

# PAWPRINTS

## **BARBARA BUSH ELEMENTARY BOBCATS – SEPTEMBER 3, 2014**

Houston Independent School District  
www.houstonisd.org/bushelem

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## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

September 5		Every Summer Reading Forms Due
September 9	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Scout Night At Bush
<b>September 11</b>	<b>6:00-7:45 p.m.</b>	<b>Parents' Night Grades 1-5</b>
September 24	12:20 p.m.	Early Dismissal
October 1		Individual Picture Day
October 3		<b>Holiday – No School</b>
October 9	8:45 a.m.	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade - Museum of Natural Science
October 10		1 <sup>st</sup> Grade – Main Street Theater
October 20-24		Book Fair Week
October 23	5:30-7:00 p.m.	Book Fair Night & Dinner
October 29	12:20 p.m.	EARLY DISMISSAL
October 30		3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade – Museum of Fine Arts
October 31	2:50 p.m.	Report Cards Go Home
November 6	6:00-7:30 p.m.	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Writing Night

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## **HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS** **COMMUNICATIONS' DAY**

Wednesday is Communications' Day at BBES. We will make every effort to send all notices, calendars, newsletters, etc. home on Wednesday. **Please** purge your child's backpack each Wednesday; there will probably be a least one important note! Bush students use a red pocket folder to carry communications. Be sure to look for it and use it when sending notes to the teacher. The newsletter, *Pawprints*, is published weekly. It contains important dates and information regarding events and issues at Bush Elementary.

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

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## **SPECTACULAR SCIENCE**

The Spectacular Science Word for the week of September 1 is hazard.

## **BOBCAT NEWS** **PARENTS' NIGHT**

The most important meeting of the year for Bush is Parents' Night for **grades 1-5 on September 11, 2014**. This meeting is VERY EARLY in the school year and is purposefully not called an Open House. It is different in format and purpose from a traditional school open house. Parents' Night is from 6:00-7:45 p.m. PK and K Parents' Night was held on Wednesday, August 20. The PTO meeting will be held in the Multi-Purpose room starting at 6:00 p.m. This will give you an opportunity to be introduced to the entire Bush staff and learn how Bush Students will be "**Students today, Leaders tomorrow**" in 2014-15. Then, PTO will review the year and discuss its budget. When this meeting is finished, parents will go to the classrooms.

Teachers will **then** outline the grade level curriculum, communication procedures, grading, test schedules, and much more. The goal is to give parents all the information they need EARLY in the year so that they can be supportive partners in their child's education.

**These meetings are designated for adults. Please make other arrangements for children so that there is plenty of room for all the adults who will attend.**

## **EVERY SUMMER HAS A STORY!**

All Every Summer Has a Story paper(s) are due to the classroom teachers by Friday, September 5. This paperwork must include the list of books (at least 5) the student read and a parent signature. This is open to all students. If a student was not here last year, then the paperwork can still be submitted if at least 5 books were read this summer. Ms. Rose read 21 books this summer. Did you read more books than your principal?

## **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.**

## **SCOUT RALLY NIGHT**

Scout Rally Night, for boys, is Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> in the Barbara Bush Elementary School's cafeteria at 7:00 p.m. Come see what the excitement is all about. Scouting is FUN!

## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

The library will be open for parents and students to check out books from 2:50 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays starting this week. Please check the flyer that came home last week for more information.

## VISITORS TO THE BUILDING

ALL parents, grandparents, and visitors who wish to enter the school will need to have a valid state-issued driver's license or a valid state-issued picture ID. These may be attained at the Texas Department of Transportation Driver License offices. The license or the ID will be scanned, a background check performed, and if approved, a visitor's badge will be printed. The badge will have your picture, name, time, and visit location. Please make sure you bring your driver's license/state ID if you wish to go past the office. Grandparents and other visitors who come for lunch must be accompanied by the parent or have the parent's approval (in the form of a note or the person is listed on the enrollment card). Please be advised all IDs will be checked at the office before going into the building. Thank you for making Bush a safe and secure campus.

## MORNING ARRIVAL

Students are now waiting for the morning bell inside the building. For safety purposes, adults and siblings must wait outside. Any parent that wants to stay with their child can wait with their child outside until the bell rings.

## VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

One of the core values of HISD is "Safety Above All Else." In order to provide a safe environment for every student, HISD enacted a policy requiring a voluntary criminal history check for persons who volunteer in our schools.

If you have previously registered, please take your picture ID to the office for verification. If you are **NEW** to Bush and plan to volunteer in your child's room, help in the cafeteria, or would like to serve as a chaperone on future trips, please be SURE to follow the procedures for the background check. Log-on to [www.houstonisd.org/vipslogin](http://www.houstonisd.org/vipslogin) and follow the directions. It takes two to three weeks to get clearance, so it is important to do it now.

## FACULTY AND STAFF PARKING LOT

In the morning, parents have been seen parking in the faculty/staff parking lot and letting their children out. These children have then been walking **unaccompanied** across the busy bus lane. This extremely dangerous and unsafe behavior must **not** occur. **All** students must be dropped off in the carpool lane. Please **do not** park in the faculty and staff parking lot; it is reserved for Bush Elementary faculty and staff **ONLY**.

## NURSE'S RULE

Please do not send your sick child to school. If your child has fever, pink eye, or upset stomach, please keep him or her at home. We have lots of folks under our roof every day. For the health and safety of **ALL** students, it is very important that children stay home when they are ill. Students who have thrown up during the night or who are running a fever **cannot** be sent to school. **Students must be fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to school.** When your child returns to school, please send a signed note stating the days your child was absent and the reason for the absence.

## 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 further down the driveway to enter waiting cars.

## EARLY PICK UPS

Please do not plan to pick up your child between 2:25 p.m. and 2:50 p.m. the doors will be locked at 2:25 p.m. every day to get ready for dismissal. To ensure a safe dismissal students will not be called after 2:25 p.m. Thank you for helping to make dismissal safe for all our students.

## 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 use the rollers walking to and from school.

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## PTO NEWS

The updated PTO Constitution is now available on line.

Stay connected and like us on facebook.

## SCHOOL STORE

A BIG thank you to everyone for supporting the School Store by purchasing your school supplies and apparel during our annual ice cream social.

If you purchased a sweater to be embroidered with your child's name, it will be available for pick-up at Parents' Night. Thursday, September 11th from 5:30pm to 7:00 p.m.

School Store will only be open on Friday from 7:35 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. and 11:35 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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## SCHOOL NEWS NETWORK

(articles submitted by other area schools)

WEST BRIAR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Join the West Briar Honey Bears for a day of fun and dance on Saturday, September 20, 2014 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Registration forms are available in the Bush Office. For more information contact [mleblan1@houstonisd.org](mailto:mleblan1@houstonisd.org). Registration deadline is Wednesday, September 10, 2014.

## BUSH BOBCATS - STUDENTS TODAY, LEADERS TOMORROW - 2014-15

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.