



BAY POINT ELEMENTARY
MAGNET SCHOOL

BROADCAST

March-marzo 2008 Volume XI, Issue 8

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Principal's Note

Dear Parents and community members,

Spring is really here! I am seeing so many spring colors, off and on rain, our butterfly garden has begun to bloom and Florida traffic has increased.

Magnet Fairs and tours are complete. We had over 300 applications to our school. Perhaps the biggest news is that we will be having mandatory uniforms next year for everyone.

I would like to thank our teachers, staff, parents and students for working so hard this year in academics. I have included data for our school for you to review. The FCAT testing taking place this month is an important part of assessment of their learning. Our emphasis is on the learning for the whole year and we want to focus on all types of learning and growth your student has made.

As I visit the classrooms, the children are busy at work and eager to share their progress. It has been amazing to see the determination, creativity, and persistence the children are displaying. Our PTA campfire was exceptional, parent training night went very well and our art card sale is off to a great start. This year our PTA has done an outstanding job with everything. Thank you so very much.

I hope you enjoy your vacation at the end of the month, as I know the months of April and May will be packed full of activities and excitement here at Bay Point.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lively

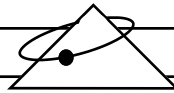
This month:

- 4th After School Clubs: Camera, Chinese
- 5th Early Release Day, 12:45 pm
- 6th Domino's Pizza Dough Night
- 7th Report Cards home
Enterprise Village (5th Grade)
- 10th Library (Kindergarten, K-1 VE)
- 11-14th FCAT testing days
- 11th After School Clubs: Young Astronauts
- 12th Chik-fil-A St. Pete Beach Spirit Night
- 13th Domino's Pizza Dough Night
- 17th Mahaffey Theater (2nd Grade)
- 18-21st FCAT testing days
- 18th After School Clubs: Camera, Chinese
- 20th Domino's Pizza Dough Night
- 21st Coffee and Curriculum Talk, "Preparing for Middle School", 8:30 am, Media Center
- 25th After School Clubs: Young Astronauts
- 26th PE Field Day, parents welcome
- 27th SPIFFS, Multicultural Club
Domino's Pizza Dough Night
- 28th Principal's List Bowling Party, 9:30 am
- 31-4th Spring Break—No School

Save the Date!
PE Field Day - March 26th
Volunteer Appreciation Brunch
April 30th—9:00am

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 plants as living things and about the plant structures. First graders will learn about different habitats and the plants and animals that live in them. Second grade students will study different habitats and learn about the structural and behavioral characteristics of the plants and animals that are needed to survive in them. Third grade students will explore plant structures to learn about the processes of photosynthesis, respiration, and reproduction. Fourth grade will construct food chains and food webs for marine plants and animals and learn other ways that they are interdependent. Fifth grade will participate in activities that explore the process of photosynthesis and the oxygen cycle at work.

GOING GREEN AT BAY POINT

Did you know that 90% of the energy produced by an incandescent light bulb creates heat? Only 10% of its energy produces light. By changing to the newer energy efficient bulbs, you will not only save yourself money, but estimates are that over its lifetime, it would eliminate 524 pounds of coal or approximately 350 pounds of carbon or save half a barrel of oil. If everyone in a given state were to use energy saving light bulbs, we would be able to shut down some power plants in that state. Fewer power plants translates into helping to solve problems with acid rain, greenhouse gasses, nuclear waste, air pollution, high electric rates, and high electric bills.

BPE "Drop Savers" Contest Winners

Savannah Pate
(Ms. Warson)

Bryan Peebles
(Mrs. Rutledge)

Cameron Peebles
(Mrs. Britten)

I'm Fit—I'm It!

...Ms. Julie Ryczek

WAYS TO STAY FIT OUTSIDE OF TEAM SPORTS

Even kids who once said they hated sports might learn to like team sports as their skills improve, or if they find the right sport or a league with the right level of intensity. But even if team sports never thrill your child, there's plenty a kid can do to get the recommended 60 minutes or more of physical activity each day.

Free play can be very important for a child who doesn't play a team sport. What's free play? It's the activity kids get when they're left to their own devices, like shooting hoops, riding bikes, playing whiffleball, playing tag, jumping rope, or dancing.

