



BAY POINT ELEMENTARY
MAGNET SCHOOL

BROADCAST

February-Febrero 2010 Volume *XIV*, Issue 7

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Principal's Note...

Dear Bay Point Families and Community Members,

Each day brings us new challenges and opportunities to provide the children with an environment in which to grow and learn. We hope you have enjoyed the first semester. Report cards will be going home this month. We were very pleased to share what we are doing here.

Our PTA will be holding the annual family campfire this Saturday and being the flu and cold season, we are having the children take extra precautions in washing their hands, using Kleenex, etc. in steps towards remaining healthy. Many children and faculty have been absent lately.

Our State FCAT testing will begin next week for fourth graders and the second week of March for the 3-5th. Teachers have been providing excellent parent workshops in the evenings in preparation for helping your child through testing.

Please check to see if you need to update your phone number, cell number and email address with our front office. We would use this to notify you of an emergency, lockdown, bus problem etc.

Teachers are completing conferences and special instructional plans. Differentiated Accountability classification requires each school to complete a mid progress report for the STATE. We are presently writing our report. We are looking at innovative ways to build Science, Math and Technology at BPE. Linking with the business community and other resources surrounding us becomes important. What an exciting world our children will be living in and we want them to be prepared for success.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lively

This month:

Early Release Every Wednesday, 1:35

1st Science Center (Morgan, Wall)

2nd Guest Author: Michael P. O'Neill;
Media Center

5th **100th Day of School**

First Friday—No Uniforms

Science Center (Jefferis, Pierson)

6th PTA "CAMP BPE" campfire at Boyd Hill,
5—8pm, Family Games from 5—6pm

9th Florida Writes—4th Grade

11th Grandparents Day

15th **Presidents' Day—No School**

19th Giving Tree Music (gifted, 3rd, 4th & 5th)

23rd Mahaffey Theater (2nd Grade)

MOSI (gifted, 3rd, 4th & 5th)

26th Fresh Fruit Friday

Report Cards go home

MARCH-MARZO

1st Principal's List Bowling Party, 9am

Drivers are needed

9th FCAT Testing begins for 3rd, 4th & 5th Grade

Clubs—Please be prompt picking up your child in the car circle (south parking lot) or they will be dismissed from clubs

Chinese Mandarin: meets 1:45-2:25 pm on Wednesdays

Club Olé: meets to 3:45 pm

Febrero 11th & 25th

Community Care: No meeting this month

Earth Force: meets 2:55 pm -4:00 pm

February 2nd & 16th

Guitar Club: meets 3:00 pm—3:45 pm

Beginners on Mondays

Intermediate and Advanced on Thursdays

Young Astronauts: meets 2:55 pm-4:00 pm

February 9th & 23rd

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

New Directions in Science

Please welcome our new Science Specialist, **Ms. Jodi Warson**. Ms. Warson joined us five years ago as a fifth grade teacher. She will provide program support to the classroom teachers, as well as conducting lessons in the lab.

Ms. Warson has exhibited an enthusiasm for science in her tenure at BPE. Heading up the Earth Force Club, she has built the gardens in the center of the school and works with other teachers in recycling efforts.

She was one of six teachers across the nation to swim with sharks and rays as part of an Earthwatch Institute fellowship aimed at bringing environmental science back into the classroom. The \$2,500 grant she was awarded was sponsored by the Tampa Bay Rays major league baseball organization. Ms. Warson spent 10 days with the California-based Pelagic Shark Research Foundation studying populations and natural history of several species of sharks and rays inhabiting marine estuaries and tidal flats of the Elkhorn Slough and the migratory shark species in the open waters of the Monterey Bay marine canyon.

Did you know you can adopt the science program?

The Science Lab is in need of fresh new supplies, a refurbished aquarium and other help. Please consider supporting the Science Department through Adopt-A-Class. Checks payable to Bay Point Elementary, and indicate "science department" on the notes line.

Science lab "wish list" items include: paper towels, sanitizers, tissues, etc. if you would be willing to contribute these items.

Thank you!



Welcome...

Our new fifth grade teacher, **Ms. Judith O'Connor** is a ten year veteran in the classroom. She grew up in Chicago, earning a Bachelors Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame. She earned her teaching credentials at California State– Fullerton. In California, she taught sixth grade.

Ms. O'Connor has been working in the school district as a substitute teacher for the past two years.

She has four children and 1 grandchild. She is delighted to have joined the Bay Point community, and we are fortunate to have her with us!

And Farewell...

We bid farewell to one of our longtime time teachers, Mrs. Laney Wooten. She is retiring after 27 years of teaching, about 14 of those at Bay Point Elementary. Mrs. Wooten and her husband are looking forward to starting a new chapter growing flowers and planting an orchard.

