



**BAY POINT ELEMENTARY  
MAGNET SCHOOL**

# BROADCAST

April-April 2014 Volume *XVIII*, Issue 9

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Greetings BPE Families and Friends,  
Our students have been working exceptionally hard over the past month to prepare for demonstrating success in a host of ways. Our primary students have recently finished their SAT-10 assessments and we are preparing our intermediate students for the upcoming FCAT. For students in Grades 3-5, our FCAT window is April 14-May 7<sup>th</sup>. More information regarding specific dates will be coming home to parents and posted on the website.

**ACADEMIC TIPS:** We are asking that parents continue to support and encourage **Critical Thinking**, an important skill that can help your child do well in every school subject: thinking! Consider these ideas for helping them think critically: spot similarities and differences between objects, be strategic and share your thought process (perhaps through games such as chess or checkers), and flip fairytales by encouraging your child to write a tale from another character's point of view (*modified from Home & Schools Connection*).

**CELEBRATION:** We would like to congratulate the following PRIDE winners who will represent BPE in April at the county-wide recognition program being held at Ruth Eckerd Hall: Joshua Nguyen (Math), Maslin Grant (Writing), Shane McCormack (Science), and Daisja Johnson (Social Studies). They have each worked hard to accomplish this level of recognition and we are so very PROUD!

**KUDOS:** I would like to once again thank our PTA and SAC for their continuous support of our school and programs. The countless hours, hands-on support and initiatives are commendable. Thanks for helping to make a difference in the lives of our students. Little things matter GREATLY!

**SAFETY FIRST:** Lastly, the administrative team would like to thank the staff and parents who provided a GREAT deal of support during the duck and cover (issued for all Pinellas County Schools) last month. Students did a phenomenal job putting into place what we practice as a part of our school's safety plan. Teachers have also done well ensuring that (through our drills) students know exactly what to do and when during a crisis or potential crisis situation. Though all principals were at a district level meeting on the date of the occurrence, we had no doubt that until we returned to our schools, that the processes would run smoothly and that EVERYONE would pull together to ensure the safety and well-being of our beloved students. Kudos to BPE's family for keeping student safety first!

Hearts and Hugs,

Dr. Felita Grant, Principal



## April-Abril Calendar:

- 1 April Fool's Day
- 4 Casual Friday, no uniforms  
PTA T—Shirt Sales, car circle gate
- 9 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BRUNCH,  
8:35 am Media Center
- 10 Orientation for Incoming K Students, 9 am
- 11 Class Picture Day (wear uniforms)
- 14—May 7 FCAT Testing grades 3—5
- 18 No school—Pro-Ed Day
- 22 All Children's Garden (Jefferis)
- 24 Take Your Child to Work Day
- 25 ALL PRO DAD breakfast, 7:30am  
Battle of the Books  
Junior Achievement (grade 2)

## All Pro Dads Breakfast

Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am

*Breakfast is FREE  
if you RSVP by the 22<sup>nd</sup>:*

<http://www.allprodad.com/3578>

*Dads! Granddads! Come have  
breakfast with your child!*

April 25

May 30

### Commitment to Character

#### SELF-CONTROL

*Managing your emotions and  
choosing acceptable behavior.*

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.

5 Star School \* Golden School

## In the Science Lab

...Mrs. Charlotte Vyverberg



As spring arrives students in the science lab begin their study of living things. Human anatomy, plant parts, animal babies, and more will be part of their science lab lessons. One current discovery kindergarten and first grade are making is how magnifying glasses make things look

bigger; including pill bugs (also known as rolie polies). Our amazing nervous system and reaction time has the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades fascinated.

We are also discussing how to implement science fair project ideas. Two great resources for science fair are the following websites: <http://www.sciencebuddies.org/> and <http://www.sciencebob.com/index.php>. Also check out my web page for project ideas: <http://www.baypoint-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us/scienceprojects.htm>

Project boards continue to be sold in the science lab throughout the month of March. They are \$3.00 and may be purchased before and after school.

## BPE Bowling Team Is #1

Congratulations to Coach Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. Tucker, Mr. Lane, and Ms. Sanchez who took first place at the Staff Bowling Challenge at Seminole Lanes! Go Panthers!