Outside of the most common team sports, your child might want to try individual sports or other organized activities that can boost his or her fitness. Here are some ideas: swimming, horseback riding, dance classes, inline skating, cycling, cheerleading, skateboarding, hiking, golf, tennis, fencing, gymnastics, martial arts, yoga and other fitness classes, ultimate Frisbee, running.

SUPPORTING YOUR KID'S CHOICES

Even if the going's tough, work with your child to find something active that he or she likes. Try to remain open-minded. Maybe your child is interested in an activity that is not offered at his or her school. If your daughter wants to try flag football or ice hockey, for example, help her find a local league or talk to school officials about starting up a new team. You'll need to be patient if your child has difficulty choosing and sticking to an activity. It often takes several tries before a child finds one that feels like the right fit. But when something clicks, you'll be glad you invested the time and effort. For your child, it's one big step toward developing active habits that can last a lifetime.

Noticia Olé

...Sra. Nilsa Gómez

During the month of March, Pinellas County World Language Department will be celebrating World Languages Month. Our theme this year is "Bridging Cultures Through Language." Here are some words from **Janet Kucerik**, Pinellas County's World Language supervisor: "The study of foreign language, beginning at elementary school level and continuing through high school, will enhance and strengthen students' career potential and help broaden their employment opportunities. Foreign language instruction at the elementary level will add a significant academic dimension to our students' educational program."

Learning a second language will enrich your life, develop your mental ability, and improve your understanding of your first language. It will also help you make meaningful contacts with people around the world, especially now that the world is getting smaller and communities are getting closer thanks to technology and media communication.

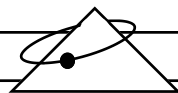
Encourage your child to share with the family what he/she had learned in the Spanish class! ¡Español es chévere, olé!

More Reasons to Read

...Mrs. Bonnie Parker

7. Reading helps children to be compassionate. The essence of compassion is the ability to understand another's viewpoint. Reading brings children into thousands of different lives, allowing them to understand these lives in all their complexity. In television sitcoms, problems are solved with a snappy line in half an hour.

8. Avid readers are exposed to a world full of possibilities and opportunities. Maybe they'll read a Michael Crichton thriller and want to become a scientist. Mark Berent's Air Force stories might spark an interest in flying jets. No matter how limited the world in which children live, with reading they can go anywhere. They can dream anything.



FCAT Test Tips

...Ms. Kerry Cunningham

- Have your child get adequate sleep. The minimum recommended is eight hours. Research shows the good sleep helps the brain do its job of remembering what has been learned.
- Eat breakfast. It is especially important to steer clear of simple carbohydrates such as sugar, sodas, cookies, candy, breads, and sugared cereal. The foods tend to make your test taker sleepy! Good options include fruit, oatmeal, yogurt, toast and eggs. Think protein.
- Encourage your child to think positive thoughts. Positive thinking creates good brain chemistry. When your child is stressed, angry and/or frustrated, their bodies produce cortisol, which blocks thinking. Successful test taking requires happy, positive thinking.

Here is an excellent website that contains all the information about FCAT that you need to know: <www.fldoe.org>. From there find "Parents", do not click but look below and click on "FCAT Home Page."

Creativity Olympics

...Mrs. Darlene McLean

Congratulations to the **Terrific Tarantulas** and the **Creative Conquerors** for their courage and problem-solving endeavors during the 3rd Annual Gifted Creativity Olympics! The Olympics were held at Perkins Elementary School again this year, on February 20, 2008. The Terrific Tarantulas were led by Captain **Augie Marsilia**. His team members included **Thor Russell, Leanna Kirschbaum, and Joy Baker**. The Creative Conquerors were led by Captain **Meredith Marshall**. Her team included members **Lauren LaPeter, Patricia Turner, and A'Rielle Snead**.

They had to build bridges, devise tools, make roller coasters work and fix other problems through careful reading, cooperating with each other, and being risk-takers.

Congratulations on being chosen to represent Bay Point Elementary!

