

PAWPRINTS

BARBARA BUSH ELEMENTARY BOBCATS – NOVEMBER 5, 2014

Houston Independent School District
www.houstonisd.org/bushelem

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 6	6:00-7:30 p.m.	4 th Grade Writing Night – Doors Open at 5:55 p.m.
November 12	9:00 a.m.	Prospective Parent Information Session
November 14	8:30-2:30	Bush Chorus at Nutcracker Market, NRG Center
November 18		Individual Picture Make-Up Day
November 19	12:20 p.m.	EARLY DISMISSAL
November 20	8:30-2:00	4 th Grade – George Ranch
November 24	8:30-9:30	4 th Grade Knowledge Fest – Cafeteria
November 26- 28		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS TARDIES

School begins at 7:35 a.m. each day. We have a full schedule and it is important that children are at school on time in order to take full advantage of their day. Students who arrive tardy, after 7:45 a.m., must have a written excuse. Excused tardies are in the same category as excused absences (see Attendance). Oversleeping, alarm clock trouble, no ride, etc., are considered unexcused tardies. Plans and backup plans should be made to ensure that students arrive on time each day. Remember, students who are tardy **must be signed in at the office by a parent** and have a note stating the reason for the tardy. Students will be allowed two unexcused tardies each nine weeks. Repeated late arrival may result in loss of privileges.

NOTE: HISD Code of Student Conduct states:
Unexcused tardiness to class is a Level 1 Act of Misconduct.

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

SPECTACULAR SCIENCE

The Spectacular Science Word for the week of November 3 is properties.

REMINDER

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.

BOBCAT NEWS

FOURTH GRADE WRITING NIGHT

Fourth grade students and their parents have an important event tomorrow from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at Bush Elementary. The fourth grade teachers will be explaining the writing process used in class so parents will have a better understanding and be able to assist their child at home. **The evening is designed only for the fourth grade students and their parents.** Please bring your ticket for admittance to this informative session. Also, bring a pencil since everybody will be writing! Doors will open at 5:55 p.m.

MAGNET AWARENESS WEEK

November 3-7 is Magnet Awareness Week. Parents can take tours of the schools they are considering during this week. The tours are offered daily at 1 p.m. Be sure to check out this year's Magnet Awareness brochure on the HISD website for details on various programs, helpful suggestions on what to think about when considering various campuses, a list of questions to ask representatives of prospective schools, and a timeline of important dates in the magnet process. For more information, please visit the School Choice website at www.houstonisd.org/magnet. Questions may be directed to 713-556-6734.

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.

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.**

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!**

NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM

On Tuesday, November 11, Dr. Buza will be sending a late order to Original Works. If you would still like to order high quality products with your child's art work, please send in your order (including the art) by Tuesday, November 11. Your child may give it to Dr. Buza or leave it in the front office. Checks must be made out to Barbara Bush PTO.

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, November 12.

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 and follow the directions. It takes two to three weeks to get clearance, so it is important to do it now.

SCHOOL NEWS NETWORK

(articles submitted by other area schools)

WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

DANCE WITH INERTIANS – DATE CHANGE!
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.

THE MAGNET PROGRAM at WESTSIDE

Whether you are zoned to Westside or not, you should make plans to attend Westside's Magnet Tours this week! Westside's Magnet Coordinator, Chelsea Gumm, will be on hand to inform you of the magnet opportunities at Westside while you walk through the campus watching our students hard at work. Westside is a Magnet for Integrated Technologies (M.I.T.) M.I.T. students participate in a multifaceted technology program for business, computing sciences, engineering, fine arts, health professions or multimedia and digital design while completing a comprehensive college-preparatory program of academics. You will learn more about each area of study and our extensive offerings of Advanced Placement Courses, as well as the new and exciting Futures Academy of Health Sciences where participating students graduate with up to 60+ hours of college credit. Come and find out what all of the Westside excitement is about! Daily Tours: 1:00-3:00 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3rd – Friday, Nov. 7th. Special Saturday, November 8th Tour - 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Please check in at the front office to receive your pass and directions to S100.

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

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