be sent home at the beginning of May. PTA fundraiser items will be available for pick up on Wed. the 16th. Remember they are frozen items.

Parent input forms for teacher evaluation are available in the front office. They must include signatures and the teacher will be provided with a copy. We are fortunate to have such dedicated staff at Bay Point Elementary. And we look forward to the next two months of activities and learning.

Sincere regards,
Gaye Lively, Principal

This month:

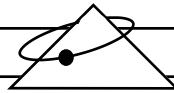
8th After School Clubs: Young Astronauts, Camera Club [PLEASE PICK UP YOUR CHILD PROMPTLY]
9th Water Piggies Show, Cafeteria
After School Clubs: Earth Force Club & Eckerd College Butterfly Garden Spruce Up
10th Domino's Pizza Dough Night
14-18th Scholastic Book Fair "Road Trip"
15th SAC meeting, 5:30 pm
16th Chik-fil-A St. Pete Beach Spirit Night
17th Domino's Pizza Dough Night
21st Eckerd Hall (gr. 2, Godfirnon)
22nd Outstanding School Volunteer recognition, Ruth Eckerd Hall
After School Clubs: Young Astronauts
23rd Science Fair Parent Workshop
24th Westminster Shores (gifted, gr. 5) Domino's Pizza Dough Night
25th Coffee and Curriculum Talk, "Preparing for Middle School", 8:30 am, Media Center Mahaffey Theater, (gr. 1)
28-May 2nd Ft. Desoto, (gr. 4)
29th After School Clubs: Young Astronauts

3 Events For Parents:

23rd Science Fair parent workshop
Science Lab, 7-8:00 pm
25th Coffee & Curriculum Talk
Media Center, 8:40 am
30th Volunteer Appreciation Brunch
Media Center, 9:00 am

Bay Point Elementary *Magnet School's mission is to promote highest student achievement in a safe learning environment by utilizing an integrated system of learning with an emphasis on math, science, technology and foreign language.

Golden School Award - 25+ Years * Five Star School Award
Mayor's Top Apple Award * Florida DOE Grade A School



From the Science Guy

...Mr. Ron Woolums

IN THE LAB

During the month of April in the science lab, the Kindergarten students will be looking at plants and their parts. First graders will be discovering how sounds are produced and carried. Second graders will continue learning about different habitats and adaptations of plants and animals in those habitats. Third graders will be measuring mass and volume of different kinds of materials. Fourth graders will be studying fish adaptations and going on their annual field trip to the Ft. DeSoto grass flats. Fifth grade students will be measuring mass, volume, and density of different materials and then experimenting with mixtures and solutions.

SCIENCE FAIR

Science Fair time is rapidly approaching. The scientific process is a major part of all sciences and it is important that students learn these early. Twenty five percent of the fifth grade FCAT questions address scientific thinking and processes. Here at Bay Point, we incorporate these skills all year long in each unit of study at all grade levels. The science fair is a culmination of the students learning at the end of the year.

Each year, the students at the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade levels are required to complete an individual or small group project while Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade do whole class projects. Most of the teachers use the projects as a part of the final report card grade based on a district developed rubric. Most of the experiments will be done in class unless a child chooses to study something that requires more elaborate apparatus or special data gathering.

All students will need a project journal and a display board. These two items will be for sale at school in May. Completing the project display board may be done at home.

I will hold a parent workshop on *How To Do a Science Fair Project* from 7:00 – 8:00 PM April 23rd for parents of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders in the science lab.

SCIENCE FAIR TIMELINE

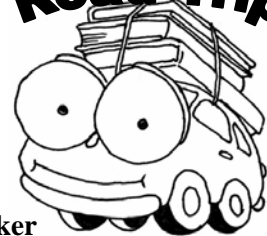
April 23 rd	Parent Workshop: <i>How To Do a Science Fair Project</i>
May 1 st – 19 th	Classroom instruction and project development
May 5 th – 16 th	PROJECT Journals and Display Boards on sale
May 19 th	Projects due to classroom teachers
May 27 th	Project set-up in the science fair
May 28 th	Project judging 9:00 AM– 1:00PM; Open House for families 6:30 – 7:30PM

Noticia Olé

...Sra. Nilsa Gómez

The FLES team would like to thank Club Olé parents and members for their participation in the Pinellas County International Day held at Meadowlawn Middle School in early March. Around 500 students, teachers and community supporters attended. It was filled with a variety of learning activities and language competitions. The students enjoyed themselves as they demonstrated their language skills and experienced other cultures. Fifteen members of the Spanish Club accompanied by nearly 30 other students participated in the Parade of Nations wearing folkloric attire of many countries around world. Six of our students also participated in the Memorized Level 1 competition, getting a Superior blue ribbon, the highest award possible. Club Olé also participated in the dramatic skit competition, getting a red ribbon for Excellence. Many teachers, judges and parents came to **Sra. Gómez, Sra. Van Deilen and Sra. McGill** to congratulate us and express how amazed they were of the proficiency of our students. It is fun to see how proud and how impressed our Bay Point parents are of their children when they realize how much Spanish their children really know!