Technology

...Ms. Kip Mitchell

Pinellas County has recently set up a server that houses folders for every student in a Pinellas County school. The student will have a unique log in "name" made up of letters and numbers that has been randomly generated. They will use their student number as their password. If they log into a computer with this unique name, they will see a private folder that they can use to store all their information. They will keep this log-in name until they graduate from high school.

What is really user friendly is that they can also access this folder from any computer that has internet access, in any Pinellas school! Unfortunately, they can't access it from home.

The fifth grade classes have been learning about this folder in classes with me. In addition, several other teachers have started or will be starting soon, to use this also with their classes. It is available for students in K-12.

Just a note about our recycling program. We only recycle printer cartridges but cannot use generic ones. Also, we recycle cell phones but we only need the phone itself, not the battery or case it came in. I just end up having to toss them out. Thank you for your support with this great program!

Young Astronauts

...Mr. John Barfield

February has been a month of experiments and adventure for the Young Astronauts Club. Students are learning about powered flight, rocket building from scratch and safety! Others are exploring the mystery of the planets, figuring out the Moon and its phases. The International Space Station (ISS) is a topic of interest. The current Orbiter STS 122 Shuttle Atlantis has brought the European Science Module Columbus to the ISS. The members are excited to learn about what this new piece of the orbital space puzzle will be doing!

Group 3 talked about the flight, and learned how to view the ISS and *Atlantis* as they orbit together in the night sky! Instructions were sent home with group 3's members so ask them about it, or visit the web site: **www.heavens-above.com**. We have almost completed our flying rockets built from paper, cardboard and string. The only thing not made by us is the engine which will lift it into the sky at the next meeting!

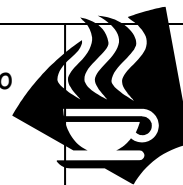
A reminder to parents that pick up for our members is at 4:00 PM sharp. If you are delayed please call Mr. Barfield at 727-698-0598. There have been a few late arrivers and have caused group leaders to stay 30-45 minutes. Once is forgiven with a warning. Twice could be grounds for dismissal from the group.

Thank you again to all the parents for their support, and donations of snacks for our hungry Astronauts!

The March Commitment to
Character Trait is:

Honesty

*Using truthful speech and
behavior*



Join Us for
Coffee & Curriculum

March 21st 8:30am

"Preparing for Middle
School"

Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) News

The **PTA's Annual Campfire** was a great success! The evening was perfect! Students and parents had a wonderful night of socializing and s'mores! Boyd Hill Pioneer Village was beautiful as usual! Thanks to all the volunteers who made this event run smoothly... BPE parents support PTA every step of the way - from firewood and drink donors to fire tenders and concession helpers!!! And once again, "SPECIAL THANKS!" to Amos Coley (a former BPE parent) for his help with set up, clean up, and his generator! Dedicated volunteers make BPE the best!



Because of your great participation in the PTA fall fundraiser, BPE PTA has been able to

accomplish many of our goals so far this year! Some include **donating \$5,000 toward the school's WIFI project**; giving our teachers nearly \$2,000 to use for supplies and materials for their classrooms; and during FCAT, the PTA provides water and a truckload (seriously) of goldfish and peppermints to the students to help maintain alertness and concentration which runs about \$1,000! How awesome is that??? This couldn't happen without your generous support!

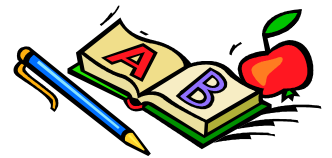
In order to continue supporting our students and teachers--- be sure to **participate in the upcoming Spring Fundraiser!!!** Your support helps provide BPE students with the tools for success!

BPE PTA will be holding **elections for the 2008-2009 PTA Board** 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. The PTA is always looking for new volunteers. All it takes is a little of your time and a desire to be involved in your child's school! As a board, we meet once a month, plan activities and events, and we have fun while doing it! Check out our website at www.bpepta.org to find out more about the different PTA Board positions and volunteer opportunities.

PTA Web Page: www.bpepta.org

Teacher Appreciation Week will be here before you know it. 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!



