

# Bryker Woods Elementary

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Dear Panther Families,

Thank you to everyone who came to our Fall Family Picnic. This is becoming one of my favorite BW traditions. It's wonderful to see the families scattered across our lawn and the smiles on the kids' faces as they run around. Thank you to all of our families who made this night possible. It was a beautiful event!

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our Panther Fund. Your involvement is extremely important to us and we are beyond grateful for all of the financial donations. This allow us to accomplish so much as a community. THANK YOU!

This month has many events including Parent/Teacher Conferences and our first report card. Please look for information about P/T Conferences from your child's teacher. Conferences are extremely important to us. It allows us an opportunity to collaborate with families and create positive goals for our kiddos. Thank you for allowing us into your family and allowing us to work with you this year.

This is a reminder that we do not have school on Friday, Oct 11. This is NOT on the AISD calendar but reflects the Austin High Vertical Team calendar. This day is part of our District of Innovation that allows teachers an opportunity to engage in meaningful professional development. BW will host Extend-a-Care and Creative Action as daycare options. Please look on LT for more information.

Your Proud Principal,

Kris Muehling



## Upcoming Events

### October

21 Days of Kindness  
Fitness Gram Begins  
Begin One Book, One School

### October 1

Custodian Appreciation Week  
PTA 6:30

### October 2

Picture Day

### October 3

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Magnet School  
Presentations 10:00

### October 7

School Tour 9:00  
CAC 3:10

### October 7-11

AISD Pride Week

### October 11

No School/Teacher PD Day

### October 14

No School/P-T Conferences

## More Important News

### Panther Proud

We are excited to begin a new school wide initiative called Panther Proud. This initiative recognizes students who are going above and beyond. Teachers will be nominating students every week who are demonstrating Panther Proud behaviors such as; empathy, compassion, responsibility, respect, conflict resolution, being a courageous bystander, hard work, perseverance, and problem solving. These students will be announced during Friday Assembly, be given a sticker so everyone can recognize them and have their picture taken for our Panther Proud bulletin board. We know that all of our Panthers are role models, however we will be looking for students who are going above and beyond!!! Check out our Panther Proud bulletin board in the primary hallway.

### 21 Days of Kindness

We will begin our 21 Days of Kindness Challenge on Monday, September 30. Each day we will announce a daily kindness challenge. Ask your child about how they spread kindness each day in October and every day. On October 17, we will celebrate this event with a Mix It Up at Lunch. Thanks Ms. Gee for organizing this!

### One Book, One School

We are hoping to start a new BW tradition called One Book, One School. Beginning in October, all teachers will read aloud a selected picture book to all students each month. Students will have the opportunity to do book talks, create additional illustrations, write sequels etc and post their work in the front office. In May, we will vote on our favorite book and award this book the "Panther Pick Award". More information will be sent out on LT as well as a list of our monthly books.

### Student Council

We are extremely excited to bring Student Council back to BW. Students in 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade will have the opportunity to run for class representative and our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students can run for office. I'm extremely proud of all the students who challenged themselves and ran for student council. Way to go Panthers!



## Upcoming Events

**October 17**

Mix It Up at Lunch

**October 18**

Peacefest

**October 21**

Family Book Study Begins 8:00

**October 23**

Native American Dancers 9:30

Report Cards Go Home

Unity Day

**October 25**

Principal's Coffee- Creative

Learning Initiative 8:00

Teacher Treats

Cake Decorating 3:00

**October 26**

Fall Carnival

**November 1**

Vertical Team Night at House

Park

## Mini Powwow- American Indian Dancers

On October 23, we are excited to have a mini Powwow come to the BW stage. American Indian dancers will showcase traditional Powwow regalia, dances and music. This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn about the rich culture and heritage around American Indians. The Austin Powwow will be November 2 at the Travis County Expo Center. <http://austinpowwow.net/>

## Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile is an easy way to give back to the school. Below is information about this program and how you can setup your account.

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from over one million organizations to support.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

## AISD Pride Week

October 7-11 is AISD Pride Week. We will offer all students AISD pride stickers and invite everyone to celebrate at the AISD Pride Week Kickoff Celebration on Saturday, October 5 from 9:00-12:00 at the AISD Performing Arts Center. This event will showcase the district's commitment to creating a safe, supportive and inclusive environment.



## In the Community

### Max Ekesi, Dee Donovan and Troy Taylor

Thank you for all of your hard work with Panther Fund. I know the hours that this takes and truly appreciate your support!!!

### Rebecca Stokes, Becca King

Thank you for organizing our Fall Family Picnic. It was beautiful!

### Laura Cross

We truly appreciate your vision and organization with Student Council. Thank you so much!

### Courtney Bourlon

Thank you for creating our 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday t-shirts. They are amazing! Thanks Courtney!

## BW Staff

### Jennifer Ruiz

Ms. Ruiz goes above and beyond to support her students and other staff members. I am extremely grateful for her leadership and commitment!