



**BAY POINT ELEMENTARY  
MAGNET SCHOOL**

# BROADCAST

April– April 2011 Volume XV, Issue 9

**Delores Milton, Principal**

Barbara Hawkins, Assistant Principal

Christine Porter, Ed.D., Magnet Coordinator

5800 22<sup>nd</sup> Street South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33712-5797

School Phone: 552-1449 Office Hours 8:00 AM - 3:15 PM

www.baypoint-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us



Dr. Julie Janssen, Superintendent  
(727) 588-6000 \* www.pcsb.org

Barbara Thornton, Area 4 Superintendent  
(727) 507-4493

## *Administrator's Message*

Dear Bay Point Families,

Well, we made it to April with signs of spring in the air: birds chirping, flowers blooming and grass looking a little greener. Time surely flies, doesn't it? It looks like it was just yesterday your little ones came to school and now we are just a couple of months away from ending another school year.

FCAT testing for grades 3-5 in the areas of Reading, Math, and Science is our next **BIG** mission. This is a huge test for all of us at Bay Point Elementary. Teachers have worked each day preparing our little Panthers for this big day! Administration supported teachers by reviewing data and providing strategies to further support learning. Please look over the Testing Tips flyer we included in this newsletter. It is very important your child arrives to school on time during testing days.


Sincerely,

Ms. Hawkins,  
Assistant Principal

***Make sure your child continues to read  
during Spring Break!***

## Calendar:

*Early Release Every Wednesday, 1:35 pm*

- 4<sup>th</sup> Welcome back from Spring Break!  
Registration begins-incoming Kindergarten
- 5<sup>th</sup> PRIDE Award ceremony
- 8<sup>th</sup> Casual Friday—no uniforms, best behavior
- 11<sup>th</sup>—22<sup>nd</sup> **FCAT Testing, grades 3, 4, 5**
- 11<sup>th</sup> SAC Meeting, 3:30 pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> **Earth Day**  
Showers for Hope   
Leukemia Drive
- 25<sup>th</sup> NO SCHOOL—Pro Ed Day
- 27<sup>th</sup> Busch Gardens (gifted classes)
- 28<sup>th</sup> *Take Your Child to Work Day*  
PTA Parent Pick:  
“Bay Point Boogie” family dance, 6:30 pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> BPE Library *Battle of the Books*

*Incoming Kindergarten Registration Period  
April 4<sup>th</sup>—May 4<sup>th</sup>*

*Coming Up...May*

- 2<sup>nd</sup>—6<sup>th</sup> *Teacher Appreciation Week*
- 4<sup>th</sup> *Incoming Kindergarten Orientation ends*
- 5<sup>th</sup> *PTA AstroSkate Party*

## Clubs

*Please be prompt picking up your child from  
after school activities or they may be  
dismissed from the clubs.*

- Earth Force—5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>
- Club Olé—7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>—2:50-3:45 pm
- Guitar Club - Beginning Level: Mondays  
Intermediate & Advanced: Thursdays
- Pearls/5000 Role Models—29<sup>th</sup>
- Young Astronauts—12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> to 4:00 pm

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.

*A Community of Master Learners*

## From the Science Lab

...Ms. Warson

During the month of April, the students will continue to study Earth Science. Kindergarteners will discover the pull of gravity and push of wind while flying kites. We will also discuss night and day, the moon and the Sun. First graders will study the stars and the Sun. Second graders will veer away from Earth Science for a few weeks and discuss the Human Body. More Health will be visiting the second graders for a lesson on Bones! Third grade will continue discussing the Sun and our Solar System. Fourth graders have been charting the changes in the observable moon shape over the last month. They will now look for patterns in those changes and relate that the rotation of Earth (day and night) and the apparent movements of the Sun, Moon, and stars are connected. Fifth graders will be taking the Science FCAT! Good luck 5th graders!!!!

Some great websites to check out relating to Earth Science are:

- ♦ <http://sciencespot.net/Pages/kidzone.html>
- ♦ [http://www.mnh.si.edu/earth/main\\_frames.html](http://www.mnh.si.edu/earth/main_frames.html)
- ♦ <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/kids/>

### FCAT Rap

Keep a clear fo - cus,  
for it is key!