Scholastic Book Fair Road Trip

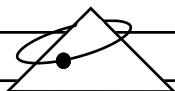


The Scholastic Book Fair is Coming April 14—18!

...Mrs. Bonnie Parker

The Book Fair will be open each day from 8:45 A.M. until 3:15 P.M., except Friday when it will close at noon.

Here's how the book fair works: During the week, each child visits with their class and makes his/her purchases. Families are invited to come during any of our open hours once you sign in at the office. We have books for all ages, including adults! And we think you will be happily surprised at the varied selection and reasonable prices. Besides bringing affordable, appropriate books to our school, a goal of our Book Fair is to increase classroom libraries. One way is with the **Classroom Gift Certificates**, which allows you to donate books to your child's classroom in your child's name. Be sure to look for the Classroom Gift Certificates display when you arrive. A few days before the Book Fair, your child will bring home a flyer that has the day and time his/her class will be attending the fair. It also will have a sampling of some of the books that will be available at the fair. Please remember there will be many more books to choose from when your child gets to the fair. Please send all money in a sealed envelope with your child's name printed on it. Checks should be made out to *Bay Point Elementary*, but keep in mind that there cannot be more than a dollar change given.



Counselor's Corner

...Ms. Kerry Cunningham

TIPS FOR "FINDING" MORE TIME

- **Use time in the car** with your child, or other pockets of time, to squeeze in more learning and "together" time. Set priorities. Decide what's most important to you (odds are, it's your kids). The consciously decide how to spend your time. Have a choice between cooking a fancy dinner or reading with your child? Order a pizza and read the book.
- **Spend one-on-one time.** Kids need both "quality" time and "quantity" time with you. There's nothing like spending time alone with a parent to make a child feel special.
- **Find your child's "prime time"** for studying. This may be a key to his/her success in school. You may have an early bird or a night owl. Work with your child to find the homework time that's best for him.

Homework Helpline

Call 547-7223

Last 2 Reasons to Read

...Mrs. Bonnie Parker

9. Avid reading develops critical thinking skills. Rather than hearing information only in sound bits, avid readers learn to follow complex arguments and remember multifaceted plots.
10. A love of reading is one of the major joys of life. Huddled in a deep chair by the fire with a terrifying thriller; lounging on the beach, laughing at a comic novel; falling asleep over a gentle romance. Without these pleasures, life is a little darker and drabber.

From: *99 Ways to Get Kids to Love Reading and 100 Books They'll Love*
by Mary Leonhardt

Technology

...Ms. Kip Mitchell

Ms. Cherie Frady, one of our wonderful 4th grade teachers, is very tech oriented and her class is always involved in some type of tech related activity. Right now they are using one of our wireless labs for a project they are doing. In Ms. Frady's own words, "The students in my class are doing a 6 page Power Point on an animal of their choice. They will do a page about their animal's body, habitat, and classification, and a career one might choose if they worked with this animal. I created a page on Trackstar.4teachers.org ; track #342914 'It's a Zoo out There'. Through this page I assisted them with learning how to search the web for the information they need for their Animal Project. They are learning how to add clip art, use transitions, change the way the page looks, how to edit and much more."

Just one more BPE teacher who is doing a fantastic job in preparing our students for their futures!

In addition, her students reviewed this web site:

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/kidzprivacy/kidz.htm>

on internet safety which is an excellent resource for all students.

Young Astronauts

...Mr. John Barfield

The Young Astronauts Club continues their adventure into the study of space, science and technology! March was a very productive month for all groups. One group experimented with file canisters and seltzer tabs to simulate a rocket launch. Another made rockets from scratch; we added a real rocket engine and all of them had a successful flight! We had a guest speaker from *SPARKS, the remote control airplane and helicopter flying club. They showed us their unique aircraft, and gave us all an air show we will not soon forget!

After spring break, all three groups will begin to build their end of the year project. All students will have their own flying rocket kit to assemble and fly on our last meeting. This project is a labor intensive one. Little hands are not always as accurate as needed, so now is the time for any adult, or alumni student to volunteer, and lend a hand in the construction of our space crafts! Experienced, or not, all helpers are needed, please come out and be a part of your child's adventure!

If you have any questions, feel free to call the coordinator, **John Barfield** at 727-698-0598, or email at: Firebeach1@aol.com Thank you all for your continued support!

Would you like to help us build rockets?

