



# BOBCAT BANNER



Buena Vista Elementary PTA Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 5  
December 2007

Buena Vista Elementary  
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The mission of Buena Vista Elementary is to educate all students academically while supporting them socially and emotionally as they develop into productive citizens and lifelong learners.

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**And Much More!**



Thank you, Super Duper,  
for your continued  
support!

The deadline for our next  
issue is January 18, 2008.  
Contact Anne Stein at  
steins@bellsouth.net or  
275.0197.

## A Word From Our Principal – Dr. Ann K. Mohr

Dear Buena Vista Families and Friends,

Now that our Thanksgiving holiday is behind us and we approach the Winter Holidays, I want to send my wishes to each of you. I wish for you the beauty of family unity, the joy of sharing, and the fulfillment of personal ambition during this season. I give thanks for each of you and the support you give to your school. Buena Vista is a busy place and as the days go by, we can feel the children's excitement grow as they anticipate the joys this holiday season holds for them. Please be sure to join us on December 10<sup>th</sup> for our PTA meeting. This will be our annual chorus holiday program and there is nothing better than our students' voices to set a holiday mood.

Happy Holidays!

Ann Mohr

## The President's Corner – Amy Bowers

Happy Holidays! I hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and were able to enjoy time with family and friends. As we approach the season of giving, it is wonderful to see this spirit in full force at Buena Vista. Our PTA is so proud of the Backpack Buddies program which provided full Thanksgiving meals to all participating families! Our "Kids Helping Kids" program gave our children another opportunity to understand the importance of helping others, both at Buena Vista and in the community. Our PTA gets many thank yous from the families who receive assistance from these programs, and I personally, would like to let you know that I am grateful for your generosity and concern for those in need. It truly makes a difference!

The PTA would like to congratulate the Buena Vista faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication with achieving the AYP goals. We know that your jobs can be difficult and challenging, and we thank you for going above and beyond to help our children do their best! As a parent, if you have any desire to become a tutor, please let your child's teacher know. The Brainbuilders program volunteers are working hard to place tutors with students who might need some extra attention, and they need you! Keep in mind...you do not have to come up

*(Continued pg. 2 – The President's Corner)*

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(Continued from pg. 1 –*The President’s Corner*)

with any lessons, nor do you have to have any specialized training. The teachers will tell you exactly what to do for each child. This is an easy and very rewarding way to help our students and support our teachers!

By the time you read this newsletter, you will have received the tentative drawings of our Outdoor Classroom space. We are excited to be working on this innovative project, and after the holidays, are hoping to get approval from the District to begin working on fund raising and implementation. Let us know if you have special skills or contacts that might help us with this project.

Finally, Valerie Bynum, Sandy Patterson, and I will be getting geared up to plan the Locks of Love hair cutting event, sponsored by Ivy salon, in May. After the New Year, I will ask those of you who have expressed an interest to cut your hair to confirm a definite “YES” so that we can begin planning and coordinating the details. “Show Your Care, Grow Your Hair!”

It is so great to be a part of a school and community where so many people are willing to share their time, dollars, and talents to help ALL of the students and staff at Buena Vista. It has been a wonderful experience getting to know and to work with so many of you. I hope to see you on December 10<sup>th</sup> at our PTA general meeting and Holiday Concert!

Amy Bowers  
PTA President

## Important Dates

December 4 <sup>th</sup>	Chick-fil-A Night, Pelham Road
December 5 <sup>th</sup>	Student Council at 7:40am in the Media Center
December 5 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Board Meeting at 9:30am
December 10 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Meeting and Holiday Concert at 7:00pm
December 13 <sup>th</sup>	Chorus Caroling
December 14 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Colonial Day
December 19 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Parties
December 19 <sup>th</sup>	Market Day Delivery in the Cafeteria (4:00 to 5:00pm)
<b>December 20<sup>th</sup>- January 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>NO SCHOOL- Happy Holidays!</b>
January 9 <sup>th</sup>	Student Council at 7:40am in the Media Center
January 9 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Board Meeting at 9:30am
January 11 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Skate Night
<b>January 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO SCHOOL- Professional Development Day</b>
January 15 <sup>th</sup>	SIC Meeting at 6:00pm
January 16 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>	Kindergarten and 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Registration for 2008-09
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	Spirit Day! Wear your PJ's to School
<b>January 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>NO SCHOOL- MLK Day</b>
January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Report Cards
January 30 <sup>th</sup>	Market Day Delivery in the Cafeteria (4:00-5:00pm)

## Backpack Buddies



The Backpack Buddies committee would like to thank all of you for helping our PTA provide a special and memorable Thanksgiving Holiday care package for our families. Each family received traditional food items, a gift card for a turkey, and a delicious Market Day pie to complete their holiday meal.

