

From: Bach PTO <bac_pto@aaps.k12.mi.us>

Subject: Bach PTO Newsletter for Week of November 6, 2017

Bach PTO Newsletter for Week of November 6, 2017



- November 27th PTO Teacher Breakfast To Sign Up to Bring in Food or to cook: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OdRa-mN_htKw90BFSk_VCvHNJczsm9FVsOPd066lBc4/edit?usp=sharing
- November 10th Student Council 4-5:15pm MPR
- November 16th PTO Mtg Evening: 6-7:30pm MPR Free Childcare. All are welcome.
- November 17th Bach Family Science Night Time: 6:00-8:00pm MPR
- Mon. Nov 27th-Fri. Dec. 8th Ten Thousand Villages Bach PTO Holiday Shopping Mention Bach Elementary and we will receive 15% of all proceeds.
- December 8th Fundraiser for the Epler family Time: 7-8pm in the MPR
- Amazonsmile.com - available all the time!

News and Upcoming Events

**Support us when you shop
this holiday season**

Buy your gifts and holiday essentials at
smile.amazon.com. You shop. Amazon donates.

amazonsmile



For those who are looking for more information on emotional wellness here is a great article with very useful tips and suggestions on how to help youth with anxiety, stress, and overall wellness. Children of all ages can benefit from mindfulness. It can help parents and caregivers, too. Here are tips for children and adults of all ages for how to be more present. https://www.nytimes.com/guides/well/mindfulness-for-children?utm_source=sharetools&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=website

We are starting to get a little low on books for our Little Free Library. If you have books to donate at home feel free to bring them in. If it is full you can store them in the media center. Just place them in a well marked



bag labeled with "little free library."

SCRIP Gift Cards and Gift certificates

SCRIP Program updates

1. Don't forget to re-enroll in the Busch's 2018 Cash for Education program by January 1st. All participants must re-enroll annually. Once registered, simply shop, provide your Busch's MyWay phone number or key tag at the register and receive credit for your schools. It's that easy!
2. Create your own family account at <http://www.shopwithscrip.com/> and start earning money for Bach PTO!

Use enrollment code: 4E3D1E2C21797

Tuesday November 21 will be a BONUS REBATE DAY on the <http://www.shopwithscrip.com/> website. Check it out to earn extra money for Bach PTO!

3. It's never too early to start thinking about your holiday shopping. Put your SCRIP gift card order in now and then cross it off your list of things to do!

Options for ordering:

- Through your own personal account or scrip wallet (see above #2)
- In person on Wednesday mornings at the Jefferson entrance from 8:45-9:15
- Look for us at Science Night on Friday Nov 17
- Email scrip@bachpto.org and we can place your order for you.

We are planning to place an order for physical gift cards by December 1st in order to ensure delivery in time before winter break.

Don't forget about the SCRIP gift certificate option! Email scrip@bachpto.org for ordering or with questions.

Fundraiser for the Epler Family

Some Bach staff members are in the process of planning an event to raise money to support the Epler family during this difficult time. The event will take place December 8 from 7:00-8:00pm and will require about 5 parent volunteers to help during the event. If you are interested in helping, please contact Gabby Taylor (first grade teacher) at taylorg@aaps.k12.mi.us.

Ten Thousand Villages in Ann Arbor is hosting a holiday shopping benefit for local non-profit organizations. From Monday, November 27th through Friday, December 8th, not only will your purchase benefit artisans



around the world, it will also help create change right here in Ann Arbor. During those two weeks, mention Bach Elementary School PTO at the checkout counter and 15% of your purchase will be donated to us. Join us as we support our global AND local community; use your purchasing power to change the world through fair trade!

Ten Thousand Villages' mission is to provide vital, fair income to craftspeople in the developing world by marketing their handicrafts and telling their stories in North America.

The sale of these products helps to provide a fair wage for the artisans and enables them to pay for food, education, health care, and housing.

Ten Thousand Villages is located at 303 South Main Street in downtown Ann Arbor close to the corner of Liberty and Main Streets. Their hours are Sunday 12-6, Monday-Thursday 10-8, and Friday-Saturday 10-10. They will be open for Midnight Madness, Friday December 2 from 10-Midnight.

Volunteer to Help Restore Funding to PTOs



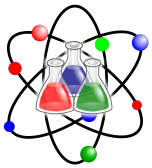
As you might know, the PTO Thrift Shop has had to massively scale back its planned giving to PTOs for this school year, which has impacted the budget at Bach and all other schools in the district. The lack of funding is due to a downturn in the resale market.

How You Can Help

1. Shop at the Thrift Shop!
2. Volunteer: To conserve its funds, the Thrift Shop is looking for people to volunteer in its back office. Visit this site to sign up for a 2-hour shift: www.a2ptothriftshop.org/volunteer-support

Your support will directly help the Thrift's bottom line, and that would mean more money available to our PTO next year.

Family Science Night



The Bach PTO is very excited about Bach's first ever Gift Basket Raffle!

It's time to fill the baskets!

Over a dozen family-friendly, themed baskets are ready to be filled with contributions from you, our amazing Bach families! Each grade level has been assigned one or two themed baskets and there are also baskets in the office, the music room, and the media center.

Please send in any new or gently-loved items you would like to donate now until Wednesday, November 8th. After the baskets are filled and ready, tickets will go on sale the week leading up to the Bach Family Science Night, Friday, November 17th. Tickets will be available for purchase online, in person at Bach the week prior to Science Night, and during the Science Night event. The drawing will take place at the end of Science Night (though you need not be present to win).