Come to YAC meetings after school and we will show you how we do it!



The April Commitment to
Character Trait is:

Self-Control

*Managing your emotions and
choosing acceptable behavior*



Join Us for
Coffee & Curriculum

April 25th 8:30am

"Preparing for Middle
School"

You "plant the seeds of kindness"

This is our way of thanking you for driving on field trips, adopting a class, helping in classrooms and the media center, turning out for PTA and SAC events and meetings, speaking to our classes, mentoring, leading clubs, and all the other things you do.

Please plan to attend!!

Volunteer Appreciation Brunch Wednesday, April 30th At 9:00 am in the Media Center

The teachers are planning a number of scrumptious dishes, students have made some things for you and are rehearsing a skit to show their gratitude. (And you might see yourself in the slideshow!)

For more information, and to Rsvp contact Cindy Petelle at petellec@pcsb.org



Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) News

2008-2009 PTA Board

Elections will be held in May. If you are interested in volunteering to serve on the PTA Board, please contact our President, Jerry Blevins at jblevins@fla-esq.com

Your fresh new ideas and energy is needed to make next year the best ever!

PTA Web Page: www.bpepta.org

Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6-9th. This year we'd like to honor our teachers with gifts and services.

If you or your business is willing to donate a gift or service to our teachers, please contact Cissy Blevins at flwildcats@aol.com

Let's show our teachers that we appreciate everything they do with the best Teacher Appreciation Week ever!

Congratulations Students!

Bay Point Elementary Magnet School PRIDE Award winners

Mathematics: LANE MARSHALL

Science: WILLIAM (GREY) DENNIS

Social Studies: ROBERT RICHARDSON

Writing: SARAH DUEY

Strike & Spare Turnaround Student

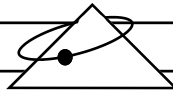
Marguerita Benton

I'm Fit—I'm It!

...Ms. Julie Ryczek

Steps you take each day can help promote a lifetime of healthy eating:

- Respect your child's hunger
- Stay calm.
- Keep an eye on the clock. Nix juice and snacks for at least one hour before meals.
- Don't expect too much.
- Limit liquid calories. If your child fills up on milk or juice, he or she may have no room for meals or snacks.
- Start small. Offer several foods in small portions. Let your child choose what he or she eats.
- Boycott the clean plate club.
- Leave taste out of it. Talk about a food's color, shape, aroma and texture — not whether it tastes good.
- Be patient with new foods.
- Eat breakfast for dinner.
- Make it fun.
- Recruit your child's help. At the grocery store, ask your child to help you select fruits, vegetables and other healthy foods.
- Set a good example. If you eat a variety of healthy foods, your child is more likely to follow suit.
- Be sneaky. Add chopped broccoli or green peppers to spaghetti sauce, top cereal with fruit slices, or mix grated zucchini and carrots into casseroles and soups.
- Keep it separate.
- Stick to the routine. Serve meals and snacks at about the same times every day.
- Minimize distractions. Turn off the television during meals, and don't allow books or toys at the table.
- Don't offer dessert as a reward.



Play Some Math Games With Your Child!

...Ms. Christi Porter



Frequent practice is necessary to attain strong mental arithmetic skills and reflexes.

Although drill focused narrowly on rote practice with operations has its place,

Everyday Mathematics also encourages practice through games.

Math drills and games should not be viewed as competitors. Drill tends to become tedious and, therefore, gradually loses its effectiveness. Games relieve the tedium because children enjoy them. Indeed, children often wish to continue to play games during their free time, lunch, and at home.

Drill exercises aim primarily at building fact and operations skills. Practice through games shares these objectives, but, at the same time, games often reinforce other skills including calculator skills, money exchange and shopping skills, logic, geometric intuition, and intuition about probability and chance (because many games involve numbers that are generated randomly.)

TWO-FISTED PENNIES GAME

Materials: 10 pennies for each player

Number of Players: 2 or more



Directions: Players count out 10 pennies, and then split them between their two hands. (Help children identify their left and right hands.)

Call on several children to share their amounts. For example: "My left hand has 1 and my right hand has 9; left hand 3 and right hand 7; left hand 4 and right hand 6; left hand 5 and right hand 5." Record the various splits for any given number on the chalkboard.

Partners continue to play using different total numbers of pennies - for example, 9, 12, 20.

Option: Partners take turns grabbing one part of a pile of 20 pennies. The other partner takes the remainder of the pile.

Both players count their pennies, secretly. The partner making the grab uses the count to say how many pennies must be in the partner's hand. ("I have 12, so you must have 8." The eventual result is many addition names for 20.

Change the number of pennies in the pile to practice addition names for other numbers.