Ana - lyze, summa - rize,  
use a strate - gy.

Read it once. Read it twice.  
Read it once more.

Answer with evi - dence  
and in - crease your score!

*This rap was developed using music, math, and language arts skills as a collaborative effort between Mr. Pineda and Ms. Scott's third graders. See more of this story on-line!*

## Noticias Olé

...Sra. Gómez

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF KNOWING A SECOND LANGUAGE?

In addition to developing a lifelong ability to communicate with people from other countries and backgrounds, other benefits include improved overall school performance and superior problem-solving skills (e.g., Bamford & Mizokawa, 1991; see discussion in Hakuta, 1986).

Students of foreign languages tend to score higher on standardized tests. Results from the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) show that students who had studied a foreign language for 4 or more years outscored other students on the verbal and math portions of the test (The College Board SAT, 2003).

Knowledge of a second language also seems to coincide with high academic achievement. A study by Horn and Kojaku (2001) shows that students who were in "rigorous" programs in high school, which included 3 years of foreign language study, were likely to earn better grades in college and less likely to drop out.

Learning another language can enhance knowledge of English structure and vocabulary (Curtain & Dahlberg, 2004).

Students of foreign languages may have better career opportunities (Carreira & Armengol, 2001). In a survey of 581 alumni of The American Graduate School of International Management in Glendale, AZ, most respondents said they had gained a competitive advantage from their knowledge of foreign languages and other cultures. They said that not only was language study often a critical factor in hiring decisions and in enhancing their career paths, it also provided personal fulfillment, mental discipline, and cultural enlightenment (Grosse, in press).

The benefits to society are many. Americans fluent in other languages improve global communication, enhance our economic competitiveness abroad, and maintain our political and security interests. In recent years, the U.S. government has expressed a need for fluent speakers of languages other than English, particularly in less commonly taught languages such as Arabic and Chinese (U. S. General Accounting Office, 2002).

*From: Center for Applied Linguistics – [www.cal.org](http://www.cal.org)*

### Recycle With Us!

- ♦ Cell phones
- ♦ Ink jet cartridges
- ♦ Newspaper



### Do You Shop On-Line?

[www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com)

[www.schoolstore.com](http://www.schoolstore.com)

### Tech Talk

...Ms. Sanchez

As of March 16<sup>th</sup>, 85% BPE students were using the Lexia Reading program. The total number of usage minutes equals to roughly 193 days. Can you figure out what the total number of minutes our students have spent on Lexia Reading? Awesome job! Keep it up...because we have been granted the privilege to pilot their next program called Reading Plus – it is a fantastic program for developing silent reading fluency – getting kids to read faster with comprehension! This program is available for students who have successfully mastered the Lexia Reading program. Keep up the great work!!



## Counselor's Corner

...Ms. Tetro

### SELF-CONTROL

The character theme for April is Self-Control. Self Control is managing your emotions and choosing acceptable behavior. It is important that students practice self-control at home in addition to school, as this will teach your child how to make good choices. Please use the following dinner dilemma as a way to teach your child the importance of self-control.

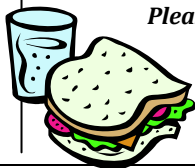
### DINNER DILEMMA

**SITUATION:** Sam and his brother are home alone. His parents have a strict rule about no snacks before dinner.

**DILEMMA:** On the one hand Sam can give into his temptation and raid the cookie jar. On the other hand Sam knows he should show self-control and wait until after dinner.

**Discussion:** What advice do you have for Sam?

"When angry, count to 10 before you speak.  
If you are very angry, count to 100."  
~ Thomas Jefferson



*Please remember, you may only  
bring your own child to the  
guest table—  
no friends!*

## A Successful Fair, Now A Battle of the Books

...Mrs. Parker

The **SPRING BOOK FAIR** was a huge success! The Book Fair is intended to promote literacy in our school and encourage a love of reading.



Throughout the week, many students could be seen in classrooms curled up with their recent book purchases. Parents and students were also very generous in purchasing books to be used in the classroom.

