

Bear Creek Hotline

District Website www.pcsb.org
Bear Creek Website <http://www.pcsb.org/bearcreek-es>



Willette Houston – Principal
Nikishia Dixon – Assistant Principal
Lisa Robinson – Secretary
Laura Neuman – Cafeteria Manager 893-1381
School Phone 893-2332

Robert Poth, Area 3 Superintendent 588-2020
Pinellas County School Board 588-6000
Transportation – District Call Center 587-2020
Student Assignment 588-6210
Bear Creek Office Hours 8:15 AM to 3:55 PM

**Student In Class Hours
8:45 AM to 2:55 PM**

Principal's Corner

October 1-31, 2020

Mark Your Calendars

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends of Bear Creek,

I would like to thank all the families that logged on for the Virtual Title I Annual Meeting and Open House night that took place on Thursday, September 24th. Also, I would like to thank you for a wonderful first six weeks of school. The students that are attending are settling into the new routines, as well as our online students are finally getting use to the new way of doing school online. I want to encourage students to use the Guidelines for success; which are our school wide expectations each and every day. They are:

- Be Responsible
- Encourage Others
- Actively Participate
- Respect All



Please review the guidelines of success at home!

If you are not receiving a phone call from us informing you of upcoming events, please update your phone information on your focus account or call the front office. Also, for the on campus students, please make sure your first day packet paperwork is completed and returned to school. The school agenda book is a wonderful communication tool between home and school and please remember to check and sign your child's agenda each day.

My PCS Online Parent/Family Information: <https://www.pcsb.org/mypcsonline>
This link is the one-stop shop for all My PCS online resources. Parents can view videos and participate in training to learn how to navigate the online platform. Also, to

We are looking forward to a great October. Theme for the school year: "All Means All" Bear Creeks quote for the school year: "The strength of the team is each member. The strength of each member is the team." by Phil Jackson. As always, please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Willette Houston, Principal



- Hispanic Heritage Month Until Oct. 15
- Bully Prevention Awareness Month
- Disability History and Awareness Month
- Dyslexia Awareness Month
- National Principal's Month
- National Physical Therapy Month

- Oct 12 - Columbus Day
- Oct 15 - Global Hand Washing Day
- Oct 20 - Virtual PTA Meeting @ 6:00 PM**
- Oct 23 - End of 1st Grading Period
- Oct 26 - No School for Students**
- Oct 27 - 2nd Grading Period Begins
- Oct 27 - Oct 30 Red Ribbon Week**
- Oct 30 - Bear Creek Elementary Halloween Activity.**
- More information to come out soon.**
- Oct 31 - Halloween**
- Nov 3 - Report Cards Go Home**
- Nov 1 - Daylight Saving Time Ends
- Nov 6 - Wear Jeans for the Day for \$1 Fundraiser Benefits 2nd Grade**
- Nov 16 – 20 American Education Week**
- Nov 18 - Virtual Great American Teach-In
- Nov 23 - 27 Thanksgiving Break
No School

Reminder

Wednesday, Nov. 18th
**Great American Teach-In
Will be Virtual**

Please contact Lily Giering, Family & Community Liaison @ 893-2332 x2107, to receive more information on how to participate.



www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern

**Don't Forget to turn
your clocks back on**



**Sunday,
November
1st**

Mission Statement for 2020-2021- Providing all children with a challenging, high-quality education for their academic and vocational success.



**Commitment to Character
Word for October**

is "**Cooperation**" - Getting along with others and working together.



October is National Bullying Prevention Awareness month.

The PCS website has resources to help you learn more about

[Bullying Prevention and Intervention.](#)

If you need to report a bullying incident, we have Bully Report Forms on campus to fill out. There is a red box in the Bear Creek Library to insert the filled-in report into a locked box.

BECOME A Virtual MENTOR

All children deserve at least one adult in their life who will listen to them, guide them and cheer for them. Mentors do change lives, and the smallest investment of time can provide a lifetime of rewards.

Bear Creek is looking for dedicated, caring individuals who are willing to mentor students online. All that is required is a 2 hour training workshop and a once a week online meeting with your student.

If you are interested and would like more information, please contact **Lily Giering, Family & Community Liaison** @ 893-2332 x2107, or feel free to stop by the school front office.

PTA News!

Welcome back students, staff and Parents! There are still several ways to get involved with PTA right now, please see below:

1. The PTA is has an incentive for all parents and guardians to join. There is a drawing for a \$25 Gift Card of your choice. The membership dues have increased to \$6 and you can now sign up online at

<https://bearcreekelementary.new.memberhub.store>

2. We only meet virtually once per month on the third Tuesday, so *you are invited to a Zoom PTA meeting.* On Oct 20, 2020 at 6:00 PM. You must register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join-qr-code>
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join-qr-code>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Meeting ID: 896 4695 4434
Code: 35061

We are a fun group that work for the students of Bear Creek! Make a difference in a child's life, and join PTA.