Best wishes to Mrs. Wooten—you will be missed!

Noticias Olé

...Sra. Gómez

On February 5th, our BPE students will celebrate *cien días en la escuela* (hundred days at school). Some students will be listing a hundred Spanish words they already know, other will be counting all the way to *cien* (100) *en español*. Encourage your child to practice numbers with you at home. Our kindergartener can count from one to twenty. First grade just started learning counting by 10's. The rest of the grade levels should be able to count by 10's by themselves. Here is a little help: 10 *diez*, 20 *veinte*, 30 *treinta*, 40 *cuarenta*, 50 *cincuenta*, 60 *sesenta*, 70 *setenta*, 80 *ochenta*, 90 *noventa*, 100 *cien*. ¡Me gustan todos los números!

Make sure the Front Office has up-to-date contact information—

- New phone numbers
- Change of Address
- Contacts

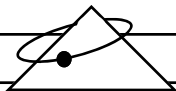
If there is an emergency, you need to be sure we have a way to contact you, or a person you trust with your child!



President's Day

February 15th

NO SCHOOL



Counseling Corner

...Ms. Cunningham

Parents - tests are a part of school life for your student so how can you help your child prepare? Successful test-takers tend to be students with good attendance, homework, and study habits; therefore, your daily assistance with homework and attitude toward school have the biggest impact on your child's performance. However, there are key ways you can develop his test-taking ability.

- **Optimize brain power** by making sure your child gets enough sleep and has a good breakfast on the day of a test.

- **Encourage good study habits and challenge critical-thinking skills.** Reviewing test-taking strategies is important, but monitoring overall academic progress and staying in good communication with the teacher will help you ward off potential problems. Good reading skills factor heavily in a timed test, so encourage reading (consider magazines, newspapers, or even comic books if he shies away from books) as much as possible. Testing also measures critical thinking ability, so ask him to discuss ideas or voice his opinion often to stimulate these thought processes.

- **Know what to expect.** Most teachers will send home information about the test schedule and class preparation plans well before the test. If you aren't sure what to expect, please ask your child's teacher to clarify.

Try these FCAT practice sites:

<http://www.fcateexplorer.com>
Contact your child's teacher if you need a user name or password.

and

http://fldifferentiatedaccountability.org/crunch_time_resources

Tech Talk

...Ms. Andrea Sanchez

We've made it through the second cycle of the Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading (FAIR) with far less technical issues. You can learn more about FAIR at <http://www.fcrr.org/fair/index.htm>.

Third and fourth graders have been introduced to their private home folders located on our district's server which they will have access to until they graduate from high school within Pinellas County. Each student has

We Recycle!

- Ink Jet Cartridges
- Laser Cartridges
- Cell Phones
- Eye Glasses
- Newspaper

created and saved at least one file pertaining to a writing assignment using Microsoft Word to their private home folder. What is so great about this is that the students can access their files from any computer at our school. This is a wonderful way for students to keep a continuous portfolio of their work!

Remember, we collect and recycle used laser and inkjet cartridges as well as cell phones.

Homework Helpline

Call 547-7223.

5:00 to 8:00 pm Monday—Thursday.

Congratulations Community Care Kids Club!

And thank you, Bay Point Families! Over \$800 was raised for cancer victims during HAT DAY. Ms. Griffin's class won the popcorn party.

Young Astronaut Clubs Report

...Mr. John Barfield

The Young Astronauts club has rocketed into 2010, with high goals! Group 3 has finally returned to Earth, after our successful trip to Kennedy Space Center. All three groups are exploring new activities, leaning about the heavens above us, and planning for the future!

Group Three had a guest speaker from Tampa International Airport, Ms. Linda Gregory. her presentation informed, and amazed us, on the huge part of aviation history that was blazed by females! The students enjoyed all of the jobs these talented ladies held, from flying war planes back and forth to the front, to commanding the Space Shuttle!

We sent home an updated schedule on January 12, as the dates in the last newsletter was incorrect. Please mark these important dates on your families calendar! Parents of group 2 members, we are in need of another adult to lend a hand in leading these students. Group 2's leader, Mrs. Saffan, has had some medical issues that keep her from being with us. Our thoughts, and prayers go out to her, and her family. Wish for a speedy recovery!

Thank you for all of the support so far this year, we'll see you all soon!