Join us at

(Dolphin Village Shopping Center: 4623 Gulf Boulevard, St. Pete Beach)

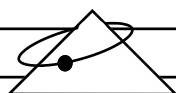
BAY POINT ELEMENTARY *MAGNET SCHOOL SPIRIT NIGHT Get a **FREE MILKSHAKE!**

Chik-fil-A has teamed up with Bay Point Elementary *Magnet School for a fundraiser. All you do is come to *Chik-fil-A* on St. Pete Beach on:

April 16th from 12:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

Put your cash register receipt in the box, and *Chik-fil-A* will make a donation to our school!
Everyone wins!

Just bring this flyer with you, and every student will receive a **free milkshake**
with your family's purchase



Congratulations STRAIGHT "A" Students...

FIFTH GRADE

Vladimir Borodin
Zachary Brumm
Grey Dennis
Sarah Duey
Micah Hawkins
Rebecca Hazners
Alexander Henley
Katharine Horan
Jade Lengyel-D'Esposito
Michelle Lynch
Lane Marshall
Shyanne McCleary
Oishieka Moitra
Seve Monahan
Anna Niznik
Savannah Pate
Miraj Patel
Robert Richardson
Danielle Sackett
Melissa Schwarz
Vikash Singh
Kenneth Stuck
Emma Underwood
Rebekkah Williamson

FOURTH GRADE

Maverick Abulone
Isaac Andersen
Arielle Baker
Jarrett Colquitt
Laura Haan
David Hunter
Nathan Huynh
Lauren LaPeter
Kasey Lineberger
Monica Marrocco
Gregory Parker
Iris Pugh
Tysen Singletary

THIRD GRADE

Andrey Borodin
Sierra Brave
Andrew Carvill
Benjamin Chiudina
Autumn Comiskey
Joshua Cooper
Ryan Dienesch-Calamari

THIRD GRADE (continued)

Olivia Gleason
Diante Henry
Taylor Herd
Alyssa Hickey
Marica James
Alyssa Kelley
Stephanie Lach
Charles Langer
Jamie Loomas
Mitchell McCombs
Daniel Morris
Ethan Myott
Resham Patel
Bryan Peebles
Lauren Pizzoniia
Molly Pope
Emily Porterfield
Reese Remington
Ciana Rodgers
Sathya Romero-Rueda
Holly Spayde
Caroline Stiles
Julie Tavares-Nagy
Devon Ware

And to these students who are on the HONOR ROLL!!

FIFTH GRADE: Jesse Anderson, Amani Andrews, Margot Ash, Zoe Balser, Shelby Barker, Teart Bethel, Victoria Bischoff, Devon Blake, Alexander Bondoc, Madeline Boyd, Lee Brave, Tamera Brown, Alexia Byrd, Megan Clayton, Brianna Daviau, Lamartrick Denton, Benjamin Effiom, Monica Fehr, Nichole Friedman, Christian Goggins, Nathan Horowitz, Sofia Juster-Kruse, Matthew Kessel, Landon King, Maxwell Lee, Claudia Martynow, Carli McCrary, Julia Mendez, Artez Mond, Aerial Nesbitt, Randall Pizarro, Dan Reaves, Auhria Reynolds, Marisa Rivera, Paul Santora, Tierra Staley, Taylor Wilkes

FOURTH GRADE: Tyler Bittner, Darius Blasingane, Mara Brody, Malcolm Butler, Stephon Defreitas, Evelyn Detore, Alyssa Dodge, Mariah Fisher, Chase Goggins, Jaime Gonzalez, JyLyah Gray, Luke Helinger, Jonah Hollander, Daveanand Jairam, David Jones, Sabrina Khattabi, Leanna Kirschbaum, Caroline Lawery, James Leondard, Meredith Marshall, Agustino Marsilia, Garrett McFall, Elizabeth Mitchell, Vincent Monroy, Bryce Morrison, Naga Rohitha Nannapaneni, Miriele Paul, Jordan Peterman, Terrah Reid, Adrianna Rozycki, Nikita Sak, Gessica Sammaciccia, Amber Seay, A'Rielle Snead, Patricia Turner, Aurora Vestel

THIRD GRADE: Darius Banks, Brandon Barco, Jacob Bemo, Matthew Bischoff, Hannah Blevins, Holleigh Bohannen, Alexis Bridges, Benjamin Brumm, Eston Crabill, Jonathan Dacres, Catherine Davies, David Deister, Forest Dennis, Julia Dolson, Dasia Hobbs, Chantel Langdon-Johnson, Silence Lawes, Sabrina Leth, James Macentee, Matthew McCleary, Malik McClain, Brianna Neal, Shurdon Parker, Michaylah Pizarro, Samantha Summers-Cox, Sh'Mar Threadcraft, Elaina Voyias-Griffith, Marquez Walls, Iya'Mani Watson