## Battle of the Books and Library News

...Mrs. Bonnie Parker

The school **Battle of the Books** will be held on Friday April 25<sup>th</sup>. Three students from each class of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will make up a classroom team. The students must have read the Sunshine State Young Reader Award books from this year to be chosen for their class team. . The winner of the School Battle will move on to the District Battle in May.



Author **Shutta Crum** visited our school and shared her stories and writing tips with all of the students from Bay Point. A fun time was had by all. Be sure to look for her signed books in our school library.

Many students have **books that are overdue or lost**. Please do not wait until the last minute to pay for your lost book. If you need a bill please see Mrs. Parker in the library.





## Noticias Olé

...Ms. Nilsa Gómez



¡Hola! Nearly 500 students, teachers and community supporters attended the 28th annual International Day held at Meadowlawn Middle School, Saturday, March 1, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. It was a wonderful day filled with a variety of learning activities and language competitions. We would like to thank our second grader Cory Díaz for representing Bay Point Elementary in the Parade of Nations during the opening ceremony. Cory enjoyed participating in many hands on workshops. Again, gracias to Cory and her parents for their time and support towards the Spanish program at BPE.

## Abril Curriculum

KINDER-GARTEN	FIRST & SECOND	THIRD & FOURTH	FIFTH
 Review Essential Learnings	 Review Essential Learnings	 Review Essential Learnings	 Review Essential Learnings

## Pennies For Pasta

...Coach Irving

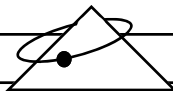
We raised a total of **\$2,505.73** for the **Leukemia and Lymphoma Society**!!!! AMAZING!!!! **\$177.00** more than last year!!

Ms. Gomillion took 1<sup>st</sup> place with a total of \$260.70!

Mr. Bowen was 2<sup>nd</sup> with \$157.62!

3<sup>rd</sup> place goes to Mr. Levesque with \$156.07!

Thank you to everyone who donated and volunteered!



## Panthers of Pi

...Mrs. Darlene McLean and Mrs. Renee Hale

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS goes to the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who competed in this year's **Gifted Math Meet** at North Shore Elementary School before Spring Break. There were 11 teams participating from southeast Pinellas County.

The 5<sup>th</sup> grade captain, **Shane McCormack**, led his team through difficult, high level problems to a **SECOND** place finish! His team members were: **Josh Nguyen, Andrea Rodriguez-Gómez, and Immanuel Penn**. They showed confidence, cooperation, and team spirit while tackling very challenging problems. Josh Nguyen also took home the 3<sup>rd</sup> place individual trophy!

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade captain, **Arni Kumar**, also led her team to victory; they brought home trophies for **FIRST** place! Team members were: **Leah Sonberg, Gage Higel, and Andrew Blackett**. Cooperation and diligent reading helped their accuracy.

Both teams did a fantastic job, worked hard, and had a lot of fun. They received tee shirts, compliments of PTA, and participation ribbons. Mrs. McLean has TWO new plaques to hang up in her room! Way to go, everyone! We are proud of all of you! And thanks to our **wonderful PTA** for their continued support!

## A Few Reminders

- ♦ *If you are using the parent car circle at dismissal be sure to put up your child's **name sign** in your front window and follow the traffic pattern so that we can make your trip through the circle as efficient and safe as possible.*
- ♦ *Please remember that our **school start time is 8:35** and dismissal is promptly at 2:35. Student learning begins immediately, so for a student to avoid a tardy they must be in their designated classroom at that time, not arriving to campus.*
- ♦ *There is **no smoking** on campus, even in your car.*

**F** The FCAT testing window opens April 14th and ends May 7th; we would ask you to continue to encourage your students to do their best in all their class work and their homework review.

**C** So that you do your best:

**A**

- ♦ Get plenty of rest
- ♦ Eat a good breakfast
- ♦ Relax! You know the material, and will do well on the test.