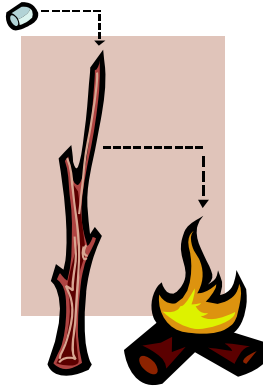
See the Enclosed Flyer for
"Raise the Score" Parent FCAT Workshops

The PTA Invites You to "CAMP BPE"

February 6th
5:00-6:00 PM Games
5:00-8:00 PM Campfire

The annual campfire will be held at Boyd Hill. New this year—potato sack races and lots of other ol' fashioned family fun !

We need your help to keep the campfire safe
 contact: Debbie Griffith at 867-0889



Magnet News

BPE Parents,

If you have an incoming student that has a sibling already attending BPE you must let Ms. Rivera know, ASAP. Please stop by the front office or call Ms. Rivera at 552-1449. Thank-you to all the parents who have already responded.

A Visit From Author Michael O'Neill

Mrs. Bonnie Parker, our librarian, has arranged for Michael P. O'Neill to spend a day on campus. He will visit the school on February 2nd to speak to the students. Fliers were sent home to pre order signed copies of his books You may get a preview of his beautifully illustrated work at:

www.mpostock.com.

Mrs. Parker plans these visits to inspire our students to become better readers and to encourage them to become more imaginative writers.

Magnet Acceptance Period March 1-8

Keep CLIPPING!

Box Tops for Education
 Campbell's Soup Labels

Good Grades?

Present your report at these locations for some good deals:

- Students with all A's or E's may enter a drawing for a mini party from Publix [3030 53th St]
- All B's are eligible for a free movie rental at Blockbuster

Please consider..

... adopting our Science, Tech
 Music or Art Departments.

You Always Come Through

Haitian relief efforts are in full swing at BPE. Some members of the Bay Point Community have family in Haiti, so this outpouring really hits home.

Kudos to

- The Alvis Family who collected supplies for an Army Reserve Helicopter Unit to bring on their mission
- Third Grader Cody Harvey who was so moved to "do something" he set up a water and juice stand in his neighborhood and raised over \$500

Hearts for Haiti Week

The first week of February, the **Community Care Kids Club** is collecting money for the School District's **Hearts for Haiti** drive.

Our students will each receive a heart pin to wear that week, compliments of the Care Club. The proceeds will to the American Red Cross.

(Please make checks payable to:

Pinellas County Relief Fund—Account 1540405)

Thank you BPE
 Volunteers for the
 Over 7,400 hours you
 have given to the
 school 1st semester!



“Raise the Score”

Community: Parent FCAT Workshop

The Office of Strategic Partnerships will sponsor a series of hands-on workshops to assist parents in preparing their children for the FCAT beginning Feb. 4th and running through Feb. 25th. Each workshop will include general information on the FCAT, a series of breakout sessions for elementary, middle and high school students, and a motivation session featuring musical entertainment. **For further information, please contact Dexter McCree, Family & Community Involvement Coordinator at 588-6000 ext. 1846**

WORKSHOP LOCATIONS

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Dunedin Highland Middle
70 Patricia Avenue
Dunedin, FL 34698
Time: 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Tuesday, February 9, 2010

Countryside High School
3000 SR 580
Clearwater, FL 33761
Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Thursday, February 18, 2010

St. Petersburg Main Library
3745 9th Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33713
Time: 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Saturday, February 6, 2010

James W. Johnson Library
1059 18th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33705
Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Saturday, February 13, 2010

Dr. Martin Luther King Family
Center
1201 Douglas Avenue
Clearwater, Florida 33755
Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Monday, February 22, 2010

Citizens Alliance for Progress
401 E. MLK Jr. Drive
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689
Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Monday, February 8, 2010

Safety Harbor Public Library
101 2nd Street North
Safety Harbor, FL 34695
Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Title I Center
2499 25th Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Time: 6:00 pm -7:30 pm

We Love Grandparents

We are inviting grandparents to come have lunch with their student in the cafeteria on

Thursday, February 11th

- *Ask your student what time they eat lunch*
- *Come a little early to sign in*
- *Adult meals are \$2.75 per person or*
- *You may bring lunch for you and your student*
- *Return this form by February 5th to your child's teacher to reserve your spot*



YES! We would like to come to lunch for Grandparents Day at Bay Point Elementary!

I will be dining with:

Student Name: _____ Teacher Name: _____

Student Name: _____ Teacher Name: _____

Student Name: _____ Teacher Name: _____

(You may bring lunch, but if you choose to purchase one from the cafeteria the cost is \$2.75 per adult paid the day of the lunch. Please let us know if plan to purchase the meal in the cafeteria)

Grandparent Name(s):

circle one:

_____	Buy Lunch	Bringing Lunch
_____	Buy Lunch	Bringing Lunch
_____	Buy Lunch	Bringing Lunch