

# PAWPRINTS

## BARBARA BUSH ELEMENTARY BOBCATS – JANUARY 13, 2016

Houston Independent School District  
[www.houstonisd.org/bushelem](http://www.houstonisd.org/bushelem)

To sign up to receive news from HISD via e-mail, visit [www.houstonisd.org/subscribe](http://www.houstonisd.org/subscribe)

HISD Inclement Weather Hotline 713-267-1704

K-12 Radio Listen Now!! [houstonisd.org](http://houstonisd.org)

**JANUARY IS SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH**

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 15	8:15 a.m.	Spelling Bee
<b>January 18</b>		<b>MLK Day – NO SCHOOL</b>
January 26	8:30	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade – Houston Museum of Natural Science
January 27	12:20 p.m.	Early Dismissal
January 30	10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	UIL Competition @ Davis High School
February 4	7:00 a.m.	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade – Parent Spring Writing Session - Library
February 4		Class & Individual Pictures – Dress Code Required
February 4	3:00 p.m.	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade – Parent Spring Writing Session - Library
February 11		K – Children’s Museum
February 24	12:20	Early Dismissal
February 26		Go Texan Day
March 1	10:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade – Main Street Theater
March 11		Academic & Athletic Olympiad, and Family Picnic
<b>March 14-18</b>		<b>Spring Break – No School</b>

### HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS RESIDENCY

Students must reside in the Bush attendance zone in order to attend school at Bush. Because Bush is a large school and must accommodate its own zoned students, no regular education transfers are granted. Special Education transfers are granted when the ARD committee recommends a program that is not offered at the child’s home school.

If a student moves out of the Bush zone during the school year, the student must enroll in his/her “new” zoned school. Students may **not** remain at Bush after moving out of the zone.

The entire handbook is available at:  
[www.bushelementary.org](http://www.bushelementary.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

### SPECTACULAR SCIENCE

The Spectacular Science Word for the week of January 11 is motion.

## REMINDER NO SCHOOL

Monday, January 18, is a holiday honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. Please enjoy this day off from school to spend time with your families, read a good book, and relax.

\*\*\*\*\*

## BOBCAT NEWS

### THANK YOU, MR. MEYERS

January is School Board Recognition Month. We greatly appreciate all the hard work put forth by our school board member, Mr. Greg Meyers. Thank you, Mr. Meyers, for all that you do to support the efforts of the students in HISD.

### EXECUTIVE POSITION

Do you want to be Principal for a Day or Assistant Principal for the Day? Every student who has perfect attendance with two or fewer tardies for the third nine weeks will be eligible for his/her name to be placed in a drawing to be Principal for a Day. In addition, every student who earns “E” in conduct for the third nine weeks will be eligible for his/her name to be placed in a drawing to be Assistant Principal for a Day. One boy’s name and one girl’s name will be drawn from the pool of eligible students on Monday, March 28 during morning announcements for each incentive. The Principals and Assistant Principals for a Day will be “on duty” on Monday, April 4.

### SPELLING BEE

The annual Bush Spelling Bee will be held on Friday at 8:15 a.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room. Sixty 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be participating in this exciting event.

## HEALTHY STUDENTS

Cold and flu season is upon us, and we need to make sure that students are fever and vomit free for 24 hours before returning to school. Being sick and coming to school puts many students, teachers, and staff at risk of getting sick. The health of everyone at Bush Elementary is put in jeopardy when sick students come to school. We want students at school if they're healthy, but not when they're sick. Please stay at home and get better and return to school when well.