**T**

## Young Astronauts' Atlantis Overnight Adventure

...Mr. John Barfield, YA Coordinator

Bay Point's 4th & 5th grade Young Astronauts have successfully completed our Mission to Kennedy Space Center for the Atlantis Overnight Adventure! This year's trip was more anticipated than past field trips as it was a new program. As the students made their way to the launch area of BPE, they were assigned to their adult chaperones. With all our gear stowed, we prepared to launch another great adventure. Our trip to the Space Center was smooth. We arrived prepared to be thrilled and to learn many things! Kennedy Space Center's teachers and program leaders met us in the parking lot. Greetings and the rules were explained. After a security check we moved into America's Spaceport. Our leaders showed us the areas we would be venturing into. A visit to the Rocket garden and a scavenger hunt began our afternoon. As the event progressed, we had the opportunity to meet NASA Veteran Shuttle Astronaut Captain Jon McBride, USN. He thrilled and informed our students with stories of space flight, and what type of education it takes to become an Astronaut! Next we had a great dinner then headed over to the Shuttle Launch experience. A simulated ride on the space shuttle! What a blast we all had!

Making our way to the main event for the trip we entered the Atlantis building. A history of the Space Shuttle Program was viewed by the members. As the movie ended the curtain opened to the main exhibit –the Space Shuttle Atlantis! The wonder in our Young Astronauts eyes was a sight to see. Our KSC leaders gave a great presentation for the evening. As time ticked away too fast, we set up our sleeping area for the night.

Morning came too quickly. We packed our gear and had a great breakfast. A final farewell from our KSC team and we were set free! The remainder of the day our group traveled out to the Saturn V Center to see America's most powerful rocket ever built! Exploration was the schedule for the rest of the day, as members broke off with their chaperones to investigate Kennedy Space Center. The trip home was smooth with the exception of a huge traffic jam in Tampa! Many thanks to the Parents, Administration, members and special guest that made this trip a success. This years volunteers were: **Mrs. Osani, Ms, Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Smalling, Mr. Rodriquez, Mrs. Colonia, Mr. Barfield, Ms. Godfirnon, Mr. Spayde, Mr. & Mrs. Herring, and Mrs. Czynszczon.**

# BPE ♥s Our Volunteers

We have outstanding volunteers at Bay Point Elementary and hope you all know how much we appreciate all you have done for us. On Wednesday, April 9th we are hosting brunch and hope everyone who volunteers in classrooms, on field trips, for the PTA or SAC and who donated to our school will come. The teachers are preparing a wonderful spread so come hungry!



## Volunteers Give the Best Gift of All—Themselves

### Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

Wednesday, April 9th

Media Center, *After the morning bell*

### 2013-2014 Outstanding Volunteers

It is always a tough call since we have so many who do so much. This year we are pleased to recognize these two individuals:

**Richard Destefano**- "Mr. D." has volunteered in kindergarten classrooms since 2009 when his grandchildren started here. He reads stories and engages the students in discussions about the books. His efforts have improved literacy comprehension.

**Chris Simoniello**- Dr. Simoniello has conducted extra science lessons here for three years. She works closely with the classroom teacher to augment what is being taught and brings in numerous supplies. This year she spearheaded the *Spooky Science* exhibit at our Fall Fest.

### Thank you for stepping forward...

Parent-Teacher Association

- PTA President** Shanika Sanders
- Vice President** Mari Czyszczon
- Program Chair** Miles Baker
- Activities Chair** Jen Cannizzaro
- Membership Chair** Lorrie Ashley
- Fundraising** Dan Summers
- Treasurer** Cara Ertle
- Recording Secretary** Jen Suereth
- Corresponding Secretary/**
- Volunteer Coordinator** Carmen Pupo
- Merchandise/Shirts** Rose Kramer
- Reflections** Kelly D'loughy, Martha Harrington
- Hospitality** Cheryl Stacks
- Math Superstars** Tracy Grant
- Technology** Mike Jefferis, Tim Sonberg
- Teacher Liaison** Carrie Jefferis
- Web Site** Brennan Guinagh

**School Advisory Council Chair** Bryan Higel  
Erica Shepherd, Chris Simoniello,  
Kyle Baker, Luisa Walsh

SAC

**ALL PRO DAD Coordinator:** Jorge Angulo

### Thank you Publix at Seville Square

Business Partner of the Year

Hosting PTA Math Night and Field Trips

### Spring Has Sprung!



Second Grade is proud to report that eggs have been spotted, larvae has hatched, and the butterflies have arrived in their new garden!

### Box Tops for Education

Please continue to collect Box Tops for Education and send them in to the office. Ask your friends and families to save them for us too!

Over \$1500 collected

### We Recycle:

- ♦ Ink Cartridges
- ♦ Cell Phones



### Homework Helpline

727-547-7223