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Dates to remember:

- Nov. 30 – Dec. 8 – Holiday Boutique
- Dec. 7 – SIC Mtg., 9 a.m.
- Dec. 12 – PTA Holiday Music & Art Show 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 16 – Winter Class Parties – Most at 1:30 p.m.
- Dec. 19-30 – Winter Break
- Jan. 2 – Back to School
- Jan. 13 & 16 – No School
- Jan. 30 – Clay Night

The Bulldog Bulletin is published monthly by the Brushy Creek PTA.

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PTA Co-Presidents: Angela Murphy & Abbie Standridge
Editor: Julie Paré

SC PTA website: scta.org
National PTA website: npta.org

The Bulldog Bulletin



Please join the students of Brushy Creek Elementary
for their PTA Holiday Program & Art Show
Monday, December 12
6:30 p.m. BCES Chorus Program
"Twas the Night Before Christmas"
Your Child's Artwork Will Be On
Display In the Front Hallway

Monday, December 12th will be The Night of the Arts at Brushy Creek Elementary. The Brushy Creek Honors Chorus will perform on the cafeteria stage at 6:30 p.m, and each BCES child will have a piece of artwork on display the hallway surrounding the cafeteria. This art is not "for sale," but the art will be hung for all to see! Artwork will be displayed on black panels **and will separated by grade and class, like last year's display.** The BCES PTA will be serving snacks, so, come out for a fun night to celebrate our school, our children and their talent!



The Principal's Corner

Well, the countdown is on, as we look forward to the winter holiday! Our break is scheduled for December 19 – 30. Students return to school on Monday, January 2, 2012. We are so proud of our staff and students, and they continue to work hard during this exciting time of the year.

We would like to invite our entire school community to our 4th annual PTA Night of the Arts, art show and chorus concert, scheduled for Monday, December 12 at 6:30 pm. Our students have worked so hard to showcase **their artistic abilities, and we can't wait to see their art work on display.** We are also looking forward to the winter concert featuring our Honors Chorus, which is always a magical performance.

We would also like to remind you about early registration for students who will be new to our school as kindergarteners or first graders next year. This registration will be held January 18-20, 2012. If your child turns five years old (for K5) or six years old (for 1st grade) on or before September 1, 2012, please come by the school to register. This early registration is most helpful to us as we decide how many teachers we need for each grade level for the coming year.

What to Bring:

- * Photo Identification
- * State-issued Birth Certificate
- * 2 Proofs of Residence (Example—current power bill)
- * **Immunization Certificate or Religious Objector's Statement**
- * Any relevant custody orders

Thank you for your continued support this year. Please let me know if I can be of assistance to you. Please accept my warmest holiday wishes to you and your families.

Sincerely,

DeeDee Washington



Coach's Corner

Susan Florence,
Instructional Coach

It's Time For MAP Again!

Can you believe it is already December and 2012 is right around the corner? During the week of December 5-9 all Brushy Creek first through fifth grade students will take the winter math and reading MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) tests. Students will generally follow their normal computer lab schedules and take their test with their class. If your student is going to have an early dismissal on the day of their testing please let his or her teacher know.

As with all important assessments please be sure your student has a good breakfast and arrives at school on time. Coming to school late can cause a student to feel rushed. **If your student is sick please do not send him to school "just to take the test."** We have make-up testing times.

MAP test results are one indicator of how your student is doing in school. The test gives us a national percentile which can help you know how your student is doing compared to other students across the country who also took this test.

If you have any questions about MAP test results please contact me at sflorenc@greenville.k12.sc.us or at 355-5420.

Tutors Needed!

Seven BCES students could benefit from extra help from volunteer tutors. Below are several opportunities:

- * 5th grade- 2 students- need tutoring in math- Tuesdays from 1:40-2:10 pm
- * 4th grade- 3 students- need tutoring in reading- anytime between 9:50-11:30 am
- * 4th grade- 2 students- need tutoring in math- anytime between 9:50-11:30 am

Please contact Alise Brown at alisetut@yahoo.com or 268-2621 if you are interested in helping with any of these opportunities.