Funds raised from the spring book fair help supply all the needs of the media center including books, book supplies, DVD's and this year even *Kindles*! A huge thank you goes out to all the parent volunteers who helped at the Book Fair and to all the families who supported it.

The **BATTLE OF THE BOOKS** is coming! Our school Battle will be April 29<sup>th</sup> with the winning team representing our school at the county Battle May 24<sup>th</sup>. All students in grades 3-5 who have read at least some of the 15 SSYRA titles are eligible to participate.

The purpose of the Battle of the Books program is:

1. To expose children to a variety of literature,
2. To increase students' familiarity with authors,
3. To encourage recreational reading,
4. To improve reading comprehension, and
5. To share books through written and oral expression.

Last year our school team made it to the top 6 televised Battle. We have excellent readers here at Bay Point and so I know we can make it to the top spot again!

### *Having lunch with your child?*

Additional content on-line at:

<http://www.baypoint-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us/newsletter.htm>

(live links, photos, etc.)

## Young Astronauts at BPE

...Mr. John Barfield

Your Young Astronauts are preparing to begin group projects. This involves building a real, launching rocket! The kit takes multiple meetings to complete. Each member will have the fun and excitement of seeing their rocket fly at our final meeting in May, the "Big Blast!"

Now is the time for all available adults and former YAC members to volunteer their time to assist the YAC groups in successfully achieving this task. Group 2, our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students led by Ms. Cindy Wilson, needs volunteers. So far this year, they have had little to no extra hands. Sometimes our students need help with the smaller steps of assembling the space craft. Please give time to this exciting activity. Plus you get the benefit of seeing students at their best! Anyone interested, contact your group leader, or call, email me the coordinator at:

Firebeach1@aol.com or 727-698-0598.

A highlight from last month: YAC had a special visitor, Ms. Cathy Carr, from the United Space Alliance came to Bay Point. She shared interesting information about her job and space flight history. We did an activity with balloons that showed the children the principles behind movement, motion, and the forces that effect it. We had a great time! Thank you all for your continued support, and I hope to see many parents out during these last few meetings!

### Thank you, FIS!

Thank you to Mr. Walter Riddock and FIS for the generous donation to our school to update technology in our classrooms.

### Adopt-A-Class

Thank you to:

**JEROME & CARLA LANE**  
MR. WOOD

YOU VOTED FOR IT!

### PTA "Bay Point Boogie" Family Dance

Thursday, April 29th  
6:30-8:00 pm



### BPE PTA ... CONNECTED FOR KIDS

...Mrs. Dawn Smith, PTA President

This year there are no catalogs, art projects or auctions. We have heard your voices! We understand you want to help the school, but do not want to spend valuable time selling things to your family and friends that they do not necessarily want or need.

#### WE ARE HOLDING A DIRECT DONATION FUNDRAISER

- ◆ No hassles
- ◆ 100% tax deductible
- ◆ All donations stay in the school

#### OF COURSE IT WOULD NOT BE A FUNDRAISER WITHOUT INCENTIVES!

- ◆ \$10 Special Surprise Show
- ◆ \$25 Special Surprise Show and Popcorn and Movie Party
- ◆ \$50 Special Surprise Show and Popcorn and Movie Party and Rockin' Recess on the PE Field
- ◆ \$100 (that's \$10 from 10 friends) all of the above and a chance to be Principal, AP, Magnet Coord., Librarian, Coach or Science teacher for a day!

### Why Kindles?

... Mrs. Bonnie Parker

The district is encouraging schools to purchase *Kindles* for the library for student use. By the time our students reach high school it may be that all their text books are electronic. Getting started now will give our students a jump up.

#### ONE KINDLE = 15 BOOKS

The District Library Department will purchase all 15 Sunshine State Young Reader Award (SSYRA) Books for school library *Kindles* purchased by April 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a tremendous cost savings for our school if we act fast—the deal will not last long.

#### A CLASS SET = 23 KINDLES

Bay Point Elementary Magnet School seeks to stay on the cutting edge of technology. The media center is purchasing *Kindles* using the proceeds from the recent book fair, but with budget cuts looming we need your help to acquire a class set. The PTA is accepting donations, or you may donate directly to BPE. Remember, your donation is tax-deductible.

