Dear Bay Point Elementary Family and Friends,

We hope everyone had a restful and relaxing week off with family and friends for the Thanksgiving break.

We are getting ready to finish our 2nd marking period and complete our 1st semester of the school year. Please keep in mind that every minute of learning counts, so your child’s regular attendance at school is vital. Every minute lost to absences, arriving late or being picked up early, means your child misses important instruction that can help them reach their grade level goals. We are seeing an up tick of students missing multiple days of school. Please monitor your child’s attendance and limit absences and tardies. This is an easy thing that can go a long way to your child’s success. Please also continue to encourage your child to always do their very best on every assessment as it is our way of gauging their current level of performance toward their grade level standards.

During this time of celebration and appreciation, I want to thank all of our families for being part of the Bay Point Elementary Magnet Family. Your faith in us and your support of the best elementary school in Pinellas County is appreciated more than we can tell you. Your students and their success are our highest priority. Please know that we will continue to collaborate and do our best to ensure your child's success.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Broom

Calendar: December

3 Free dress Friday

Dec. 21–Jan. 3 Winter Break

Upcoming January:

3 No School
4 School resumes
5-14 District Application Window
17 MLK day – No School

Mission Statement

Educate and Prepare Each Student for College, Career and Life.
Tún, tún ¿Quién és? Diciembre!

“Bienvenida la navidad” what a wonderful month!

We hope that you all had a beautiful and special holiday during the “Día de Gracia” (Thanksgiving’s day) and at the same we are very pleased that finally this year you have enjoyed Familia Cicatriz’s show and the week “Día de los Muertos” during November.

During the month of December our Kindergarten students will continue to learn about numbers, greetings, alphabet and Fruits. First and second graders will learn about clothing, third and fourth will be learning Clothing and “el verbo tener” (to have) and fifth graders will work on infinitive verbs.

Finally, all our children will be learning about our Hispanic traditions for these holidays, songs, and typical activities that take place in the Hispanic culture.

The Spanish team wishes you a very Happy Holiday full of love, health and happiness.

Thank you!
**Magnet News**

**Important Info-Incoming Kindergarten & 5th Grade Parents**

**Application Period for 2022-2023:** Jan. 5-14, 2021

**Discovery Nights:**
Check out the Discovery Night Schedule to see when schools are having a visitors night for Middle School.

https://www.pcsb.org/Page/17234

**Acceptance Period for 2022-2023:** Feb. 7-18, 2021

**Who must apply:** Any student who will be new to Bay Point Elementary, including incoming Kindergarten students. If you currently have a student who attends BPE, you do not need to reapply as they are grandfathered into the next grade level. If your child has a sibling that you would like to also attend BPE and they are not currently a student with us, you must complete the online application and then select the Sibling Priority Preference.

*Note:* Priorities do not guarantee a student a seat, but do increase their chances; please be advised priorities only apply if you select us as your #1 choice.

**Tech News**

Our students have several online programs that can be accessed at home and/or at a public library. Every student has Online Home Access to all of our available online programs using the District’s Clever portal. Students should use their school username and password to get access. If you have any questions, please contact your child’s teacher.

**Transportation Update**

If your child rides a bus to school each day, you can stay updated on any issues by signing up for Bus Bulletin. Bus Bulletin will notify you by text, phone call or email if:

A bus is late, a route has changed or if there has been an accident.

If your child rides a bus, please take advantage of this free service. Sign-up by going to:

http://busbulletin.com/parents/

The bus bulletin link can also be found on the district website, just click on the Transportation button.

**Help Stop Bullying**

It’s never okay!

If you have a bully concern, please submit a report.

https://www.saysomething.net/

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT ANYONE WHO MAY BE PICKING UP YOUR CHILDREN MUST BE LISTED ON THE PICK-UP CARD AND THEY MUST BRING THEIR ID! Feel free to stop in and add as many people as you would like to the card. If they are not on the card at the time of early or late pickup and/or they do not bring ID we cannot release your children to them.

This also includes you! Don’t forget those IDs.
A restorative approach to conflict or wrongdoing consists of asking 4 key questions:

1. What has happened?
2. Who has been affected?
3. How can we involve everyone who has been affected in finding a way forward?
4. How can everyone do things differently in the future?

* This process is not about punishment but making a student accountable to our school community for being a good citizen.

---

**Our Guidelines for Success**

- Students should not be running at any time on campus unless they are instructed to at PE
- They should check around themselves in the classroom and in the cafeteria and pick up any mess they have left behind
- If they cannot behave that way at home, they should not behave that way at school
- It is never okay to argue or yell at others
- They should have their listening ears on at all times
- If someone is regularly bothering them, tell an adult; adults can take care of it so students don’t have to
- It is never okay to hit or push another student

* Students are rewarded with our Panther Bucks for following all of these rules and following our Guidelines for Success of being Respectful, Responsible, and Safe. Panther Bucks can be used at our School Store or turned in for team points. In some classrooms, they can even be used for classroom treasure box.

---

**Restorative Practice Highlights**

Thank you to our wonderful speakers who took the time to create videos or be with our students live on camera! You Rock!

Thank you to Mrs. Stetz for making it all happen!
Attendance - just how important is it in elementary school? Don’t the students have time to make it up? They are so young and have so many years of school left. That’s what I was wondering the other day, so I did a little research. I was amazed with what I found. They can get really behind. Here’s what I discovered. If students have excellent attendance in kindergarten and 1st grade, their Language Arts scores in 3rd grade are 50 points higher than children who miss 18 days or more per year. While many of us may think missing kindergarten or 1st grade may not count much, it seems to be very important for testing success two and three years later. Again, to my surprise, Math scores in 3rd grade for kids who were present at school are even higher yet. The scores were 76 points better than the students who miss more than 18 days of school per year in kindergarten and 1st grade. When I think about it, it makes sense. Each year is a building block for the next year and it can be hard to catch up with spotty attendance, including tardy days.

Although the specifics may change from one research study to another, the trend is the same. Attendance is really important even for the very early years of school and can affect later performance. We have to watch closely because sometimes we don’t realize just how much instructional time children are missing with absent and tardy days combined. So, how can we as parents help our children be successful in school? Excellent attendance.
FAMILY E-LEARNING COACHING

We want your child to succeed whether learning in the classroom or at home.

Our Family E-Learning Coaching Team provides free, computer technology service and education. We can help with Wi-Fi connections, email and programs designed to help your child complete his or her schoolwork online.

Do you need assistance setting up learning technologies provided by Pinellas County Schools?

Submit an E-Learning Technology Support Request

We are available during the day and evening. For questions about the services provided, contact Andrea Lypka, E-Learning Program Manager at 727-588-4816, ext. 2141, or andrea.lypka@pinellaseducation.org