Our student council members assisted us with posters, cards, manning the food bin and packing the care packages. Mrs. Griffin's class helped us assemble the food and made enclosure cards. A special thank you to Market Day, for their pie contributions.

Thank you for always being such a generous community and ready to help others. It is because of our parent's commitment to our school that makes this outreach program possible.

During December we will be collecting and sending home breakfast items. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Suggested breakfast items: cereal, oatmeal, grits, cereal bars, fruit cups, pop tarts.

Wishing all of you the joy of the season!

### Attention ESOL Parents

Please come our first parent meeting for ESOL families.

When: Monday, December 10 (before the PTA meeting)

Time: 5:30-7:00pm

Where: BVES cafeteria

Meet other parents and discuss tips for school success.

## PTA Curriculum Night

We are in the process of planning for the PTA Curriculum Night on February 11, 2008. The theme this year is "Walk Around the World: A Multicultural Journey". Please mark your calendars for February 11th - 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

We are looking for parents who are interested in sharing their own cultural heritage or information about a country they might have visited with displays, artifacts, dancing, and/or story telling.

We are also looking for parent volunteers who would be willing to help with tasks prior to the event or with behind-the-scenes tasks for that evening.

If you are interested in helping in either of these ways, please contact Sonya Dawson by phone at 848-1650 or by email at [srbdawson@charter.net](mailto:srbdawson@charter.net).

## Bobcat Brainbuilders



Attention all Bobcat Brainbuilding Tutors: We have great news! We received a grant this fall from The Alliance For Quality Education allowing us to purchase many learning tools. We now own a Table Top Pocket Chart for phonics, sight words and sentences as well as the Socially Speaking Game, Sequencing Cards and a Mix and Match Rhyme card game. We were also able to buy more than 30 new books! PLEASE visit the Brainbuilding shelves located in the Media Center to utilize these new resources. Be on the lookout for new phonics and math games coming very soon! Thank you for all the help you give to our students!

Your Brainbuilding Team

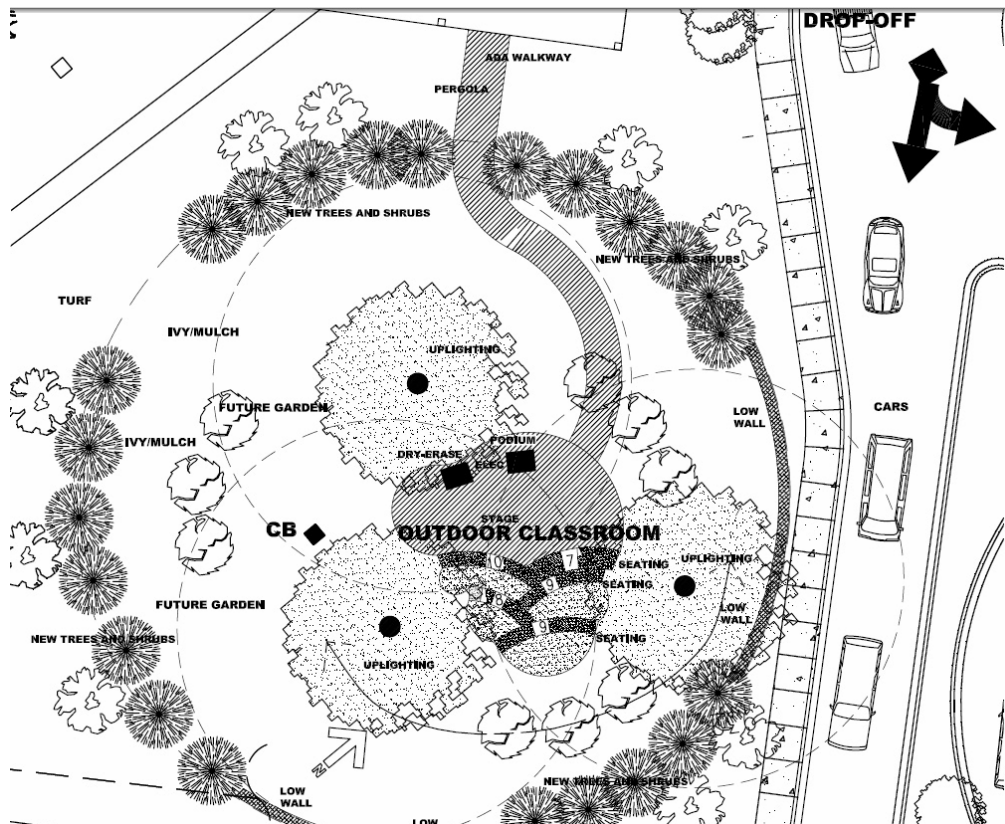
## Outdoor Classroom

The Outdoor Classroom project, a vision held by administrators, teachers and parents alike for the past several years is currently being explored. Design and financing strategies are the first step towards realization of an amphitheater style classroom to be used by all teachers and classes in an outdoor setting. Surveys and interviews are currently being distributed for design input by all potential users in an effort to understand the best use, size and form for an outdoor classroom. It is anticipated that the project may require up to 9 months before actual completion due to the many complexities involving financing, fund raising, volunteer efforts, various staff and student reviews and ultimately the proper coordination with the school district personnel.