SCHOOL DIRECTORIES



The 2011-2012 school year directories have been delivered to all who ordered one. **We have just a few left if you'd like to purchase one.** The price for a directory is \$3.00. **It's a great way to get in touch with other parents of your child's classmates!** Please contact Candace McCard at 864-420-2327 if you are interested.

PTA[®]



We hope you all enjoyed your Thanksgiving break, and are looking forward to a fun and exciting December. Our annual Buddy Breakfast was last month, and it seems like there were record numbers of people attending. Thanks so much to Carolyn Jenkins and Melissa Hall for organizing that amazing event. It was so nice to enjoy a yummy breakfast with our kids before a busy day.

December is a short month of school, but we somehow managed to fill it full of fun. Our annual Holiday Boutique will run from Nov. 30 to Dec. 8. Your teacher will be sending home more information about shopping times. The children all really enjoy shopping for family and friends and finding that perfect gift! If you would like to help assist in our "boutique" please contact Tieraney Rice (Tieraney.rice@yahoo.com) for more information.

We hope you will all join us for our Evening of the Arts on Monday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. Each child will display artwork, and the chorus will be performing their Christmas program. We will also have a quick PTA meeting at the beginning of the performance. Plan to stop by for some juice and cookies and enjoy this special evening. We wish you a wonderful holiday season full of laughter and joy, and look forward to seeing you in 2012!

Your PTA Co-Presidents,

Abbie Standridge and Angela Murphy

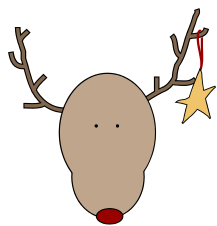


It's that special time of year again! The Holiday Boutique is coming to Brushy Creek!!! Please check the schedule below and be sure your child is ready to shop on the specified date!

All items are priced \$10 and under.

	Nov. 30	December 1	December 2
8:15	Placko	McGahee	Farmer
9:00	Wright	Hutcheson	Winchester
9:45	Kelly	T. Rogers	Welsh
10:30	Birckbichler	V. Lewis	K. Lewis
11:15	Forrester	Thompson	Brice
12:00			Auten
12:45	Krawczyk	Leland	Doherty

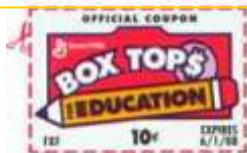
	December 6	December 7	December 8
8:15	Smith	Hawkins	Hart
9:00	Cash	Gilliland	J. Rogers
9:45	Mitchell		
10:30	Cook	Frans	
11:15	Shaffer	Chapman	
12:00	Wallen	Martin	
12:45	Moran/ Bunnell	E. Lewis	Wiggs



The BCES Chorus will be singing at Roper Mountain Science Center on Sat., Dec. 10 at 6:00 p.m. and again at 6:40 p.m. Please come support our awesome chorus students and enjoy the holiday lights. There are many fun

activities at the RMSC. You can have your picture made with Santa, make smores by the huge fire pit, take your picture in the photo flash booth, as well as visit the gift shop.

Box tops For Education



We still need more Box Tops to reach our goal of 41,000! The class in each grade level that brings in the most Box Tops by Jan. 9 will win a special treat. The class that brings in the most Box Tops in the school will win a Pizza Party and a special treat!



JOIN PTA TODAY!

Help Us Reach The Goal of 100%

PTA still needs over 150 memberships in order to reach our 100% PTA Membership Goal. Please help us reach our goal! We are getting closer but need your support in order to get there! Won't you please consider joining today? The cost is only \$5.50 and you will receive a coupon for a free Chick Fil A Sandwich when you join. Helping the school and getting free chicken - you can't beat that - It's a win-win situation! Join today by sending in a check today for \$5.50 made payable to BCES PTA. Make sure you include your child's name and teacher's name on the envelope. We still have several classes that have not reached their 100% goal. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Julie Pringle at jpringle@bestbeef.net or Sarah Uber at wesleysarahandautumn@juno.com.

Mark Your Calendar

SAVE THE DATE!

