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Dr. Clayton Wilcox, Superintendent (727) 588-6000 * www.pcsb.org
Oscar Robinson, Region 1 Area Superintendent (727) 893-2988

Principal's Note

Dear Bay Point Families,

Magnet tours of our school are going well. We are looking forward to a successful Magnet Fair on February 2nd and to our Discovery Night on the 13th to attract new students and families. This is a great opportunity to talk about our school as we have so much to offer.

The PTA is hosting its annual Campfire at Boyd Hill Pioneer Settlement. This is always a fun event, please plan to attend and perhaps help tend a fire.

This is Black History Month and teachers have planned a number of activities to recognize the achievements and rich heritage of African Americans.

Fourth Graders will take the Florida Writes exam on the 12th and 13th. Surely they were inspired by author Mike Thaler's visit last month.

Thank you to those of you who participate in the Coffee & Curriculum Talks and the Mentor I Workshop. Our next talk is "Understanding Differences in Learning" on the 29th and will be led by Michele Diaz, Literacy Staff Developer. Well informed, involved parents are the backbone of our school. Teachers are offering a Parent Training on February 5th (different grade levels cover different topics). This will be in the evening and I look forward to seeing all of you there.

Sincerely,

Gaye B. Lively

This month:

- 1st Mentor I Workshop 9-11am, Media Center 100th Day of School! Mahaffey Theater (5th Grade)
2nd Magnet Fair, 10-2 Pinellas Park HS PTA Groundhog Day Campfire
5th Parent Training & PTA General Meeting, 6:30-7:30 pm After School Clubs: Camera Club
7th Science Center (Denbigh, Moore) Domino's Pizza Dough Night
12th Florida Writes exam After School Clubs: Young Astronauts, Earth Force
13th Discovery Night, 6-7 pm (new students) Chik-fil-A Spirit Night, St. Pete Beach
14th Valentine's Day Westminster Shores (5th Gifted) Domino's Pizza Dough Night
18th Presidents Day—No School
19th Lowry Park Zoo (1st, 2nd & 3rd Gifted) After School Clubs: Camera Club
21st Domino's Pizza Dough Night
26th After School Clubs: Young Astronauts, Earth Force

Come Back to School
• Tips to help your child learn
• Teachers in every grade present different topics
February 5th, 6:30 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.

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

This month in the science lab, the Kindergarten students will be learning about weather. First graders will do activities to observe the effects of the forces gravity and friction on motion and speed.

Second grade students will study different habitats and learn about the needs of living things. Third grade students will observe the physical characteristics of the vertebrate animals that are used to classify each. Fourth grade will study of the adaptive characteristics of animals and plants. Fifth grade will review characteristics of animals and plants as well as learning their roles in the food chain as producers, consumers, and decomposers.

GOING GREEN AT BAY POINT

Our Earth Force Club has placed collection boxes in each classroom and the office for recycling paper thrown away during the day. The club members collect it each week to put in the St. Petersburg Recycling dumpster. Our school is earning money each month from the recycled paper. You can help. Bring your newspapers, magazines, catalogs, advertising, and office paper to deposit in the dumpster at the far end of the car circle. Pinellas County Schools saves over \$200,000 a year in garbage collection by recycling paper alone. We will add to that savings when we get our plastic and metals recycling bins.

GREEN TIPS

By just changing a light bulb you will not only save yourself money, but drums of oil for America! Reports prove that if everyone in a given state were to use energy saving light bulbs (instead of the incandescent bulb we use which was designed in 1928), we would be able to shut down power plants in that state! One high efficient energy saving bulb eliminates, over its lifetime, 524 pound of coal or approximately 350 pounds of carbon or almost half a barrel of oil! Fewer power plants translate into helping solve problems with acid rain, greenhouse effect, nuclear waste, air pollution, high electric bills and more!

For more green tips, check out the Pinellas County website at:

<http://pinellascounty.org/recycle> and pinellascounty.org/utilities/kids/

Technology

...Ms. Kip Mitchell

We had a wonderful surprise when **Mr. Chris Hudgens**, a kindergartener's parent, brought us in 150 mice for our computers and 150 headphone sets!! As you know, we received almost 200 laptops this year so that is what they were targeted for, to be used in the classrooms. Mr. Hudgens spearheaded a donation campaign from parents and then he matched the amount! That was such a wonderful gift to all our students and we thank Mr. Hudgens and all the parents who so graciously donated towards these things.

This week, 5th graders are getting their own personal log in name and account on a county server. They will have a private folder on this server that will be there with them until they graduate from high school in Pinellas. What is especially nice is that they can access it from any computer in a school. They will be learning how to use the account this week in my computer classes. It's a wonderful way to keep a continuous portfolio of their work.

We are still accepting donations of old mobile phones- we only need the phones, not the batteries, etc., and used ink jet and laser cartridges. These are all recycled through the Funding Factory and we earn points to then purchase things for the school.

Noticia Olé

...Sra. Nilsa Gómez

On February 1st, Bay Point students are celebrating *Cien Días en la Escuela* (one hundred days of school). Kindergarteners will make a list of a hundred words they know in Español. Every grade level will be participating in different activities related with the 100 days at school.

To enhance their learning at home, you can check the following websites out:

<http://seeds.coedu.usf.edu>

www.quia.com

www.storyplace.org

<http://anacleta.homestead.com>

www.milcuentos.com

¡Gracias!



Earth Force Club News

Earth Force will meet on the following Tuesdays:

*February 12th

*February 26th

Please make sure your child has transportation home on those days so that they are picked up promptly at 4:30 pm.

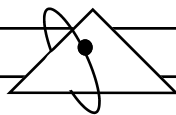


Help us go green! Use the recycling bin in the rear of the school

Has Your Number Changed?