Thanks, **Amanda Moore,**
Bear Creek PTA President



DIGITAL FLYER DELIVERY

As a reminder, Pinellas County Schools and Bear Creek Elementary use Peachjar to send school information and approved flyers from community organizations digitally. In addition to important school events and information, these flyers contain programs and events offered throughout your community that help your child succeed. After-school sports, local family events, free community programs, and college prep are just a handful of the resources found in our district's Peachjar emails.

You can also find all school-approved digital flyers by clicking the Peachjar button on your school's website homepage.

Please make sure you have parent/guardian email addresses associated with your student's record, so you are not missing these important flyers. The primary contact can keep their email address updated via the Student Reservation System (SRS). Please visit the front office if you have more than one contact, as additional email addresses need to be added/updated at your child's school.

To ensure smooth delivery of Peachjar flyers, we suggest you add the following address school@peachjar.com to your email contacts.

When you receive your first Peachjar flyer email, be sure to click "always display images."

If you have questions about Peachjar, please contact the front office or email Sheila Kane, the PCS District Coordinator at kanes@pcsb.org. We look forward to a great school year!

Hello Bear Creek Families,

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This is Mrs. Johnson-Levy here - Bear Creek Guidance Counselor. I want to let everyone know that we will be celebrating **Red Ribbon Week** here at school from October 27th to October 30th.

Red Ribbon Week's national observance gives communities the chance to focus on staying healthy and staying away from illegal drugs. This year's slogan is:

"BE HAPPY. BE BRAVE. BE DRUG FREE."

Each day we will have a theme - and we hope that all of our Bear Creekers will have fun and think about staying healthy.



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27 - "Lei off Drugs" - Wear a red Lei (We will supply Leis.)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28 - "Team up against drugs" - Wear sports jersey or sports team shirt



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29 - "I mustache you not to do drugs" - Wear mustache sticker on your mask (We will supply stickers)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30 - "Sock it to drugs" - Wear crazy socks



Adopt-A-Class Information

Bear Creek is seeking partnerships which can include businesses and community members to be part of this program. Interested members can Adopt-A-Class with a tax deductible monetary donation.

100% of donations are used to support classroom teachers with purchasing materials and supplies for students which enhance classroom learning opportunities. You can either come into the front office and make a donation or you can go online and donate at <https://pcsb.revtrak.net>.

For more information stop by the front office or call the Family & Community Liaison, Lily Giering or the Secretary/Bookkeeper, Lisa Robinson at 893-2332.

Adopt-A-Class

Global Hand Washing Day - October 15th

Hand washing is Our Best Defense Against Germs.

The Center for Disease Control reports that keeping hands clean is the **single most important step** we can take to avoid getting sick and spreading illness to others. *Proper hand washing prevents disease and illness.*

- Use soap & water to scrub all surfaces of the hands.
- Key areas: in-between fingers, under fingernails, around & under jewelry.
- Everyone needs to scrub for 20 seconds. Try singing the “ABC song” or the “Happy Birthday” song.
- Avoid touching the faucet and door after washing; if possible, use a paper towel to turn off the faucets and open the door.

Keep your hands away from your eyes, nose and mouth. Keep your child home if they are sick. By frequently washing your hands you wash away germs that you have picked up from other people, or from contaminated surfaces, or from animals and animal waste. Washing hands can keep you healthy and prevent the spread of respiratory and diarrheal infections from one person to the next. Germs can spread from other people or surfaces. And remember, just because you can't see germs doesn't mean they are not there! You can help yourself and your loved ones stay healthy by washing your hands often **before, during, and after** preparing food.



During the COVID-19 pandemic, you should also clean hands:

- After you have been in a public place and touched an item or surface that may be frequently touched by other people, such as door handles, tables, gas pumps, shopping carts or electronic cashier registers/screens, etc.
- Before touching your eyes, nose, or mouth because that's how germs enter our bodies.
- Washing your hands is easy, and it's one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs. Clean hands can stop germs from spreading from one person to another and throughout an entire community—from your home and workplace to childcare facilities and hospitals.
- Washing hands with soap and water is the best way to get rid of germs in most situations. If soap and water are not readily available, you can use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. You can tell if the sanitizer contains at least 60% alcohol by looking at the product label.

Sanitizers can quickly reduce the number of germs on hands in many situations. However,

- Sanitizers do **not** get rid of all types of germs.
- Hand sanitizers may not be as effective when hands are visibly dirty or greasy.
- Hand sanitizers might not remove harmful chemicals from hands like pesticides and heavy metals.
- Apply the gel product to the palm of one hand (read the label to learn the correct amount).
- Rub your hands together. Rub the gel over all the surfaces of your hands and fingers until your hands are dry. This should take around 20 seconds.

Caution! Swallowing alcohol-based hand sanitizers can cause alcohol poisoning if more than a couple of mouthfuls are swallowed. Keep it out of reach of young children and supervise their use.