The 10th Annual SIC Family Clay Night will be held on Mon., Jan. 30, 2012. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m., with sculpting to follow from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Additional information and reservation forms will be sent home with your student after Winter Break. Remember to mark your calendars! We look forward to seeing your family there for what will be a night of creating art and memories to last a lifetime!



Lights, Camera, Action!

Join Spike in

Achieving 100 Reading Count Points

By the 100th Day of School

Learn, Achieve, Celebrate!

Students will receive special recognition in the BCES spotlight.

Happy 100 Days!

Chick-fil-A Core Essentials
STAR STUDENTS FOR SEPT. - 2011
KNOWLEDGE

Discovering something new so you can be better at what you do.

Kindergarten

Mrs. Auten – Grady Roman & Christina Nguyen
 Mrs. Hart – Kanye Ridgill & Rocco Bonadies
 Mrs. Hutcheson – Sydney Johnston & David Peden
 Mrs. Krawczyk – Miguel Cuesta & Evan Flowers
 Mrs. McGahee – Zach Schoon & Lola Kale

1st Grade

Mrs. Birkbickler – Nissi Bik & Mahi Dalia
 Mrs. Cash – Catalina Schlein & Emma Wright
 Mr. Gilliland – Cody Williams & Caroline Hill
 Mrs. Kelly – Chloe Lee & Adam Weaver
 Ms. J. Rogers – Kezziah Ferguson & Cannon Sightler
 Mrs. Wright – Braden Anderson & Tinsley Reynolds

2nd Grade

Mrs. Hawkins – Logan Atkison & Saray Gallo
 Mrs. E. Lewis – Hayes Brown & Kyle Weiber
 Ms. Martin - Raymond He & Anna Lewczyk
 Ms. Mitchell – Jimmy Nguyen
 Mrs. Moran/Bunnell – Emma Knous & Gunnar Davis
 Mrs. Placko – Emma Marcus & Braeden Lee
 Mrs. Smith – Tanvi Giridhar & Harrison McCullough
 Mrs. Wallen – Drew Voorhees & Avery Thomas

3rd Grade

Mrs. Brice – Jay Bhatia & Micah Dowden
 Mrs. Cook – Allena Flowers & Nick Arboscello
 Mrs. Forrester – Madison Peteren & Tarun Giridhar
 Ms. Mitchell – Michael McComish
 Mrs. Thompson – Shriya Jaggi & Alex Clark
 Mrs. Wiggs – Keanu Ridgill & Susan Kim
 Mrs. Wickline – Vernie Plumbley

4th Grade

Mrs. Chapman – Hayden Spradling & Madison Hinson
 Mrs. Leland – Kerry Connors & Grace Stanley
 Mrs. K. Lewis – Ahman Jackson & Megan Carrick
 Mrs. T. Rogers – Jordan Stanridge & Masen Dowden
 Mrs. Shafer – Logan Sham

5th Grade

Mrs. Causey – Ashley Bui & Victoria Buckley
 Mrs. Farmer – Adia Slaughter & Andrew Young
 Mrs. Frans - Aubrey Plourde & Jack Sprague
 Mrs. V. Lewis – Ben Bradham & Jack Francis
 Mrs. Winchester – Charlie Wright & Kyrsten Pringle

Chick-fil-A Core Essentials
STAR STUDENTS FOR OCT. - 2011
CREATIVITY

Using your imagination to do something unique.

Kindergarten

Mrs. Auten – Dyllan Conner, Tammy Le
 Ms. Doherty – Yushan Zhang, Carla Romero-Esteban
 Mrs. Hart – Emma Standridge, Jason Cottle
 Mrs. Hutcheson – Blake Slaughter, Haylie Gallagher
 Mrs. Krawczyk – Meredith Morningstar, Elijah Staples
 Mrs. McGahee – Connor Fennell, Yoali Garcia

1st Grade

Mrs. Birkbickler – Aljiah Jones, Cynthia Uhlemann
 Mrs. Cash – T. W. Wilson, Olivia Grayson
 Mr. Gilliland – Jonathan Rhoades, Sydney Thompson
 Mrs. Kelly – Molly Brooks, D. J. Dye
 Ms. J. Rogers – Jackson Davis, Brady Ashmore
 Mrs. Wright – Sophia McAdams, Ella Edwards

2nd Grade

Mrs. Hawkins – Ellis Mack, Mitchell Putnam
 Mrs. E. Lewis – Faith Snyder, Kai Lewis
 Ms. Martin - Madeline Whitlock, Jacob Barnette
 Mrs. Moran/Bunnell – Lexie Pust, Annabelle Chapman
 Mrs. Placko – Chloe Kale, Louis Seymour
 Mrs. Smith – David Lavender, Madison Stewart
 Mrs. Wallen – Joy Wallace, Will Hutson

3rd Grade

Mrs. Brice – Andrew Ward, David Branham
 Mrs. Cook – Ella Myers, Emily Smith
 Mrs. Forrester – Cameron Massey, Anna Owen
 Mrs. Thompson – Marissa Porterfield, Kate Burns
 Mrs. Wiggs – Matthew Yeager, Leah Sylvester
 Mrs. Wickline – Devin Garrett

4th Grade

Mrs. Chapman – Maverick Roberson, Saki Koyama
 Mrs. Leland – Karl Schlein, Kailyn Lee
 Mrs. K. Lewis – Joshua Hutson, Brandy Thomas
 Mrs. T. Rogers – Owen Murphy, Andrew Plybon
 Mrs. Shafer – Iojan Garcia
 Mrs. Welsh – D. J. Drzewucki

5th Grade

Mrs. Causey – Andres Wilches, Kiefer Jackson
 Mrs. Farmer – Johanna Clark, Phillip LaCourse
 Mrs. Frans - Sebastian Reina, Alexandra Miller
 Mrs. V. Lewis – Sydney McNamara
 Mrs. Winchester – Jamal Donald, Tai Zheng



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Mrs. Alice Upchurch & Mrs. Nicola McGinty

akirby@greenville.k12.sc.us 355-5404
nmcginty@greenville.k12.sc.us 355-5412

Thank You!

Thanks to ALL our amazing volunteers who helped the second grade teachers monitor during the administration of ITBS & CogAT. We appreciate you!!

What is the definition of **compassion**? Compassion is an emotion that is a sense of shared suffering, most often combined with a desire to alleviate or reduce the suffering of another; to show special kindness to those who suffer. Compassion essentially arises through empathy, and is often characterized through actions, wherein a person acting with compassion will seek to aid those they feel compassionate for. *Wikipedia

Students at Brushy Creek showed their compassion in November by taking part in the Spirit Week canned food drive. We thank everyone who gave selflessly to help those less fortunate families in Greenville County! We collected nearly 2,000 cans of food to donate to the District food pantry. PS: **CLEMSON** WON! Sorry Dr. Washington!



COACHES FOR CHARACTER

Please plan to attend this exciting program. Remember that these events are FREE for students and adults pay only \$5.00.



Mike Ayers

Wofford Head Football Coach

Dec. 12, 7 p.m. — TD Bank Center

BRUSHY CREEK COMPASSIONATE KIDS HOLIDAY PROJECT

December 5-15



This year our holiday tree will be decorated with origami ornaments made by the students in grades 3-5 during classroom guidance. We would like to collect travel size personal toilet articles to place under the tree. All the items we collect will be donated to Safe Harbor, a local agency that helps victims of domestic violence. If you would like to help us, please send your items in a Ziploc® bag to school. Items may include: deodorant, shampoo, cream rinse, tooth brushes, toothpaste, dental floss, mouthwash and soap.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

GRADE LEVEL UPDATES

Kindergarten ... The K5 classes will be busy this month with seasonal activities. We will read many good books associated with this time of year and do fun projects. At this time of year many people travel. One of our units will deal with different types of transportation. With the holidays coming next month the children will have an opportunity to share about their holidays and their family traditions. The children are doing well writing in their journals. Recently, Christina Nguyn wrote about the book fair. "I wnt to the book fair. I bid a book. The book are pink alishis. I like the book. mi mom wnt to the book fair."

