



The Lion's Den

Bethesda Elementary School & Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Newsletter

Issue 10

January 20, 2012

Principally Speaking...

Dear Families-

As we roll right in to 2012, we have some important dates and information to share:

- **Valentines Day Parties:** Classes will celebrate Valentines Day on February 14th. Parties will begin at 1:45 pm for grades 1-5 and 2:00 pm for all kindergarten classes. Please see the grade level newsletters for information about the class celebrations and volunteers.
- **Kindergarten Orientation:** Coming Soon– April 27, 2012 (9:00-12:00 PM). If you have any neighbors or friends that have kindergarten age children, please encourage them to come and to contact the school about enrolling.
- The **BE Winter Concert** will be next Thursday, January 26th at 6pm in the gym. 4th and 5th grade musicians will be performing, as well as the 5th grade class production of *Lewis and Clark*.
- The BE staff will take on the **Washington Greenhawks** in a fundraising basketball game on January 28th at Walt Whitman HS (6:30 pm). Come out and support the BE staff!
- Bethesda Elementary will NOT be hosting **Regional Summer School** this summer. It will be held at Somerset ES, as Bethesda ES will be getting a new front parking lot. Information will come home about Regional Summer School as we receive information from the county.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Lisa Seymour

Calling all Volunteers...WE NEED YOU!!!!

New Recess Activities at Bethesda Elementary!

~SIGN UP ONLINE~

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/recess37>



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Important Dates:

- January 23rd
NO SCHOOL for Students
- January 26th
Winter Concert
Bethesda Elementary 6:30 pm
- January 28th
Washington Greenhawks
vs. BE STAFF
Walt Whitman HS 6:30 pm
- February 1st
Report Card Distribution

BETHESDA ELEMENTARY CELEBRATES THE MANY COLORS OF DIVERSITY



We need parents' help for one of our projects. We have a large flower pot which we want to fill with a multitude of house plants. The diversity of plants will symbolically celebrate the wonderful variations which makes up each class. Do you have houseplants that you could share? We would like cuttings that we could re-root. Just cut some pieces right before school, slip them into a baggie and send them in with your child. We will put them in water, root them and in a few months plant them in our "Many Colors of Diversity" pot.

Thanks,

The BE Inclusion Week Committee

ATTENTION 4TH AND 5TH GRADE FAMILIES...BE COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB

Join us for our first community book club!



We are excited to partner with *Barnes and Noble* to offer...

Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick

How will the book club work?

If your child signs up to be in the book club, both you and your child are committing to read the book. Your child will have four weeks to read the book. He/she will be invited to the book club to discuss the book with other BE students at Barnes and Noble on March 6, 2012. You will need to give permission for your son or daughter to leave school 20 minutes early in order to walk over to Barnes and Noble for the book club meeting. Students will return to school by 4:05 PM, to be picked up or to take the Bethesda ES *Activity Bus* home.

Limitations and Restrictions:

- Number of participants is limited to 30
- Participation is limited to students in grades 4 and 5

Information on signing up will come home in the Friday Folder. Please make sure to check your child's backpack!

Attention all 5th Grade Students



The Counselors from Westland Middle School and Pyle Middle School will be coming on Friday, January 27th, at 1:30pm to speak with you about middle school registration. The Counselors will be here to explain how to register for classes and answer any questions you might have. Be sure to mark your calendar so that you don't miss this important meeting!

Westland Middle School will hold its annual Parent Information Night to assist parents in completing the registration process for the 2012-2013 school year. Parents/guardians of current 5th, 6th, and 7th graders are invited. You will meet the administrators, team leaders, department heads, and school counselors and have an opportunity to learn about our academic program.

Date: Thursday, February 2, 2012 (Snowdate: Thursday, February 9, 2012)

Place: Westland Middle School 5511 Massachusetts Avenue Bethesda, MD 20816

6th grade - Cafeteria

7th grade - Media Center

8th grade - Gymnasium

Time: 7:00 - 8:45 p.m.