Be a Part of PTA

The Parent-Teacher Association adds tremendous value to our school. If you and your family attended the Fall Festival or the recent Campfire you benefited from the hard work and sacrifice of other moms and dads at BPE. Please consider joining the PTA Board and lending a hand to their many worthwhile efforts.

Math Mania

Congratulations to 5th Grade students who place 1st and 2nd in their categories at the Math Mania Competition. Ms. Warson and Ms. Kimpton headed up this fabulous team:

Jesse Anderson
Devon Blake
Zachary Brumm
Hailey Chiudina
Sara Duey
Artez Mond
Marisa Rivera
Kenneth Stuck

Four Bay Point Elementary Students Will Shine in the All County Chorus

Danielle Sackett, Megan Burns, Madeline Boyd and Tristian McGowen were selected to participate in the All County Honors Concert as part of the chorus and Orff ensemble featuring over 300 students from local schools. The concert will be held March 7th at First Baptist Church in St. Petersburg at 7:30 pm.

Each year Pinellas County offers students this unique musical experience, where performing becomes a vehicle for learning, sharing, and teamwork.

Thank You For Adopting a Class!

Tim & Mary Sullivan
(Ms. Hunt)

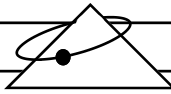
Bryon & Debbie Griffith
(Ms. Bouanene)

Thank You Smart Source!

Smart Source (formerly know as Bit-by-Bit Computers) donated mugs, pens and folders for use at the school.

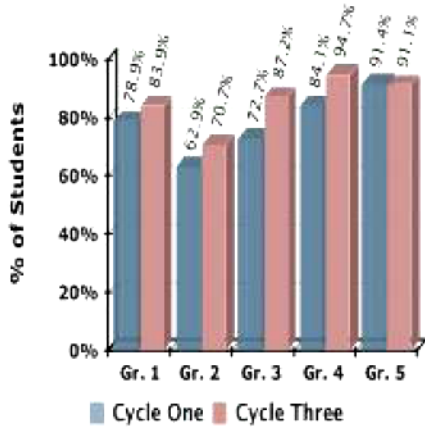
Homework Helpline

Call 547-7223



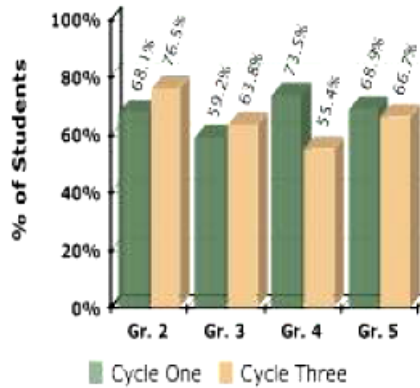
2007 - 2008 PCAS Assessments

Reading

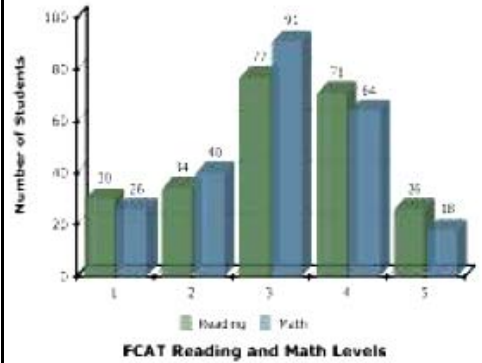


2007 - 2008 PCAS Assessments

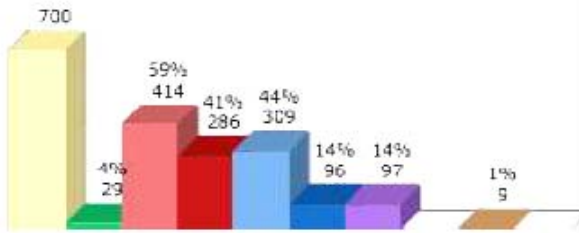
Math



FCAT 2007 - Current Students



School Demographics



Grade	Stu	Hisp	N-Blk	Blk	F/R	SWD	Gifted	LEP	504	AIP
KG	112	48	64	4	53	14	1	0	0	0
1st	111	44	67	5	39	17	13	0	0	0
2nd	116	43	73	5	51	16	14	1	0	0
3rd	120	48	72	5	61	20	26	0	4	0
4th	114	58	56	2	57	16	17	0	2	0
5th	127	45	82	8	48	13	26	1	3	0

