

Butler Creek Elementary

Bobcats



A Monthly Newsletter
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PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Families:



Welcome to 2017! There is something about the New Year that makes us take a deep breath and work on a few things that we weren't able to accomplish in the previous year.

As I was thinking about resolutions I came across an excerpt from Sylvan Learning Center's website about helping students achieve their goals in school. Here is a brief list of their recommendations that might be some tips that you can consider when working with your child on being successful at school.

Consider the following:

Work as a family. Develop the goals together, encourage your child to involve a trusted teacher or friend, but remember the goals are ultimately theirs. Setting their own goals increases motivation and self-sufficiency.

Keep the goals simple, clear, and easy to understand. For young children, short-term goals are the best because they're, well, short and result in higher rates of achievement. Daily goals are the best- "What shall we do today in the park?" "What book shall we check out of the library?" Older students in late elementary and middle school can be introduced to longer-term goals. This teaches planning.

Set up helpful routines. Give your children the consistency of fairly regular routines (weekends and holidays can be breaks). Bedtime, wake-up, study, homework, play, family time-children rely on these routines, and the structure helps them to feel safe, to know what's expected of them, and to be successful.

Maintain healthy habits. Healthy students are better learners. Help your children by monitoring their screen-time (TV, video games, cell phones, etc.), making sure they're getting enough sleep, insisting on their good eating habits, making sure they're involved in regular and aerobic exercise, and sticking to those goals and routines you've established.

Don't give up. Academic resolutions are every bit as important - maybe more so - than social or personal ones. Let your children know that you're serious about these goals and that their school success is as critical to you as it is to them.

Get help early if you need it. When your children show that they're having trouble despite your best efforts, get help early. Ask your child's teacher help. Get a tutor. Find a "study buddy" for your child. Just get help now, before the little problem grows into a big one.

These are great reminders anytime of year but especially when we are starting to enter the long stretch of the school year from Winter to Spring Break. As always, if you have any questions please contact your child's teacher or me directly.

Sincerely,
Andrea Sande

February

Tuesday, February 7th

Mad Science - 2:05 - 3:05 p.m.

Tuesday, February 14th

Mad Science - 2:05 - 3:05 p.m.

Wednesday, February 15th

Brilliant Bobcat Assembly - 1:00 p.m.
School Spirit Day - Twin/Friendship Day

Friday, February 17th

Rescheduled as a school day

Monday, February 20th

No School K - 6 - Presidents' Day

Tuesday, February 21st

Mad Science - 2:05 - 3:05 p.m.

Wednesday, February 22nd

Tae Kwon Do - 2:00 - 2:50 p.m.

Thursday, February 23rd

Literacy Night - 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Book Fair - 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Friday, February 24th

Tae Kwon Do - 2:00 - 2:50 p.m.

Tuesday, February 28th

Mad Science - 2:05 - 3:05 p.m.

Wednesday, March 1

Tae Kwon Do - 2:00 - 2:50 p.m.

Friday, March 3

Tae Kwon Do - 2:00 - 2:50 p.m.

BUTLER CREEK MISSION STATEMENT

*Butler Creek serves to prepare well-educated, respectful students
Who make meaningful contributions to their global community.*

LIFESKILLS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

INTEGRITY: To act according to what is right and wrong.

COMMON SENSE: To think everything through.

PTA DANCE HUGE SUCCESS

There was a great turn out for the PTA dance on January 27th. Everyone had a great time and there were some fantastic dance moves out on the floor. The music was rocking with the DJ playing hit after hit. Butler Creek also had the privilege of an anonymous donor who supplied free pizza for the dance! Thank you to all who made this event so much fun and such a success.



TARDIES

We have been experiencing a heavy amount of tardies since returning from winter break. While sometimes this is unavoidable due to appointments this is extremely hard on children and their teacher. They miss morning instructions and a huge interruption to the class. Please try to get your students to school on time.