Pyle Middle School Incoming 6th Grade Parent Orientation Meeting

Tuesday, January 31, 2012, 7:00pm

(Snow Date February 2, 2012)

6:30-7:00 pm Optional Self-Guided Building Tour

6:30-7:00 pm Special Education Meeting with Parents in the Media Center

Get Excited...for a Week of Fundraising and Eating!

Starting Friday, January 27th through Friday, February 3rd

Bethesda Elementary is Hosting a Fundraiser for Children's National Medical Center at Fresh Grill in Bethesda!

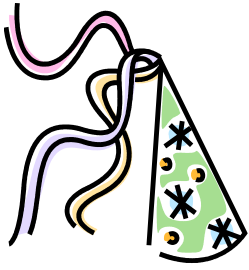


Fresh Grill will donate 20% of all check totals for the whole week to
BE's Student Council.

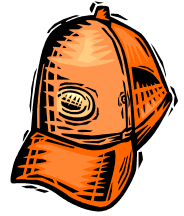
Student Council is going to donate this money to the
Children's National Medical Center.

This fundraiser takes place over a whole week, so feel free to eat at Fresh Grill
more than once!

**Fresh Grill, Inc.
4905 Fairmont Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20814
301-656-3882**



Calling All Hats!



Would you like to wear your favorite hat in school all day?

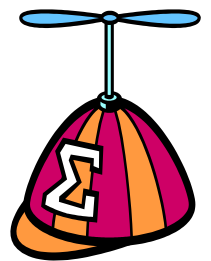
If you answered yes to this question, then read below to find out how you can do just that!



WHAT: Student Council is sponsoring a "Hat Day" Fundraiser

WHEN: Friday January 27th

WHO: Students who bring in \$1 for the cause will have the privilege of wearing their hat all day in school.



WHY: The money raised will be given to Children's National Medical Center

GUIDELINES:

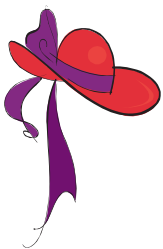
Don't wear anything that would distract others from learning (no hats with inappropriate labeling, or no hats that make sound).

Turn in money on January 27th (no change will be given and all money will be donated to charity)

Only bring in one hat to wear (no sharing hats)

Have Fun!

So remember to bring in \$1 on January 27th, so you can wear your hat at school on Friday January 27th.



From the PTA...

As most families are aware, any BE students who are currently in second grade and younger, who attend Pyle for middle school, will be redistricted to Bradley Hills Elementary in August 2013. If you have a child or know someone with a child who will be redistricted to Bradley Hills Elementary please email Beth Tello. She is a Bradley Hills parent who will be the liaison for transitioning BE families. Beth is putting together a contact list so she can email those BE families with information that may pertain to them. Beth can be reached at bethtello@verizon.net or 301-592-7087.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Patricia Brown at pw.brown@verizon.net.



Are you ready for some BASKET BALL?!?!



Come see Bethesda ES teachers and staff defeat the Washington Green-Hawks!

We need everyone's support to cheer on our BE team!

When: Saturday, January 28, 2012

Where: Whitman High School Gym

What Time: 6:30pm

Cost: \$5 per person by January 20/\$8 at the door

Check out the GreenHawks- the first "green" professional sports team- at www.gogreenhawks.com

Special thanks to our sponsors The Sherry Davis Team of Washington Fine Properties and BGR The Burger Joint.

To R.S.V.P., complete and detach the order form below and send it with your payment (cash or check payable to BEPTA) to the school office or in your child's backpack by **Friday, January 20th**.

Tickets will be sent home the week of Jan 23.

You can also sign up online at www.pay4schoolstuffonline.com.

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Washington GreenHawks vs. BE Lions Ticket Order Form

Family Name _____ **Childs Teacher (for ticket delivery)** _____

Number of Children _____ **Number of Adults** _____

Total Cost:----- \$ _____.

If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering for this event,, please contact Amy Bucher at AmyBucher@aol.com or Deborah Gitelson Krauth at Deborah@webstergroupinc.com.