

PAWPRINTS

BARBARA BUSH ELEMENTARY BOBCATS – NOVEMBER 19, 2014

Houston Independent School District
www.houstonisd.org/bushelem

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 19		Bush Spirit Day At Marcos Pizza
November 20	8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	4 th Grade – George Ranch
November 24	8:30-9:30 a.m.	4 th Grade Knowledge Fest – Cafeteria
November 25	8:00-9:30 a.m.	3 rd Grade Knowledge Fest - Cafeteria
November 26-28		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL
December 16	8:30 a.m.	Chorus Performance – PK-1, Ms. Strange, Sp.Ed., and Parents
December 17	8:30 a.m.	Chorus Performance – Bard, Carlin, Dillman, Romo, 3-5, and Parents
December 19	2:50 p.m.	Last Day of First Semester.

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS

Will return after the Thanksgiving Holiday!

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

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

(Thanksgiving Holiday – November 26-28)

As we prepare for the Thanksgiving Holiday, I realize I am thankful for many things: time off to spend with my family, over 840 exemplary students, the incredible and supportive Bush "family," and a hard-working and dedicated faculty and staff. I hope you enjoy spending time with your families. Please have a safe and happy Thanksgiving. I look forward to seeing everyone rested and ready to resume their excellent ways at 7:35 a.m. on Monday, December 1.

SPECTACULAR SCIENCE

The Spectacular Science Word for the week of November 17 is energy.

REMINDERS

Yes, we have school next week!
Monday, November 24 and Tuesday, November 25 are regular school days. All students must be at school at 7:35 a.m. on both days.
Free Dress for all students on Tuesday, November 25!

BOBCAT NEWS

MORNING ARRIVAL REMINDERS

Here are a few reminders about morning drop-off locations for students who walk or carpool to school. Students should not arrive at school before 7:25 a.m.

- Students in grades PreK-2 waiting without parents will wait inside the front door (Westerloch side).
- Students in Grades 3-5 waiting without parents will wait inside (Parkway Plaza side).
- **Bus and Daycare Vans ONLY will wait in the cafeteria.**

The policy of the Houston Independent School District does not provide for supervision of students before or after school hours. The policy reads as follows:

THE PRINCIPAL, TEACHERS, AND STAFF ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS WHO ARRIVE AT SCHOOL BEFORE 7:25 A.M. OR STAY AFTER 3:00 P.M.

SAFETY FIRST

As the weather turns colder, we want to make sure our children are dressed warm, but please remember when your child has PE they need to wear athletic shoes. Boots are not safe as they do not have rubber soles, and children will slip and fall on the gym floor. Please help Coach Hauhe keep your children safe by sending them in athletic shoes or having them bring a pair to change into before their PE class.

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 28, 2015.

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.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

Ms. Vesey's and Ms. Olorunboba's special education classes will be conducting a Holiday Food Drive from November 12th until November 21st. They are asking all of our Bush families to donate non-perishable food items which will be given to Grace Point Community Church Food Bank located on Dairy Ashford. They are in need of canned fruits and vegetables, powdered milk, and canned meats such as tuna, Spam and Vienna sausage. Please help us help our less fortunate neighbors during the holiday season.

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. **Remember every day at school is important; please do not keep your child home just because it's a rainy day!**

CHORUS AT THE MARKET

The fabulous 4th and 5th grade chorus performed at the Nutcracker Market last week! The students sang beautifully and had quite a crowd watching them perform.

If you didn't make it to the NRG Center, the chorus will also perform this 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.

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.

PTO NEWS

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 and click on "pick your own charitable organization" enter Barbara P. Bush Elementary Parent Teacher Organization and click on "Select".

SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY EVENTS

November 19: Bush Spirit Day at Marcos Pizza (all day)

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

DANCE WITH INERTIANS

NEW DATE for Dance with Inertians: November 22nd! Come join the fun and learn how to dance like the boys and girls of the nationally acclaimed Inertia Dance Company at Westside High School! The Dance clinic will be on **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd** from 12pm-4pm with the show & performance at 5pm. Don't miss this FUN event! For more information and a registration form contact Kelly Cramer at n.cramer@sbcglobal.net or 713-898-9438.

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.