First Grade Fun... Our first graders have had an exceptional month filled with learning and celebrations! We recently had our November Bookworm party where we had a small feast and made turkey snacks. Congratulations to our growing number of Bookworms! We also crushed our own berries to use as we painted Indian symbols following a reading of The Indian Paintbrush. In math, we completed our measuring length unit as we used non-standard units to measure our very own life-sized cut-outs. We are currently studying subtraction as we learn new strategies and compare/contrast it to addition. Non-fiction is still a main focus in reading as we learn vocabulary words such as table of contents, index, heading, subheading, and caption! Look for a giant Lotus in **our hallway that shows off all we know...Coming Soon!** Our enthusiastic readers are also studying non-fiction at home through the use of Reading A-Z weekly lessons and Compass Club activities! Our writing has taken off as well. We now know and recognize ALL parts of a sentence and have put our skills to use in a special way by writing friendly letters to former teachers we love and appreciate! We would like to say a special thank you to parents for making last month so special by **writing back to us in our "Letters Home" journals, joining us at the "Bring a Buddy to Breakfast" event, and attending the Fall Book Fair!** We appreciate all of your support and look forward to another amazing month!



First Grade Writing ...

11-1-11

Dear Mrs. Schmidt,

You are my favorite! You encourage me. It is fun being with you. I will love you no matter what. You are the best Art teacher. I wish I had your skill. I like your art. What are we doing next week? I hope we meet again.

P.S. I love you!

Love,

Kerns Kimbel

Ms. Cash's 1st grade Class

Second Grade ... In honor of Thanksgiving, second grade students are "stuffed" with learning activities and fun. Students have been working hard in math on rounding and subtraction, with and without regrouping. We are super proud of the progress students have made with subtraction fast facts! Keep up the great work. In reading, students are regularly reading and working with non-fiction texts. Our Time For Kids magazines help us with that! Students just published letters and delivered them to teachers and staff in honor of American Education Week. After completing our animal classification unit, second graders are currently studying different kinds of maps, locations on a map, directions, and trade between countries. It sure is important to learn where we are in the world. Finally, we are so proud of our students for their efforts in earning Reading Counts points for our monthly parties. These celebrations **have been so special because of your child's dedication to reading!**

Writing Sample

Falling in the Mountains and East Coast

By Louis Seymour, Mrs. Placko's Class

Leaves changing colors in the Appalachian Mountains are like a quilt. I am never curious about the colors. I can see them from miles away, and they are **just trees. It's not the view or colors or towns. It's the season. The best season is fall. Charleston is not so much like fall in the mountains. The trees just die and it's kind of warm. That's because it is closer to the equator. I love fall!**

GRADE LEVEL UPDATES

Third Grade ... Deck the halls with South Carolina history! This month third graders are enjoying an adventure into the South Carolina past with Native Americans and explorers galore! Do you know which group of Europeans were the first to settle in South Carolina? People from all over the world have chosen South Carolina as home, and we're reaping the rewards of a rich heritage and culture as a result! Speaking of heritage, third graders enjoyed an Author's Tea just before Thanksgiving where we shared our free verse "**Where I'm From**" poems with friends and family members. These poems are patterned after George Ella Lyon's famous Where I'm From poem. We enjoyed digging into our own recent pasts to write about things that matter most to us. We've been working hard to memorize multiplication math facts, and we've worked hard for sweet rewards--an ice cream sundae! Division facts are next! We can't wait to enjoy some rest and relaxation during the Christmas holidays! Have you heard of The 12 Days of a South Carolina Christmas? Ask a third grader!

Writing Sample

Wolves' Adaptations

By Mitchell Dowden

The adaptations of wolves help them survive in the forest. Wolves need long sharp teeth so they can capture bears, beavers, hare, and reindeer. Wolves also need thick fur so they can blend in with the snow and **so they won't freeze. They also have great hearing** to get away from their predators. They use this to help catch their prey and to get back to the pack. These adaptations help them survive.