## PRE-K TESTING FOR VANGUARD NEIGHBORHOOD KINDERGARTEN AUGUST 2016

Parents who are interested in having their Pre-K students, zoned to Bush or currently attending Bush, tested for the Vanguard Neighborhood program for kindergarten at Bush in 2016-17 may submit their application to the office. If your child is applying for a Vanguard Magnet program at another school (ie. T.H. Rogers, Askew, etc.), complete the application/testing process with that school ONLY - please do not submit another application to Bush. According to HISD Board policy, applicants may be assessed only once a year, and results of the testing process at the Vanguard Magnet school are accepted in any HISD Vanguard Neighborhood program. The deadline for submitting applications for the February cycle is **January 29**. Parents of these Pre-K applicants will be notified of their child's specific test date. There will be one more testing window in May. Applications for the second testing cycle will be available sometime in late March. Students who meet eligibility criteria through either testing window will begin Vanguard Kindergarten services in August 2016.

## HAVE WHEELS WILL NOT TRAVEL

For safety reasons, we do **not** allow the use of rolling backpacks in the halls and walkways at Bush. Students may only use the rollers walking to and from school.

## VACATIONS

Please remember to plan your family vacations and trips during regular school holidays like Thanksgiving, winter break, and spring break. Family vacations cannot be considered excused absences by the State of Texas. As a result, they are recorded as unexcused absences. All students must have a 98% attendance rate. Every day at school is important. All students **must** attend school up to and including the last day on May 25, 2016.

## LONG DISTANCE PHONE NUMBERS

It is imperative that all information on each child's enrollment card be complete and kept current. We have a few parents who still have long distance phone numbers listed. **Please make sure we have local phone numbers on file because we are unable to make long distance calls from school.**

## RAINY DAY PLAN

Make a plan for rainy or "bad" days. Be sure you have a rainy day plan for your child. Make sure that your child knows what he or she is to do if it is raining at dismissal time. **Please do not call the school office with instructions and messages. This should be handled in advance.** As the weather in Houston is very unpredictable, it is highly recommended that parents purchase an inexpensive fold-up rain poncho and place it in their child's backpack. This poncho can be "saved for a rainy day." We can load more students into cars if they can walk farther down the driveway to enter waiting cars.

## EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS 2015-2016

HISD has selected five early dismissal days that are to be used for professional development or parental involvement. All schools will participate in the early dismissal schedule and the school day will be reduced by two hours and thirty minutes.

The next Early Dismissal Day is Wednesday, January 27. The school day will be from 7:35 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. **There will be an altered ancillary schedule and lunch times will run one hour and ten minutes earlier on these days only.** Students **must** be picked up at 12:20 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

## PTO NEWS

**Wednesday, January 20:** Bush Spirit Day at Marcos Pizza – pick-up, dine-in, carry out

**Wednesday, January 27:** Early Dismissal - Bush Spirit Event at Idea Lab Kids - (12:00pm-6:30pm)

**BUSH BUSINESS PARTNERS:** Support BBE every time you shop at the following sites:

- 1) Amazon Smile
- 2) Buy shoes [online at Stride Rite.](#)
- 3) Connect your **Target Visa or Target card** to BBE by calling [1-800-316-6142](tel:1-800-316-6142) & 1% of purchase will be donated to BBE
- 4) Link your Kroger Plus Card to BBE PTO #83286 at the link below to raise money for our school <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>

Get the full list of companies that offer % back to Bush at [www.bbepo.com](http://www.bbepo.com) →How Can I Help? →Business Partners

Stay connected and like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/BBEPTO>

\*\*\*\*\*

## SCHOOL NEWS NETWORK (articles submitted by other area schools)

### WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Please join Westside High School for their 2016 Soccer Festival on Sunday, January 17 from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Have a fun day full with soccer activities, and support the 2016 WHS Boys Soccer Team. Check the Westside High School website at [www.houstonisd.org/westsideHS](http://www.houstonisd.org/westsideHS) for more information.

## BUSH BOBCATS – LEARNING MAKES US ALL SUPERHEROES – 2015-16

It is the policy of the Houston Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of age, color, handicap or disability, ancestry, national origin, marital status, race, religion, sex, veteran status, or political affiliation in its educational or employment programs and activities.