

# BACH elementary SCHOOL NEWS

MARCH 4, 2015



## HELLO BACH FAMILIES,

Communication is one of the most important ways to build a relationship. This edition of the Bach newsletter is being sent via our teachers to ensure that all families are receiving and reading them. As we move forward, please let us know how you would best like to receive the newsletter so you can be in the know. Kindly send an email to [president@bachpto.org](mailto:president@bachpto.org) and/or [parkh@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:parkh@aaps.k12.mi.us)

As we continue to go Beyond Celebrating Diversity, let's ensure that learning materials are free of bias, whether in explicit or implicit forms. When we find bias materials, let's commit to encouraging each other to recognize and analyze them. Together, we can make a difference!

### District Surveys for students and parents

During the weeks of March 23rd to April 2nd, the district will be collecting your thoughts on how WE (A2 schools and Bach) are doing so far. The goal of the climate survey is to hear from ALL of our constituents. Please consider sharing your experience with us. Only with a complete story can we truly grow together.

Students in grades 3–5 will be given time at school to complete their survey.

### Middle School Dates:

- » Wednesday, March 11, 6:30pm Parent Orientation in the Auditorium at Slausen
- » Friday, March 13, 6–8pm 5th Grade Family Fun Night and Student Talent Show at Slausen
- » Wednesday, May 13 AM 5th Grade Visit to Slausen OR Forsythe

### Drills Update

We will be continuing to practice our Lock Down, Severe Weather and Fire Drills in the following weeks. Please remember to review these drills with your children. It is vital that in any real emergency, they are focused on the teacher for directions. So far, our staff and students have been doing an amazing job!

### M-Step – Spring Testing for Grades 3–5

Testing Window (Detail schedules will be shared by classroom teachers later)

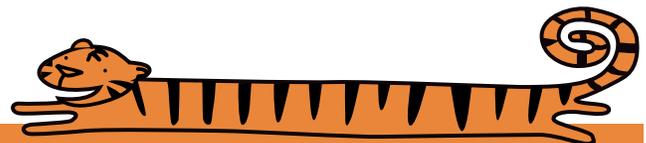
- » 5th Grade 4/15-4/28
- » 4th Grade 4/29-5/13
- » 3rd Grade 5/18-5/29

Staff have been practicing online/tech skills, as well as working on content with students.

If you would like to know more and practice the online/tech skills at home, please go to the following link:

Sample Item Sets for grades 5, 8 and 11 now available at <https://wbte.drcedirect.com/MI/portals/mi/>. (Remember, Chrome only)

As always, we know that staff and students at Bach do their personal best. Let's continue to support the daily learning and experiences that make our school the best!!!



At Bach School we are dedicated to creating an environment that inspires learning. We strive to challenge each student to achieve full academic potential and maintain consistent standards for socially responsible behavior. We believe education is a shared responsibility of the staff, students, parents, and the community. We value children as unique individuals and recognize their ethnic diversity and various learning styles as strengths.

*(continued)*

### Message of the Week

Now that African American History month is over, do we stop celebrating inspiring African Americans? One of the amazing things about

*“We are stronger when we celebrate each other.”*

our Bach community is that we see the value in ensuring that ALL of our children can find inspiration in people of different races, ethnicities, languages, backgrounds, family units, religions and beliefs. We are stronger when we celebrate each other.

### Home and School Connection

Parents often ask me how they can make a difference in supporting their children’s success at school. One way is to prepare them to learn by successfully following directions. Transitioning from one activity to another is very difficult for many students. Try setting a time limit and STICK WITH IT.

— *Hyeuo Park, Principal*

### “CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION” SERIES

HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD! Dr. Swift has been conducting her “Continue the Conversation” Series. Some of the Bach parents who have attended said that she is really interested in hearing ideas and that often ideas that emerge from these sessions are the issues that the district ends up taking action on.

We want to make sure that Bach voices are part of the discussion ... our ideas, issues and suggestions. It’s so important—please take the time to participate. Those who speak are being heard. Let’s not be silent.