A lot of volunteer effort will be required to accomplish this project. We are anticipating that some parents have contacts or resources that may prove to be of great benefit to the success of the outdoor classroom. These include Construction Material Procurement, Civil Engineering Design, Site Surveying, Landscape Design, Horticultural Advisor, Hardscaping Design and Contractor selections. If you have an interest or experience with these tasks, or would like to contribute time, money, labor or materials, please contact Eric Schwalm at 918-6543. Thank you.

### Outdoor Classroom Committee Members:

Amy Bowers  
Rick Bynum  
Leslie Cook  
Charnley DeMerritt  
Cindy Finn  
Patty Hickey  
Julia Lacy  
Carol Leaphart  
Jaye Levitsky  
Kimberly Schapp  
Eric Schwalm (Chairman)



## Sunshine Math

It has been a great start for Sunshine math! The following students have earned 25 Sunshine Points and the Green Ribbon:

**A.J. Morrison, Abby Oldstrum, Aleeza Masood, Alex Riese, Alex Smith, Alexa Zambelas, Alexandra Schneider, Alexandra Walden, Allie Watts, Allison O'Toole, Andrew Motsinger, Andrew Rose, Andrew Stack, Anika Krishman, Ann Chalmers Cohn, Anna Stanley, Annalee Goodale, Anne Crowley, Asha Jama, Ashley Fallow, Ashley Owens, Ashley Sirovatka, Barrett Cosby, Barton Loper, Ben Jones, Beverly Fritzsche, Brant Safrit, Braxton Pandiani, Brendon Lee, Brian Weaver, Briana Parcell, Britney Smith, Bryce Tessman, Caitlin Tackney, Caitlyn Cerino, Caleb Leaphart, Carly Bouts, Carolina Gaillard, Caroline Evatt, Casen Hamby, Casey Chenualt, Catherine Motsinger, Chandler Ethridge, Cheyla Ross, Christina Chen, Cole Butenhoff, Creighton Boyd, D'daunte Jones, Denny Hanahan, Deron Schnee, Drew Lambrecht, Drew Lopez, Dylan Lane, Dylan Russell, Edgar Maruga, Edwin Irvin Garcia, Ellison Horton, Emelie Wismer, Emily Dillon, Emma Moore, Ford Johnson, Fuller Hicks, Hallie Bowers, Heidi Lucas, Holland Ouellette, Hunter McCarton, Igor Grzejdzia, Isabella Russell, Isabelle Conrad, Izabella Kamieniecki, Jack Kelly, Jack Smith, Jackson Wilber, James Crowley, Jillian Hindman, Jo Penninger, Joe Ball, Jonathan Carver, Joseph Shaughnessy, Joshua Gallman, Joshua Woo, Julia Frattolin, Karina Desai, Karla Excobedo, Katelyn Roney, Kevin Tian, Kristen Schapp, Kyle Lukomske, Lauren Quessenberry, Lauren Shaw, Layla Robinson, Leah Wade, Liam Vanderschaaf, Lorenzo Lopis, Lucy Wang, Lupita Garcia, Madeline Bynum, Madeline Reilly, Madison Brown, Maggie Bryant, Maria Bartell, Mark Blasko, Maryam Bajwa, Mason McGregor, Matt Quessenberry, Max Bulter, Megan Moldthan, Meghana Epari, Melody Hong, Melvina Kuoshu, Mia Vanderschaaf, Michael Lacy, Michael McMurray, Nate Stageberg, Nathan Scheidly, Neil Gramopadhye, Nicholas Seeley, Nicolas Alvarez, Nicole Patterson, Ning Fu, Noah Block, Noah Cheek, Octavio Iorio, Paige Willett, Payal Patel, Rachel Lentz, Reagan Hack, Riley Dankel, Ruth Rogers, Samuel Smith, Sarah Fryer, Sarah Kraynak, Sarah Palmer, Sarah Yu, Sarim Masood, Shreya Sama, Sloan Somers, Stephanie Navarrete-Hernandez, Sudhendra Budidi, Sweta Mandilwar, Taylor Pagen, Thomas DeYoung, Trey Dickert, Trip Crowley, Turner Rogers, Unshu Biyani, Whit Kluttz, Zack Huskamp, Zion Yates**

