WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11th

Happy Friday, Bear Creek Families,

Thank you to the families who joined us for our First Friday Family Lunch. Kudos to Ms. for thinking of our front office staff (per usual) by bringing us lunch. Thank you for always showing up!

Please note the following events are scheduled for the month of September.

September Calendar of Events

- September 11-15th – Attendance Matters Spirit Week
- September 12 – Deadline to purchase Tampa Bay Rays Spirit Night Tickets
- September 12 – Grades 1-5 Progress Reports go home with students.
- September 13 – Title I Annual Meeting & Open House @5:30pm-7pm (café and classrooms)
- September 19 – PTA Board Mtg. @3:15pm
- September 25 – Teacher Planning Day/NO School for Students
- September 28 – Student Picture Day
- September 28 – PTA Sponsored Skate Party @ Astro Skate (Grades 1-5)

Important Updates/Information

- Parents, please take a moment to complete out Library Media survey. This survey is designed to gather input and recommendations for materials that you would like to see in our school library media center.
  
  [https://forms.office.com/r/s0X6t5q1fu](https://forms.office.com/r/s0X6t5q1fu)
September is Attendance Awareness Month! Being at school every day on time is important to the academic success of your child(ren). Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school year, or about two days a month, negatively affects a student’s learning.

As part of Attendance Awareness Month, we are having a special Attendance Spirit Week from 9/11/23 – 9/15/23. On 9/11/23, students who had perfect attendance in August will get a popcorn treat and 1-2 dollars to spend in our school store. Let’s celebrate coming to school every day on time!

**ATTENDANCE SPIRIT WEEK DAILY THEMES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Theme and Instructions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/11/23 (Monday)</td>
<td>With good attendance, your future is so bright, you’ve got to wear shades! <em>Wear sunglasses!</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/12/23 (Tuesday)</td>
<td><strong>Sock</strong> it to absences! <em>Wear crazy socks!</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/13/23 (Wed)</td>
<td><strong>Headed</strong> for success by arriving on time! <em>Wear a hat!</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/14/23 (Thursday)</td>
<td>Good attendance leads to <strong>BRIGHT</strong> futures – <em>Wear bright, neon clothing</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/15/23 (Friday)</td>
<td>Show <strong>Bear Creek</strong> pride by being at school! <em>Wear a Bear Creek t-shirt</em></td>
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</tbody>
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**School to Family Communication**

In an effort to reduce the use of paper, we will continue use electronic forms of communication with families. This year you can keep up with Bear Creek in the following ways:

- The Bear Creek website will be our primary source of communication at [https://www.pcsb.org/bearcreek-es](https://www.pcsb.org/bearcreek-es). All weekly communication updates will be posted on our website by 7pm Sunday.
- Classdojo will be used primarily for school-wide reminders and daily communication **between parents and instructional staff.**
School Messenger will be used to remind families or previously communicated information shared on the Bear Creek website.

Student agendas

General Updates/Reminders

Safety updates/reminders:
To ensure the safety and well-being of all students, students are not permitted on campus until 8:15am, unless enrolled in the YMCA. Whether students are car riders, bus riders, walk, or bike to school; please adhere to the following:

- Student attendance is important and being on time matters.
- Our student hours are 8:45am-2:55pm.
- Pre-K drop-off is from 8:30am-8:45am using the designated Pre-K drop-off location in the car circle, zones 1-3. Car circle zones 1-3 are designated only for Pre-K drop off.
- Our front office hours are 8:15am-3:55pm.
- Students K-5 are not permitted on campus until 8:15am (unless enrolled in the YMCA).

Campus Expectations and Updates for the 2023-24 school year

Early Release Pick-ups
Please note that 2pm is the cut off time for early pickup. Prior approval from administration is required for all early release pick-ups after 2pm.

Whether students are car riders, bus riders, walk, or bike to school; please consider the following:

- Student attendance is important and being on time matters.
- Our student hours are 8:45am-2:55pm.
- Our front office hours are 8:15am-3:55pm.
- Students are not permitted on campus until 8:15am (unless enrolled in the YMCA).

- All students must adhere to the Bear Creek expectations and all students are required to wear a uniform.

- **Shirts**
  - Collared solid color in navy, light blue or white (no designs or patterns)
  - Bear Creek Spirit t-shirts – can be worn on any day of the week. Shirts should always be tied.

- **Bottoms**
  - Khaki or navy shorts, slacks, skirts, shorts, capris, or jumpers
  - No jeans, sweatpants, cargo pants or baggy clothing
Pants must be worn at waistline. If not, a belt must be worn.

- **Shoes**
  - Safe and appropriate footwear must always be worn. Inappropriate footwear includes, but is not limited to – Crocs, backless shoes, sandals, roller skates, and bedroom slippers.

- **Winter Wear**
  - Solid color sweatshirts, sweaters, and jackets in navy, light blue or white
  - No printing or designs allowed on outerwear.
  - Hoods/hats may not be worn inside the classroom.

- Car riders must be dropped off in the car circle only.
- All students must use the single point of entry (car circle) to gain access to our campus.
- As in the previous years, all students arriving before 8:30am must report directly to the cafeteria.
- Breakfast is free to all students and served in the classroom until 8:45am.
- Students arriving after 8:45am are considered tardy.

Bear Creek is looking forward to another great school year!

Principal Houston

*~Still Showing Up for students, staff, families and SELF~*