### YES, I will Adopt-A-Kindle !

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed:  \$ 135 to buy a Kindle and case

Please return by April 15<sup>th</sup> so that we receive the SSYR books.  
Make checks payable to: Bay Point Elementary Magnet School

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

### Adopt-A-Kindle

Thank you to:

**KIP MITCHELL**

**ANN TAYLOR**

*THE TAX LADY*

**JASON & TRACY GRANT**

**TED & VALERIE STRICKLAND**

**THE SCHERER FAMILY**

**THE CZYSZCZON'S**

*PLAZA BEACH RESORTS*

**BRIAN & PAIGE STORMAN**

# You Give Us the Time of Your Life

Please let us thank you by joining us at the  
**Volunteer Appreciation Brunch**

Thursday, April 21st after the morning bell  
In the BPE Media Center

- Learn about the new volunteer sign-in system
- Enjoy brunch prepared by the faculty and staff
- Pick up this year's volunteer pin
- Help us honor our Outstanding School Volunteer
- Did we catch you on camera?—see the slide show!



RSVP. Cindy Petelle [petellec@pcsb.org](mailto:petellec@pcsb.org) or call 552.1449  
BAY POINT ELEMENTARY MAGNET SCHOOL

## **FCAT Testing Tips for Parents and Students**

Review these tips to help your child do well:

- ◆ Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep
- ◆ Make sure your child eats properly the day of a test.
- ◆ Maintain a pleasant home environment and avoid unnecessary conflicts.
- ◆ Try to make the morning of the test a pleasant one. Do not add to your child's stress.
- ◆ Make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the climate of the testing room.
- ◆ Ensure that your child is present during testing (children generally perform better when taking tests in their groups rather than at a make-up time).
- ◆ Get your child to school on time the day of the test.
- ◆ Wish your child good luck each morning of the test. Tell your child that he/she is special and that you believe in him/her!
- ◆ Remind your child the test is important. Encourage him/her to do his/her best.
- ◆ If your child is too ill to attend, please call the school office.
- ◆ Remind your child to listen carefully to the instructions from the teacher and to read the directions and each question carefully.
- ◆ Explain to your child the importance of using time wisely. If your child gets stuck on a question, encourage him or her to make the best guess and move on.
- ◆ Tell your child to attempt to answer all of the questions and not to leave any blank.
- ◆ Encourage your child to stay focused on the test, even if other students finish early.

**FCAT testing will begin April 11<sup>th</sup> and end April 22<sup>nd</sup> including make-up testing, if needed.**

**We are pushing to test 100% of our students this year.**

**Please, please arrive to school on time during testing days!**

**Make sure your child continues to read while off during Spring Break!**

FCAT Explorer (grades 3-5)  
<http://www.fcatexplorer.com/>

**Homework Helpline**  
547-7223  
*Certified teachers are available  
Monday-Thursday*



## FCAT Rap

Our music teacher, Mr. Pineda, and 3rd grade teacher, Ms. Scott, collaborated to develop an inspirational FCAT rap. The exercise merged music, language, and math lessons to create the piece. A great example of hands on, and integrated learning!

## The Book Fair was a success!

Thank you to the many volunteers who helped out at the Spring Book Fair (pictured here with Mrs. Parker):

Beth Lindsay

Charlene Bailey

Michal Davis



## Have you noticed the new planter boxes?

Marcus Rivera, BPE class of 2005 and junior at Lakewood High School CAT program proudly displays garden boxes he constructed completing his Eagle project this past weekend at Bay Point Elementary Magnet School. Marcus assisted Ms. Warson and Ms. Bouanene in the completion of the *Learn and Serve Grant* which was awarded to the school earlier this school year. The boxes will be used to show students the cycle of plant growth. The first phase of the planting will be home to chrysanthemums.

Ms. Warson's ideas for future plantings (salad garden? pizza herbs?) will give many days of wonder and excitement to students and staff alike. Thanks Marcus!



## Field Day Fun

It was a beautiful day for the event, and we welcomed over 340 parents and grandparents to our school to celebrate field day!

