

PAWPRINTS

BARBARA BUSH ELEMENTARY BOBCATS – DECEMBER 3, 2014

Houston Independent School District
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 5	11:45 a.m.	West Briar Music Tour @ Bush
December 16	8:30 a.m.	4 th & 5 th Grade Chorus Performance – Parents Invited
December 17	8:30 a.m.	4 th & 5 th Grade Chorus Performance – Parents Invited
December 19	1:00 p.m.	Holiday Parties Begin
December 19	2:50 p.m.	End of First Semester
January 6	7:35 a.m.	School Starts
January 7	9:00 a.m.	Tour
January 8	3:00 p.m.	Westside High School Information Session @ Bush

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS

GIFTED AND TALENTED - VANGUARD PROGRAM

The Houston Independent School District provides a program for gifted and talented students. The Vanguard G/T program is designed to meet the needs of G/T students in grades K-12 by providing a homogeneous environment for students to work with their cognitive peers.

Bush offers the Vanguard program in grades kindergarten through fifth. All kindergartners are universally assessed. Students identified through this universal assessment enter the Vanguard program and receive services starting in late March or early April. Eligibility for the program is determined by classroom performance, standardized test scores, teacher recommendation, and specialized testing.

The entire handbook is available at:
www.houstonisd.org/bushelem

SPECTACULAR SCIENCE

The Spectacular Science Word for the week of December 1 is refract.

REMINDERS

HOLIDAY PARTY SIGN-IN

The holiday parties are just around the corner. **Please make sure you have completed the background check before December 19th. ALL adults (including grandparents) who come to volunteer or just want to attend the holiday parties must be accompanied by the parent or have the parent's approval (in the form of a note or the person must be listed on the enrollment card). Remember ALL adults must show their state-issued ID before entering the building.**

BOBCAT NEWS

KINDERGARTEN IOWA ASSESSMENTS

All kindergarten students in HISD will be taking the Iowa Assessments beginning Monday, December 8th through Thursday, December 11th. The Iowa Assessments help determine how students are performing on nationwide standards. Testing procedures will begin at 8:00 a.m. If your child is sick, please do not send him/her to school; make-up tests will be administered during the testing window. However, avoid any discretionary absences for doctor or dentist appointments during this time.

THANK YOU PTO

The Bush faculty and staff would like to say a big thank you to the PTO and our parents for the amazing Thanksgiving feast they served before the holiday!

BOUNTIFUL FOOD DRIVE

A huge thank you to all of our families who donated food to our Thanksgiving Food Drive! Our very generous families at Bush donated over 30 large boxes of food. Our friends at the Grace Point Community Church Food Bank were very thankful and appreciative of our large donation. Thanks also to Ms. Vesey's and Ms. Oloruntoba's classes for their help organizing this project.

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

If you didn't make it to the NRG Center during Nutcracker Market Performance, the chorus will be performing the same show at Bush at 8:30 a.m. on December 16 for grades PK-1, Mrs. Strange's class, and Special Ed., and December 17 for Ms. Bard, Mrs. Carlin, Mrs. Dillman, Ms. Romo's classes, and grades 3-5. Parents are invited to attend these performances.

LOST AND NEVER FOUND!

We are fast approaching the end of the first semester and there are still many jackets left in lost and found. If your child is missing a jacket or sweater, please stop by lost and found to look for it. Since the number of jackets is becoming unmanageable, we will be taking the unclaimed jackets to families in need on Friday, December 19.

FACULTY AND STAFF PARKING LOT
Please do not park in the faculty and staff parking lot at any time; it is reserved for Bush Elementary faculty and staff ONLY.

PROSPECTIVE PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Do you have a child coming to Bush next year? Then come and join a prospective parent information session that will answer all your questions about Bush Elementary programs and curriculum. We will tour the school and discuss all of the wonderful things Bush has to offer. If you know a neighbor or friend who would like to attend one of these information sessions, please pass the invitation on to them. The next session for this school year will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 7.

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.

PTO NEWS

WINDOW PAINTING CELEBRATION

CELEBRATING OUR SCHOOL'S DIVERSITY

It's not too late to turn in \$30 to paint a window inside the school with your parents after school! Friday, December 5, will be the last day to collect money and to paint. Check the flyer which came home last week for details. Hurry - spaces are limited!

RAFFLE TICKETS

Great prizes! Perfect Gifts! Get your raffle tickets - don't miss this great opportunity! It's only \$2 per raffle ticket. The more raffle tickets you buy, the greater your chances of winning one of these fabulous prize baskets:

- Family basket (includes an iPad mini)
- Fine foods basket (gift cards from local restaurants)
- Vacation basket (includes a cruise for 2) \$2 per ticket, more tickets available at the front desk.

The last day to buy raffle tickets is this FRIDAY!!! Hurry - buy yours today!

Do you shop on Amazon?

The holidays are coming! When you shop at smile.amazon.com, your purchases will support the school. Amazon will donate 0.5% to BARBARA P. BUSH ELEMENTARY PTO. Support us every time you shop. Click on this link before you shop on Amazon <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/76-0414615> or go to www.smile.amazon.com and sign in. Click on "pick your own charitable organization," enter Barbara P. Bush Elementary Parent Teacher Organization and click on "Select".

SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY EVENTS

December 4: Bush Spirit Day at Monkey Joe's (all day)

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SCHOOL NEWS NETWORK

(articles submitted by other area schools)

WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Westside High School invites you to join them as their students "Welcome Winter" and showcase their talents with the following productions:

- Westside's Theater Department presents "A Tuna Christmas" on December 4, 5, & 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the mini theater. Tickets \$7 online or at the door.
- Winter Choir concert on Tuesday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium, free admission.
- Winter Band & Orchestra concert, Thursday, December 11 - 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium, a free admission.