Message from the Principal

Starting the week of May 9th, Baker and all other schools in Texas, will be administering the STAAR assessment to all 3rd-8th grade students. As partners in your child’s education, we are asking for your help in reminding your child of the importance of taking his/her time and putting forth his/her best effort on these assessments. We are not allowing visitors or volunteers during school hours on the following days:

**May 10th:** 4th-6th Grade Math
**May 11th:** 3rd Grade Math, 7th-8th Grade Math, Algebra I
**May 12th:** 5th & 8th Grade Science
**May 17th:** 4th-6th Grade Reading
**May 18th:** 3rd Grade Reading, 7th-8th Grade Reading
**May 19th:** 8th Grade Social Studies

We need all of our 3rd-8th grade students here and on time to test! If we do not meet our targeted STAAR participation rate, tests are “added in” to make up the difference. All that are “added in”, count automatically as a fail! We will not accept automatic fails; all of our students deserve the chance to try!

Help your child to be at ease on testing days. Encourage them to do well, but do not over-stress the test. Remind them that it’s okay not to know everything! Unlike class tests, these tests will have some questions designed to challenge the limits of their knowledge possibly at a higher level than expected. Finally, let your child know that you believe that he/she can do it!

Below are some simple test-taking tips you can review with your child:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before the Test</th>
<th>During the Test</th>
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<tr>
<td>Have a growth mindset and a positive attitude.</td>
<td>Relax, take a deep breath, and think positive thoughts.</td>
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<td>Tell yourself, “I am prepared, and I will do my best on this test.”</td>
<td>Listen carefully to the directions.</td>
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<td>Go to sleep at a reasonable time to get a good night’s rest the night before the test.</td>
<td>Read each question carefully.</td>
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<td>Wake up early enough to avoid rushing to get ready for school.</td>
<td>Identify key words.</td>
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<td>Eat a healthy breakfast.</td>
<td>Think about what the question is really asking.</td>
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<td>Read the entire question and all the answer choices.</td>
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<td>Apply strategies that you learned in class to figure out the answer.</td>
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<td>Pick the best answer.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Recheck your answer before moving onto the next question.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Don’t rush! Use your time wisely. The test is on the computer—don’t just click through!</td>
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May 10-STAAR Testing Begins
May 12-Spaghetti Dinner Family Night
May 12-PTO Meeting @ 4:15 2nd Floor Library
**NEW DATE! May 25-**EC Music Show (student only event)
**NEW DATE! May 26-**Spaghetti Dinner Family Night
May 27-EC Parent Appreciation @ 8:45 a.m.
May 27-Pastries for Parents @ 8:45 a.m.
May 30-Memorial Day (no school)
June 2-Moving Up Night for Parents @5:30-6:30 p.m.
June 3-Fabulous First Friday Free Dress
June 6-Moving on Ceremony @5:30-7pm
June 7-Last Day of School For Students
June 7-Report Card Day
June 7-8th Grade Walk of Fame @3:15 p.m.
NEW DATE! Baker Spaghetti Dinner Family Night
Join us in the drive thru or reserve a table for your family at our 2nd Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser. The dinner will be held on Thursday, May 26, 2022 beginning at 5 p.m. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and a cookie!

Get your tickets [HERE](#)!

*All proceeds go towards end of year activities for students.

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**Virtue of the Week**

The virtue of the week is **FAIRNESS**! Fair means everyone gets what they need, based on visible gaps in opportunity. And sometimes people will have different needs because we are unique individuals.

How many times have you heard a child say, “That’s not fair!” and when you try to explain, the inevitable back and forth ensues, and they are nowhere closer to understanding the situation. Given the increasing anxiety and restlessness stemming from the pandemic lockdown, you may be hearing this exclamation more often than usual. Sometimes this will simply be a child’s go to phrase when they are upset or are losing their patience. In that case, it’s worth digging a bit to uncover their true feelings. Generally, however, as children get to around 4 years old, they are beginning to understand the concept of fairness, but will need conversations and guidance on what it means.

Children need to learn about fairness and recognize how and when being unfair is hurtful. This lays a foundation for developing empathy and sensitivity that will, in turn, help prevent bullying. But fairness can be a difficult concept for very young children because it is abstract. Young children are often egocentric thinkers, and tend to see the world from their own perspective. So when they say “That’s not fair,,” it’s because they don’t like the outcome. Parents can help children understand that fairness involves thinking of others, too. You can help children recognize unfairness, develop language to describe unfairness, and understand that unfairness hurts.

Here are some resources to teach your child fairness:

[Teaching the Meaning of Fairness](#)

[Resources for Teaching Fairness](#)
THE NEXT GENERATION OF BOX TOPS IS HERE!

Box Tops is changing to fit today's families! The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online. No more clipping or sending Box Tops to school!

Target REDcard: Did you know that Baker Montessori gets a check every year from Target? Parents and community members who link their REDcard account to Baker, School ID # 98808, allow Target to donate 1% of each linked card sale directly to Baker!

If you have a REDcard, please link to Baker Montessori School!

Remember, when you’re ordering from Amazon.com, start from the special link at www.wilsonpto.org/fundraising, and the Baker PTO will receive a donation equal to 4% to 6% of your total.

Stay connected with Baker PTO………..

Sign up for an account at Baker PTO website bakerpto.org or bakerpto.ptboard.com (School Code: JMJ6NV)
Follow Baker PTO on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/bakermontessoripto
Follow Baker PTO on Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/bakermontessoripto
Follow Baker PTO on Twitter at https://twitter.com/bakermontpto

Baker PTO Elections

On Thursday, May 12th, the Baker PTO will hold elections for the following positions:

- **1st Year Leadership Team:** Open Positions (up to 3); The PTO Leadership Team consists of four or more parents/guardians who share the traditional responsibilities of a President & Vice President. The term is a 2-year commitment with typically two individuals coming on and two individuals coming off each year.
- **General PTO Board Member:** Open Positions (4); A General PTO Board Member attends monthly PTO board meetings and serves as a voting member of the board with the expectation that they take on one or more of the listed PTO positions.
- **Secretary:** Open Position (1); The secretary attends meetings and prepares minutes of all such meetings
- **Treasurer:** Open Position (1)

Anyone can nominate themselves or someone else for these positions. there will be a ballot vote of all nominees at the PTO Board Meeting on Thursday, May 12th at 4:15pm in the Baker Montessori Library (2nd floor of the new wing). **The ballot will close at 7pm.**

If you would like to submit your nomination, please email leadership@bakerpto.org with your name, Baker student(s), previous/current involvement, and a brief bio (of no more than 3 sentences). We will update PTBoard with the nominees and their information. Nomination submissions will be accepted until **4pm on Thursday, May 12th.**