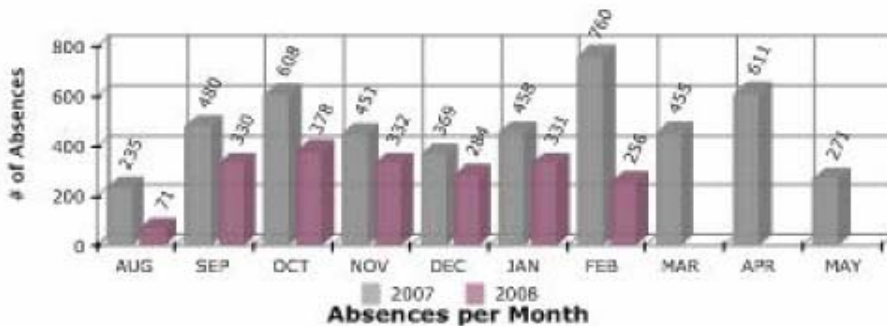
*Snapshot
of
Bay Point
Elementary
Magnet*

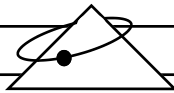
Marvelous Mentors

Thank you to these volunteers for helping sow the seeds of success in our students by taking mentor training. The commitment ranges from informal, occasional meetings, to getting together on a regular basis. Bay Point Elementary deeply appreciates your effort on behalf of our students!

- Sheila Baker
- John Barfield
- Lynn Bittner
- Brian Bostick
- Janice Colquitt
- Robin Cook
- Trudy Cummings
- Lisa Davis
- Janet Due
- Jason Grant
- Tracy Grant
- Erich Henegar
- Andrea Henry
- Michael Hernandez
- Chris Hudgens
- Michael Hughes
- Diana Jahovaj
- Aviva Kirschbaum
- Wendy Loomas
- Donald McDonald
- Courtney McLaughlin
- Susan Odom
- Kym Ottaviani
- Julia Ray
- Jhony Romero Reinoso
- Phyllis Schuster
- Joan Wilkinson

ATTENDANCE 2007 vs 2008





Out of Field ESOL Notification

Our outstanding teachers are dedicated to our students and to the goal of having them reach their highest level of academic achievement. Our teachers are all certified by the state of Florida and are qualified to teach the core academic subjects they are assigned. In addition, they attend professional development designed to keep them current with best practices in education. To that end, many of our teachers are in the process of obtaining their English as a Second Language (ESOL) endorsement.

This endorsement is designed to give teachers special strategies for working with students whose primary language is not English. This endorsement requires up to 300 hours of additional professional development. The following teacher, Julie Ryczek, is considered out of field for ESOL while working towards this endorsement. I am confident that she will provide excellent instruction in a safe learning environment to all of her students.

Our teachers and staff work diligently to meet the needs of every student in our school. Your continued support of your child's education is appreciated. Should you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Gaye Lively at 552-1449.

Where's the beef?

"The beef items that have been on HOLD from our cafeteria menus have been put on RECALL status and will be destroyed. Beef entrees will return to our menus as product becomes available. Our cafeteria staff wants to thank you for your patience with the menu changes that have been necessary. We will always do everything in our power to ensure the food we offer to your children is safe beyond question."



Come to P.E. Field Day

Field Day activities last for about an hour and everyone wins! Join the fun—family members are welcome to cheer us on! In case of rain, the event will be held the following day.

Wednesday, March 26th

- 9:00—10:00 Grade 5
- 9:45—10:45 Grade 4
- 10:20—11:20 Grade 2
- 12:05—1:05 Grade K
- 12:50—1:50 Grade 3
- 1:25—2:25 Grade 1

Please Save General Mills *Box Tops For Education* & Campbell's Soup Labels

www.boxtops4education.com/AboutBoxTops/

Your Childs Art On Greeting Cards

Our artistic student's drawings have been printed on greeting cards, and is being sold as part of a school fundraiser. The sale continues until March 21st. You may order cards at www.ArtworkForEducation.com

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:

March 12th 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