

Bryker Woods Elementary

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Dear Panther Families,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope you had a relaxing break and were able to spend some time with family and friends.

Our wonderful teachers came back on Monday and had a day filled with professional development. We began our day diving into Creative Learning strategies with other schools in the Austin High Vertical Team. That afternoon many of our own teachers took on a leadership role and presented at different choice sessions here at BW: Reading Great Reading Support, Math strategies from Greg Tang and the *FACT*astic program, Speak Up, Speak Out Anti-Bias discussions, Science strategies from the CAST Conference and learning about Executive Functioning. It's always great to learn from our own teachers. And we all know that we have the BEST teachers!

This month we will be hosting our annual Science Fair and will also have our middle of the year benchmark testing. Please check the Calendar for upcoming events.

Have a wonderful month!

Your Proud Principal,

Kris Muehling



Upcoming Events

January 7

Students Return
3rd-5th Begin Skating Unit in PE
PTA Meeting 6:30

January 13-17

Great Kindness Challenge

January 13

School Tour 2:00
CAC Meeting 3:10

January 14

3rd-5th Grade Reading
Benchmark

January 15

4th Grade Writing Benchmark

January 16

K/1st Family Dance Night 6:00

January 20

No School/MLK Jr Day

January 21

3rd-5th Math Benchmark

More Important News

Great Kindness Challenge

Every Day is Kindness Day! However, January 13-17 will be our Great Kindness Challenge. The goal of this week, is to have every student complete as many random acts of kindness as they can. Each student will receive a checklist. The checklist gives many ideas on ways to show kindness in four different areas: school, home, community, and with adults. We encourage our students to be creative and come up with their own ideas of acts of kindness. We challenge all of our Panthers, big and small, to spread love and kindness this week and every week.

Benchmark Testing

Each year our 3rd-5th grade students participate in our middle of the year benchmarks. These assessments help provide valuable information to our teachers on what our students have learned, areas of growth and how we can adjust our teaching to meet students' needs.

Our 3rd grade students will take a Reading and Math benchmark.

Our 4th grade students will take a Reading, Writing and Math benchmark.

Our 5th grade students will take a Reading, Math and Science benchmark.

If you would like any more information about these tests, please reach out to your child's teacher or administration.

Science Fair

It's Science Time! We will have our annual BW Science Fair on Thursday, January 23. We encourage all of our Panthers to participate in the Science Fair and show off their creative and scientific thinking skills. Information packets can be found in the office or in the front hallway. All information can also be found on Ms. Vincent's website www.missvincentbw.weebly.com

All registration forms will be completed online this year www.tinyurl.com/bwsfreg20

Have fun and GO SCIENCE!



Upcoming Events

January 22

5th Science Benchmark

January 23

Austin Jazz Workshop

January 24

Science Fair

January 31

Principal's Meeting 8:00

Teacher Treats

Family Surveys

Each year our district invites families to share feedback about our school and the district. Below is a letter and information from the district regarding our 2019-2020 AISD Family Survey.

This information is very important and truly helps me reflect and plan for the future. Please take a moment and give us your feedback.

AISD Parents and Families,

As the district continues to strive for excellence in preparing our students for academic success, we encourage parents to offer feedback by completing the AISD Family Survey. Your opinions are important and will be taken into consideration as we strive to serve our students better.

Within the next few weeks, please complete the survey online. The survey can be accessed by the following survey link. Additionally, the survey is available by going to the district website (www.austinisd.org) and looking for the Family Survey link under the calendar of events or by logging into the parent cloud and clicking on the Family Survey tile. You can select the language at the top right.

Your responses will remain completely confidential, and will never be reported in a way that could identify you. If you would like more information about your confidentiality, please review our DRE confidentiality statement.

<http://tinyurl.com/AISD-Family-Survey-2020>

Once available, the results of the survey will be distributed to campus principals, district administrators, and the Board of Trustees. Our community also can view the results when the reports are posted to the AISD website by the end of June.

If you have any questions or concerns about the survey, you may contact the AISD Department of Research and Evaluation at 512-414-1724.

Thank you for taking the time to help us understand our strengths and opportunities for improvement.



In the Community

Amie Hammond

Thank you, Amy for helping us during Picture Day. Your organization, support and good humor is exactly what we needed!

Dana Singh and Brenna Randolph

Thank you for your leadership with our Zavala partnership. This requires a lot of time and organization. We truly appreciate everything you have done. You are amazing role models to all of us.

Karen Osborne

Thank you for your help in the teachers' workroom. This makes a huge difference to our teachers and we are grateful for all of your help!

BW Staff

Afton Null

Coach Null organizes many school wide events: Turkey Trot, Family Dance Night, Skating, Lacrosse, Water Days and many more. Thank you for promoting healthy choices for all of us!