Absence Call-in #
503-762-6111

Building Your Child's Vocabulary

By
Reading Rockets

All parents want their child to do well in school. One way to help your child is to help them build their vocabulary. Beginning readers use knowledge about words to help them make sense of what they're reading. The more words a reader knows, the more they are able to comprehend what they're reading or listening to.

Talking to and reading with your child are two terrific ways to help them hear and read new words. Conversations and questions about interesting words ("The book says, The boy **tumbled** down the hill,' and look at the picture! How do you think he went down the hill?") are easy, non-threatening ways to get new words into everyday talk.

Sharing a new word with your child doesn't have to take a long time: just a few minutes to talk about the word and then focus back on the book or conversation. Choose which words to talk about carefully - choosing every new word might make reading seem like a chore. The best words to explore with your child are ones that are common among adult speakers but are less common to see in the books your child might read.

When introducing new words to your young learner, keep the following four helpful hints in mind:

First, provide a simple, kid - friendly definition for the new word: **Enormous** means that something is really, really big.

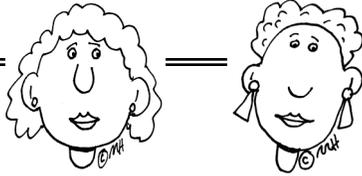
Second, provide a simple, kid - friendly example that makes sense within their daily life: Remember that really big watermelon we got at the grocery store? That was an **enormous** watermelon!

Third, encourage your child to develop their own example: What **enormous** thing can you think of? Can you think of something really big that you saw today? That's right! The bulldozer near the park was **enormous**! Those tires were huge.

Lastly, keep your new words active within your house. Over the next few days and weeks, take advantage of opportunities to use each new vocabulary word in conversation.

Take the time to share new words and build your child's vocabulary. You'll be **enormously** glad you did!

FROM THE
OFFICE—



RHONDA LINDA

IMPORTANT ITEMS:

- **Remember to call** in student's absence or if they will be late by 8:00 a.m. The Absence Line is **503-762-6111** (leave student name, teacher and reason for absence).
- **Remember** to send a note with your student if they are doing something different after school. If they don't have a note then they will follow their every day routine.
- **Remember** to update your students information as it changes. If your work , cell, or home number has changed please call the office and we will be happy to make that adjustment in the computer. If you have new emergency numbers or people picking up your student please make sure we have that change also!

PLEASE SLOW DOWN

With our winter weather we have noticed an increase in the parents that bring their students to school. This also increases the amount of traffic around the school and in our parking lot. **Please remember to slow down and drive cautiously!** There have been a few close calls in our crosswalks' with our "Safety Patrol Personnel" and in our parking lot. We appreciate the fact that everyone wants to get to school on time but we also want everyone to be safe. **Please be patient, courteous, and safe.**



**PLEASE DO NOT SEND AN
ILL CHILD TO SCHOOL!**

There could be some serious health problems for your child and other students. If your child is ill or his/her fever is higher than 103% you should contact your health care provider for advice. If you need help in finding a health care provider, you may call: the Multnomah County Health Department (503-988-3816), or School Health Services (503-257-1732).

Some students have medical conditions which can become life threatening when exposed to: measles, chicken pox/shingles, fifth's disease, Rubella and hepatitis. Should your child be diagnosed during the school year with any of these diseases, please call immediately to our office.



BUTLER CREEK LITERACY NIGHT

Calling All Superheroes to Butler Creek's Literacy Night!

Butler Creek would like to invite all families to attend a celebration of literacy on February 23rd from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. During Literacy Night, the PTA will host a book fair in the library. This year our theme is superheroes. So please feel free to come dressed as your favorite superhero.

A complimentary meal will be served in the cafeteria from 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. This will be followed by activities in the different wings and classrooms from 6-7 p.m. Afterwards, all families are invited to a presentation by local children's book illustrator and graphic novelist Mark Fearing. Mark Fearing will speak about his books and the writing process from 7 - 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. At the conclusion of the evening, children who attend are welcome to choose a free book. Butler Creek looks forward to seeing you there and celebration literacy with you!