Please make sure the Front Office has your correct contact information. If your child has an emergency, or if the Principal needs to reach families via ConnectEd, we must have up to date phone numbers.

You may also wish to double check who you listed on the clinic card as an alternate to pick up your child in the event you are unavailable.



Counselor Corner

...Ms. Kerry Cunningham

PARENTS – GIVE YOUR KID
SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT!

Friday, February 1, 2008, participating children will be seen for a screening, x-rays, a cleaning and sealants if needed. On **Friday & Saturday, 2008**, children may receive follow-up care such as fillings and extractions. Treatment provided by volunteer dentists and hygienists. Call 727-210-4222 for more information – call today, first come, first served!

There are requirements to qualify:

- *Must meet income criteria*
- *Ages 3-18*
- *Parent/Guardian consent*

Two MORE Reasons Why We Must Help Our Kids Love Reading

...Mrs. Bonnie Parker

5. Excellent reading skills make it more likely kids will weather personal trauma with their academic skills intact, since they will be able to keep up with their schoolwork by using a fraction of their time and emotional energy. In contrast, a personal crisis will usually wipe out a poor reader.

6. Avid reading give kids a sense of perspective. After seeing life described through the eyes of hundreds of different narrators, they see that there are many ways to look at situations; there are many sides to most issues.

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

Late Bus?

Call Transportation at 587-2020 if you have any questions or concerns about your child's bus route.

I'm Fit—I'm It!

...Ms. Julie Ryczek

EVERYDAY IDEAS TO REV UP ACTIVITY

Encourage every member of your family to increase daily physical activity and have fun at the same time. Be sure to think about what your family can be doing to build in more active time during your busy week. Here are some suggestions to consider.

MAKE TIME

Identify available time slots. Monitor your daily activities for one week. Identify at least three 30-minute time slots you could use for physical activity. Then, identify two of them that work as family activity time.

Add physical activity to your daily routine. For example, walk or ride your bike to work or shopping, organize school activities around physical activity, walk the dog with your children, exercise while you watch TV, park farther away from your destination.

Make time for physical activity. For example, walk, jog, or swim during your lunch hour, or take fitness breaks instead of coffee breaks. Try doing something active after dinner with your family, especially on weekends. Select activities requiring minimal time, such as walking, jogging, or stair climbing. Go Red for Women is a National Movement founded by the American Heart Association to help fight back against the number 1 killer of American women.

Young Astronauts

...Mr. John Barfield

The new year is upon us, and the Young Astronauts Club fixed their sights on adventure and learning! All of the groups are exploring, building, and experiencing unique, and fun activities. Group 3 had a guest speaker from Tampa International Airport. We learned about females history in aviation. It was an awesome presentation.

This month, we are spotlighting YAC Group 1, led by **Cindy Wilson**. Next month we will share information about Group2. This from Mrs. Wilson:

Group 1 has been very busy. These young Astronauts have been working very hard. They have learned about planets, stars, constellations, and made many projects to bring home. We will be studying the moon and its phases during the next couple of meetings. I have been very impressed with the number and quality of projects that have been completed at home and turned in so far. Keep in mind that each child is expected to turn in 3 projects by the end of the year.

I want to thank all of the Group 1 parent volunteers that have helped us with our meetings. With your extra hands, we have been able to do many more hands-on projects. Group 1 parents have been wonderful with keeping us supplied with snacks. A special than you to **Kelly D'Louhy, Jennifer Friedman, and Cassie Whalen** for all the time and effort you have given.

The February Commitment to
Character Trait is:

Tolerance

Respecting the individual



Join Us for
Coffee & Curriculum

February 29th 8:30am

“Understanding
Differences in Learning”

February is Volunteer Appreciation Month

We love our volunteers at Bay Point Elementary! Did you know that our 320 friends and families registered at BPE volunteered over 8,000 hours last semester?

Thank you for all the time and talent you have given to our school. Thank you too to all those who signed up for the mentor training workshop on 1st.

Have you volunteered yet? A fun way to get involved is with the PTA—come to the Groundhog Day Campfire and help tend a fire, or sell s'mores for a shift!

If you have any questions about volunteering, please contact Cindy Petelle at 552-1449 or e-mail: petellec@pcsb.org.

**Our Music Program is a Success,
Thanks to You!**

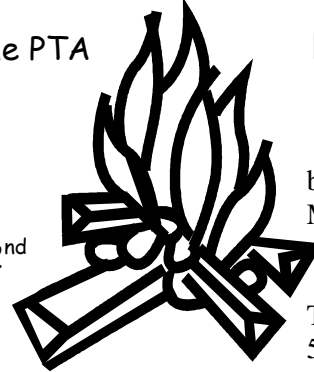
Sound: Sam Pizzo, Jerome Lane,
 Stage Decorations: Janet and Tom Due;
 Wall Art: Martha Harrington,
 Stage Manager: Mark Hentchel,
 Screen Projection: Ron Woolums, Bonnie Parker,
 Risers: Austin Simmons
 Confetti machine: John Barfield
 Program copies: Karen Leon
 ...and all the BPE Faculty and Staff and students!

**PTA Has Several Irons in the
Fire This Month!**

Come to the PTA
Annual
Campfire

Saturday,
February 2nd
Groundhog
Day

6:00-9:00pm
Boy Hill Pioneer Settlement
Pole Barn: 2900 31st Street S



PTA General
Meeting

There will be a brief General Meeting to approve the budget on Tuesday, February 5th during the BPE Parent Training Night. The meeting begins at 6:30 PM

Check out the PTA Website:
www.BPEPTA.org

- Vote for your lunch choice online!

Please Send In Box Tops & Campbell's Soup Labels
www.boxtops4education.com/AboutBoxTops/

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:

February 13th 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