The baskets will be rotated between the classrooms to which the themes have been assigned, but you can donate items to any basket (even if your child is in a grade different from the accordingly themed basket). If

you are unsure where a specific basket is located, items can be left in a general basket that will be kept in the Main Office.

We are looking for new and like-new items that fit with each theme. Suggestions are listed with the themes, but you can use your imagination! You may already have the perfect item(s) to donate sitting unused at home! In addition to the items that we collect from you all, many local vendors have already contributed spectacular “big ticket” items to be included in the gift baskets. Just to name a few, the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, M-Den, Mighty Good/Jefferson Market, the Humane Society, Mathnasium, UM Athletics, Jerusalem Garden, Quest Martial Arts, and Planet Rock have already donated fantastic items and experiences to this fundraiser.

Below are the basket themes along with the grade levels to which they have been assigned. Ideas for donations for each theme are included as well. Remember, you may donate to any basket, just as your family may enter to win any basket once the raffle begins!

Gift Basket Themes

Kindergarten

PETS

Donation Suggestions: Toy Pets (this may go without saying, but no live animals please), Plush Animals, Pet-themed Clothing and Books, Animal Costumes, Notebooks and Stationary with Pet Animals, etc.

ART SMART (Visual Arts, Photography, and Crafts)

Donation Suggestions: Art Supplies, Craft Materials, Cameras, Blank Canvases, Frames, Prints of Artwork, Books about Art and Artists, etc.

1st Grade

KID KITCHEN (Baking)

Donation Suggestions: Bakeware, Oven Mitts, Aprons, Boxed Mixes, Cupcake Liners, Child-friendly Cookbooks, Non-perishable Packaged Ingredients (like Frosting, Chocolate Chips, Sprinkles), Measuring Cups, etc.

MOVIE NIGHT

Donation Suggestions: Family-friendly DVDs, Popcorn (unpopped), Popcorn Buckets, Blankets, Hot Chocolate Mix, Movie Tickets, etc.

2nd Grade

MAD SCIENCE (STEM Exploration)

Donation Suggestions: Chemistry Sets, Magnifying Glasses, Child-friendly Lab Equipment, Lego Kits or other Construction Sets, Telescopes, Books about STEM topics (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

SPA DAY

Donation Suggestions: Manicure/Pedicure Sets, Nail Polish, Loofahs, Foot Scrubs, (New) Hairbrushes and Combs, Hair Chalk, Robes, Slippers, etc.

3rd Grade

GAME ON!

Donation Suggestions: Any types of games – Board Games, Video Games, Game Systems, Card Games, Trading Cards (Pokémon, Yu-Gi-Oh!), Puzzles, Books/Magazines about specific games (like Minecraft), etc.

GOURMET (Cooking and Fine Dining)

Donation Suggestions: Cookware, Kitchen Tools (Blender, Hand Mixers, Food Processor), Tablecloths, Recipe Books, Spices, Measuring Cups, etc.

4th Grade

M - GO BLUE!

Donation Suggestions: Anything Michigan-themed! Hats, Decorations, Clothing, etc.

5th Grade

ADVENTURERS (Travel, Geography, & Exploration)

Donation Suggestions: Flags or Other Items from around the World, Binoculars, Globes, Water Bottles, Compass, International Currency, etc.

Main Office

SPORTS FANATICS

Donation Suggestions: Sports Equipment (balls, pucks, rackets), Duffel Bags, Sporting Event Tickets, Jerseys, Books about Sports or Athletes, Sports Trading Cards, etc.

Music Room

MUSIC TO MY EARS

Donation Suggestions: Musical Instruments, Concert Tickets, CDs, Headphones, Personal Music Players,

DVDs of Musicals, etc.

Media Center

BOOKWORM (Reading, Writing, & Literacy)

Donation Suggestions: Books, Graphic Novels, Comics, Book Lights, Journals, Pens, Markers, Paper, Notebooks, Mad Libs and other Word Games (Scrabble, Bananagrams, Boggle), etc.

We are still hoping to procure a few more “big ticket” items from local vendors. If you are willing to help us reach out to specific vendors, or if you own your own business and would like to contribute to our efforts (or know someone else who may), please let us know!

Contact Melanie Rountrey [734-255-5315 / melroutrey@gmail.com] or Cathy Leitner [646-408-7932 / cathyleitner@gmail.com] with any questions about the Gift Basket Raffle or this year’s Family Science Night at Bach.

Let the basket filling begin!

Thank you,

Melanie Rountrey & Cathy Leitner

Basket Raffle Coordinators

Bach Family Science Night Co-Chairs

PTO Meeting

Our next meeting Thursday November 16th from 6-8:30pm in the MPR. Free childcare provided.

All are welcome. [October Meeting Minutes](#)



Do you paint? The staff/adult bathrooms if you have ever been in them are in desperate need of fresh paint with a splash of color and some beautiful art on the walls. If you are interested in helping us give our teachers a much needed upgrade to their bathrooms please email me. If you have expertise in framing art work or have art to donate we’d love to work with you. eprestonrahim@gmail.com



Do you bake or cook? The last Monday of every month the PTO will organize a group of parents and any interested youth to donate breakfast items and cook a warm breakfast sandwich for our teachers. Our next teacher breakfast is November 27th. Meet in the Teacher Lounge at 8:00am. If you are donating food please drop it off by 8:00am. [To sign up click here.](#)

Ann Arbor Public Schools would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Ann Arbor Public Schools directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.