Thanks so much to
Broadway Bagels.
Panera Bread, and
Hudson Road Bi-Lo
for their support of Bring a
Buddy to Breakfast.

Fourth grade... Animal Limericks

There once was a bear named Ayren
Whose only friend was a bird hen
He broke his leg
And began to beg
So he prayed and then said, "Amen".

There once was a snake named Masen
Who wanted to wear an apron
With an appetite
He loved a good bite
But instead he just ate raisins.

There once was a dog named Maddie
Whose best friend was very bratty
With a skinny tail
And a water pail
She found a new friend named Catty.

Once there lived a bear named Owen
Whose mom was constantly sewin'
He was hunted down
But the hunter drowned
So don't try to hunt down Owen.



There will be no
school Dec. 19-30.
Enjoy your holidays!

GRADE LEVEL UPDATES

Mrs. Welsh's Class ... I would like to thank all the parents and teachers who participated in our Author's Tea on November 22nd. The students worked very hard to publish their "Where I'm From" poems and enjoyed having the opportunity to share them! As we continue our study of writing, students will learn more about where author's get their ideas and how to maintain a writer's notebook. Throughout December, students will begin writing an autobiographical timeline.

Special Education Writing Sample

By Vernie P., Mrs. Wickline's class (3rd grade)

I like horses. Horses eat grass and apples. I see horses in barns.

Fifth Grade ... WOW, has 5th grade been busy! We just finished in Social Studies with our Immigration scrapbook presentations and they were GREAT! The students looked so cute all dressed-up as immigrants. We are now moving on to studying about WWI and how the US became a world power. In Math we will continue our graphing unit and students will be required to complete a graph project. Please ask your child to see that rubric. In Reading we are finishing up our novel study on Letters from Rifka and will move on to an in-depth study of Theme four reading skills. We will begin our oceans unit in Science and take an in-depth look at waves, currents, tides, and ocean floor features. We are all looking forward to our holiday break approaching, but we have so much to do and will be working hard right up to the very last minute.



June 3, 1890

My Homeland and Family

My name is Pauline. I was born in Italy and I am 10 years old. I live in an apartment and it is very slum. I live with my mother and my father. I am an only child. My father works late and my mother stays at home with me. I love my homeland but we are very poor like many other families. **My father works a lot so I don't see him very often. I help my mother tend to the goats. She makes cheese from the goats' milk.** We sell most of it at the market. We only keep a small amount.

I love it when my father gets home from work because he tells me all about the big ships that he sees in the shipyard. When all my chores are done I get to play with the chickens. I love my beautiful home, but I dream of a life in America. We will be leaving in a couple of days forever.

June 5, 1890

My Journey

My parents and I are on a train on our way to board a ship. It takes a long time to get there by train, but I have **never been on a train before so it isn't so bad. When we got off the train, I couldn't believe how big some of the ships were.** The one we were going on was big but not as big as the others.

We couldn't get on the ship right away because we had to purchase tickets. Luckily we had saved enough money, but we still had to ride in the storage compartment in the bottom of the ship. When we finally boarded the ship and got to the bottom I saw how nasty it was. I was so hungry but the food was horrible. I was so sleepy and was ready for bed. **I couldn't go to sleep because I wondered what it would be like in America.**

June 20, 1890

Ellis Island

Our Journey took forever, but when I saw Ellis Island I was very excited. It was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen in my life. We saw the Statue of Liberty and my family **shouted, "Freedom, We have Freedom!"**

We had to go through a doctor's check-up. They asked us all kinds of questions. They wanted to know my name and age. They asked me who I came with and why we came to America. The strangest thing was when they checked under our eyelids.

It seemed like forever, but later in the day we finally got to do the most important thing of all. We finally walked through the gates of freedom! All I could think about was what it was going to feel like in America!

June 20, 1890

America

I could hardly keep from crying like my parents. I could see freedom. I was very happy but sad at the same time. I wished all my friends and family in Italy could have come with us. When we left Ellis Island, we ran out and **kissed the ground. I could hear people shouting, "Freedom!" My family and I couldn't wait to start our life in America.**

Immigration Scrapbook Entries by Katherine