The following students have earned 50 Sunshine Points and the White Ribbon:

**Alex Smith, Alexa Zambelas, Alexandra Schneider, Allie Watts, Allison O'Toole, Andrew Rose, Anna Stanley, Anne Crowley, Ashley Fallow, Ashley Owens, Beverly Fritzsche, Brendon Lee, Brian Weaver, Britney Smith, Bryce Tessman, Caitlin Tackney, Caitlyn Cerino, Carolina Gaillard, Chandler Ethridge, Cheyla Ross, Dylan Lane, Emily Dillon, Ford Johnson, Fuller Hicks, Hallie Bowers, Heidi Lucas, Isabelle Conrad, Jack Kelly, Jillian Hindman, Jo Penninger, Joe Ball, Joseph Shaughnessy, Joshua Gallman, Kevin Tian, Lauren Quessenberry, Leah Wade, Lucy Wang, Maggie Bryant, Marshall Murdaugh, Max Butler, Meghana Epari, Melody Hong, Michael Lacy, Neil Gramopadhye, Nicolas Alvarez, Paige Willett, Rachel Lentz, Riley Dankel, Ruth Rogers, Shreya Sama, Sloan Somers, Stephanie Navarrete-Hernandez, Sudhendra Budidi, Taylor Pagen, Trip Crowley, Turner Rogers, Unshu Biyani, Zack Huskamp**

Look forward to next month for more ribbons recipients. Sunshine math encourages participation as well as points. Keep turning in those worksheets. All students who turn in each work sheet will receive special recognition at the end of the year. Keep up the good work sun-shiners.

1st grade will kick off Sunshine Math in December. Parents should look for information and permission slip to come home in Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>'s communication folder. Their first worksheet will be handed out the week of January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Sunshine Math would like to thank Cornerstone Printers for their generous contribution to the printing of over 10,000 worksheets for Sunshine Math this year.

## Reflections News



Thanks to all students that entered the Reflections contest this year. There were many wonderful entries from our very talented students. The entries are now being judged and a list of winners will be announced soon.

Congratulations to Ms. Sutphin, 3rd grade, for winning a \$25 gift certificate for having the most entries from her class. Also, congrats to Ann Cohn, 3rd grade, for winning a Frankies Fun Park gift certificate from our random entry drawing. Way to go!

If you have any questions about the Reflections contest, please contact Amy Shaw at 877-5587.

### Who's Leading The Egg Contest?

Thanks to all of you who have donated eggshells thus far! The box in the atrium was filled to the top last week!!

Please continue to save those eggs over the holidays. If you have any questions as to how to empty the egg out, please email Jill Motsinger at [jillmots@hotmail.com](mailto:jillmots@hotmail.com) or call 848-7312.

The following classrooms are in the lead for collecting the most eggs:

**Mrs. Reed**  
**Mrs. Huguet**  
**Mrs. Whitlock**

## Chick-fil-A Night December 4<sup>th</sup>!



Please remember the first Tuesday of every month is Buena Vista night at Chick-fil-A. It is always a fun night and one less meal to plan for the family! Please remember to turn in your receipts so that our school gets credit.

### Bobcat Banner for January

Please note, due to the holiday break, the next *Bobcat Banner* will be delivered on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Content for the issue is due January 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Community News

*Space permitting, the Bobcat Banner will print community notices as a service to the school community. Neither the school nor the PTA endorses any of these activities, and we encourage parents to assist their children in making choices that are appropriate for them.*

### **Carolina Elite Soccer Academy Accepting Spring 2008 Registrations Now**

CESA provides fun soccer programs for boys and girls ages U-6 to U-19. We are currently registering recreational age groups U-6 to U14 for the spring season that begins February 23-24, 2008 and runs through May 3-4. Visit our website to obtain forms and information about our programs or come by our office.

We are located at 18 Boland Court, Greenville, SC 29615; 864.329.1113 office; 864.329.1103 fax; [www.CarolinaEliteSC.com](http://www.CarolinaEliteSC.com).

## Box Tops Contest! (continued on page 8)



Be the BEST you can be, start your Box Top collecting from A-Z! Please attach your box tops to page 8 of the Bobcat Banner. Staple, tape, or glue...whatever you choose to do! Remove the page and submit it to your teacher by January 15th. The class with the most completed A-Z sheets will receive a fun class treat from the Box Top Host.

If you need more pages just copy this one or go to [www.BoxTops4education.com](http://www.BoxTops4education.com). It's that easy!

Help our school BE THE BEST!!!

Float to the top of  
your class with Box Tops!



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for helping! Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school.  
For more collection worksheets and projects, go to [www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter](http://www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter)