

PAWPRINTS

BARBARA BUSH ELEMENTARY BOBCATS – AUGUST 29, 2018

Houston Independent School District
www.houstonisd.org/bushelem

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September is National Literacy Month

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September 3	.	Holiday – No School
September 6	6:00-7:30 p.m.	Parents' Night Grades 3-5 MP Room
September 10		No School – Fall Holiday
September 13	6:00-7:30p.m.	Parents' Night Grade 1-2 McMaster & J. Nguyen
September 21	11:30 a.m.	Early Dismissal
October 8-12		Book Fair Week
October 9	5:30-7:30 p.m.	Book Fair Night & Italian Dinner – MP Room
October 19	11:30 a.m.	Early Dismissal
November 3	3:00-6:00p.m.	Bush Bingo Bash
October 25	6:00-7:30p.m.	4 th Grade Writing Night
November 9	11:30 a.m.	Early Dismissal
November 19-23		Thanksgiving Holiday- NO SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Welcome back! I hope you are ready to work hard and have fun. Now is the time to establish good routines to carry you through the school year. Make sure you get a good night's sleep, so you will be rested and arrive at school ready to go at 7:30 a.m. Eat a healthy breakfast every morning so your brain will have the fuel it needs to work and learn all day. A rested and healthy body will be needed as we all work together to make sure **Bobcats are ready for a bright future.**

Theresa Rose, Principal

MORNING ARRIVAL

Morning routines should be getting easier. Parents, please give your hugs and kisses outside because **beginning tomorrow, August 30**, students will walk inside the building unaccompanied by parents. **At 7:20 a.m.**, students will be brought inside the building to wait for the bell. When the bell rings, teachers and safety patrols will be in the hallways helping students get to their classrooms safely. Any parents who want to stay with their child(ren) can wait with their child(ren) outside until the first bell rings.

The first bell rings at 7:30 a.m. The tardy bell rings at 7:40 a.m. Students who enter the building after 7:40 a.m. must report to the office to receive a tardy slip.

SPECTACULAR SCIENCE

The Spectacular Science Word for the week of August 27th is scientist.

BOBCAT NEWS

PARENTS' NIGHT

The most important meetings of the year for Bush are Parents' Night on **September 6, 2018 for grades 3-5, and on September 13, 2018 for grades 1-2, Ms. McMaster & Ms. J. Nguyen's class. Each Parents' Night is from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.** These meetings are VERY EARLY in the school year and are purposefully not called an Open House. They are different in format and purpose from a traditional school open house. Each Parents' Night is from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The meetings will be held in the Multi-Purpose room starting at 6:00 p.m. During these meetings, you will have an opportunity to be introduced to the Bush staff and hear Ms. Rose's State of the School Message. Then, PTO will review the year and discuss its budget. When this meeting is finished, parents will be dismissed 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.

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS

Throughout the school year, this section of the newsletter will highlight key points from the Bush Parent Handbook. School begins at 7:30 a.m. Students arriving after 7:40 a.m. are tardy. Students arriving after 9:00 a.m., without a doctor's excuse, are marked absent.

The entire handbook is available at:
www.bushelementary.org

ARE YOU APPROVED?

All Bush parents are required to register in the VIPS TRACKING SYSTEM in order to eat lunch with their child, chaperone on field trips, help out in the classroom or any other location such as the library, science lab, art room, etc. The process is quick and easy and can be done from your home computer. Log on to www.houstonisd.org/vipslogin to become a volunteer today.

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 31, 2019.

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**.

GOOD NEIGHBORS

When dropping off or picking up your child, or just visiting Bush, please be considerate of the homes neighboring Bush. Be a good neighbor and remember the following parking rules:

- **Do not block driveways.**
- **Park at least 20 feet from an intersection.**
- **Don't park in front of fire hydrants.**

NURSE'S RULE

Please do not send your sick child to school. If your child has a 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.

ALLERGY ALERT

We have a number of students on campus who have severe allergies to nuts. When you are bringing birthday treats for your child's birthday, please make sure these treats do not include any nut products.

EARLY PICK UPS

Please do not plan to pick up your child after 2:15 p.m. from the office. To ensure a safe dismissal, students will not be called to the office to be picked up after 2:15 p.m. Thank you for helping to make dismissal safe for all our students.

PTO NEWS

Thank you to all the families who have already joined the PTO! If you have not already joined, please consider doing so as PTO funds provide financial support to enhance all Bush students' education. You can pay online at bbpto.com. We will have a Popsicle Party for the classes that reach 70% or higher participation. Every family that joins will receive a Bush directory. Thank you for your continuous support!!

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. Starting the week of September 4th, the school store will be open on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. and Friday from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE POSITION

Do you want to be Principal for a Day or Assistant Principal for a Day? Every student who has perfect attendance with two or fewer tardies for the first 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 first 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 during morning announcements at the end of the first nine-week grading period for each incentive. The Principals and Assistant Principals for a Day will be notified of their "work" day after the drawing.

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.

BUSH BOBCATS – OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT 2018-19

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.