

# PAWPRINTS

## BARBARA BUSH ELEMENTARY BOBCATS – SEPTEMBER 20, 2017

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

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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September 20	5:30-7:30 p.m.	GT Information Session at Roosevelt Elementary
September 22		Teacher Work Day- <b>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</b>
September 22	1:00 – 1:45 p.m.	BEC Meeting
September 26	6:00-7:30 p.m.	Parents' Night Grades 1-2 MP Room
October 6		Picture Day
October 16-20		Book Fair Week
November 4	3:00-6:00 p.m.	Bush Bingo Bash
November 7	6:00-7:30 p.m.	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Writing Night
November 20-24		Thanksgiving Holiday- <b>NO SCHOOL</b>

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### HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS

#### EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

It is imperative that all information on each child's enrollment card be complete and kept current. **If phone numbers (home, work, emergency or doctor) change, please notify the school office immediately.**

Be sure that you have a plan for picking your child up during the day should he/she get sick at school. Students should **not** be picked up from school early except in emergency situations or for appointments that **cannot** be scheduled at other times. Be sure that changes in pick-up procedures are clearly communicated and discussed **before** the child leaves home. Notify the teacher in writing when such changes occur.

Students will **not** be called out of class to talk on the phone. In emergency cases, messages will be relayed to students. This will not be done for messages that are of a routine nature. **Plan ahead!** Your child's instructional time is important.

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

### SPECTACULAR SCIENCE

The Spectacular Science Word for the week of September 18 is mass/weight.

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### REMINDERS

**Friday, September 22 is a student holiday! School will be closed.**

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**Tuesday, September 26 from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. is the first and second grade Parents' Night in the MP Room. This important and informative event is for first and second grade parents only. All children and Bush students need to remain at home so there is space to accommodate all the parents who wish to attend.**

### BREAKING NEWS!

The HISD Board has eliminated the five early dismissal days scheduled throughout the school year for all campuses. The following days will be regular length school days from 7:30 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.

**September 21<sup>st</sup>, October 20<sup>th</sup>, November 10<sup>th</sup>, January 26<sup>th</sup>, and February 23<sup>rd</sup>. A revised 2017-2018 academic calendar is being sent home today.**

## SMILE PLEASE!

Picture Day is **Friday, October 6**. On individual picture day, students do not need to follow dress code guidelines. However, students do need to be dressed appropriately for a regular school day. Ball gowns and suits are not practical for children to wear to school.

## GIFTED & TALENTED

HISD will be holding several Gifted and Talented Parent Information Sessions throughout the fall semester. The first one will be held at Roosevelt Elementary (6700 Fulton St.) TODAY from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. A flyer was sent home this past Monday with the dates, times, and locations of additional GT Parent Information Sessions.

## DRESS CODE & SUPPLIES

The district's intention behind the relaxed uniform policy was to help alleviate some of the burden for families who lost their homes in the flood. Fortunately for our Bush students, our generous PTO and other community groups have collected many new and gently worn dress code and other school items to give to students who are in need of these items due to the storm. If your home was impacted by Hurricane Harvey and your child is in need of dress code clothing, backpacks, or lunchboxes, please email your child's teacher and include item(s) needed and sizes (if clothing). We want to see every child in dress code to show our school spirit and unity as one Bush family!

## MORNING MESSAGES

Before school starts is a busy time at Bush Elementary as the teachers are finalizing their preparations for an exciting day of learning. If information needs to be shared with the teacher before school, send an e-mail or place a note in your child's red communication folder.

## 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.**

## BOBCAT NEWS

### Attendance Matters Every Day

All students must attend school every day. If your child is sick with a fever or vomiting, then your child must stay at home. Our goal at Bush Elementary is 98% attendance. In order to achieve this goal, there can't be more than 8 absences a day in the entire school. A high attendance rate helps out all students and teachers at Bush Elementary in three important ways:

- Students who attend school every day are learning.
- A 98% attendance rate means Bush Elementary receives 98% of the funds allocated to run the school to pay for teachers' salaries and materials.
- A 98% attendance rate school-wide means Bush Elementary receives the highest rating in the state.

All members of the Bush Elementary family are proud of all of our school's accomplishments. To continue to be a highly-rated school, we must have a high attendance rate from all students from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.

## PTO NEWS

### *Bush Spirit Events on Friday, September 22*

Parents, if you visit any of the businesses below on Friday, 9/22, please tell them that you are from Bush Elementary so that a portion of those sales will come back to our school!

- \* **Glazed Over Ceramic**: 10am-9pm  
Location: Dairy Ashford and Memorial Dr. (25% of sales come back to Bush).
- \* **Idea Lab** - Full Day
- \* **Menchie's Frozen Yogurt**  
Location: 13421 Westheimer Road, Suite E, Houston, TX 77077
- \* **KROGER SIGN up month**: Kroger signup form is in the PTO packet. Linking your Kroger Plus Card to BBE PTO raises money for our school each time you shop at Kroger!

## BUSH BOBCATS – JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE - 2017-18

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