#### Here are a few ways to participate:

1. **Attend a Continue the Conversation Session.**  
Upcoming sessions (*all from 6:30–8pm*)
  - » Monday, March 9 Peace Neighborhood Ctr.
  - » Thursday, March 12 A2 STEAM at Northside
  - » Thursday, March 26 Pathways to Success H.S.
  - » Monday, March 30 Community High School
  - » Tuesday, March 31 Ann Arbor Open at Mack
2. Can’t make a session...**participate in an on-line survey** to share your issues, ideas and suggestions: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AAPSContinues>
3. **Share your ideas with the Bach PTO.** We can compile ideas into a document for sharing with the district.

## MARCH

- 6 MIRM Read a Hat Day  
Last Attendance Day for 2nd Marking Period
- 8 Daylight Savings (Spring Forward)
- 9 Last Day for 2nd Marking Period; NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- 10 5th Grade Field Trip to Healthy Hearts 9:30–noon
- 11 MIRM Read a Shirt Day  
4th Grade visit from Abraham in Motion
- 12 2nd and 3rd Grades at Wild Swan Theater 9:15–11:30am  
4th Grade Field Trip to UMS 10–11:45am
- 13 3rd Grade Field Trip to Detroit Historical Museum 9am–2pm
- 16 DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) 2:40pm
- 17 2nd Marking Period Reports Go Home
- 18 2nd grade Exhibit Museum 9:15-11:30
- 19 Bach SIT 4–5pm  
Bach PTO Meeting 6:30–7:30pm (Slauson Admin coming at 7pm)  
Slauson visits 5th Grade 2pm
- 20 MIRM Dress as Your Favorite Scientist
- 23 Ruth Barshaw – Author Assembly, MPR  
K–2nd grades 10–11am / 3rd–5th grades 2–3pm / Bach community 7–8 pm
- 24 Read a Button Day
- 25 DEAR 2pm
- 26 1st Grade Day Concert 2:45–3:30pm  
1st Grade Evening Concert 7–8pm
- 27 MIRM Family Reading Night 6–8pm
- 30-31 Pioneer Health Fair at Bach in the morning, MPR

## APRIL

- 1-2 Bach Talent Show, MPR 2–3pm
- 2 5th Grade Field Trip to Library Songsters 10:30-12:30
- 3–12 Spring Break

READING  
DETROIT

## BACH'S RX FOR READING BOOK DRIVE!



To celebrate March is Reading Month, **Bach Elementary is partnering with RX for Reading Detroit** to build a library in a low-income health clinic in Detroit. RX for Reading is a non-profit

literacy initiative that works to expand access to high-quality children's books and support families in reading with their children. Research has shown that **having access to books improves reading performance and children's attitudes towards reading.** However, there is significant inequality in American children's access to books. One study found that in middle-income neighborhoods the ratio of age-appropriate books per child is 13 to 1, while the ratio in low-income neighborhoods is 1 age-appropriate book for every 300 children.

Bach's MIRM goal is collecting **1,000 new or gently used children's books**, enough to create and sustain a library at Covenant Community Care for one year. We need all types of children's books, from infant board books to early readers to young adult chapter books. All children who go to RX for Reading clinic libraries are invited to pick a book to take home. For many children, this is the first book they own.

Our other goal is to **teach our students at Bach an important lesson about community engagement.** We believe that talent is distributed equally in all communities, but opportunity is not. This is a chance for our students to become more

aware of the opportunities they receive at Bach and to recognize that all children in our community do not have access to the same resources.

To help celebrate our students' dedication to this community outreach project, the two classrooms that collect the most books will be awarded a **\$50 Elameno Peace Prize** to purchase new books for their classroom. If we reach our 1,000 book goal, the Bach Library will be awarded a **\$100 RX for Reading Prize** to purchase new books with an emphasis on diverse characters.

In addition to donating new or gently used books, you are also welcome

to make a financial donation to RX for Reading. **\$2.50 purchases a new RX for Reading book** and will be tallied as one book for the classroom and school goals. Donating online through the RX for Reading website is easy; just email the receipt and your child's class to RX for Reading Director (and Bach parent) Mary-Catherine Harrison. If you would like to make a donation by cash or check email Mary-Catherine to make arrangements: [mc.harrison@udmercy.edu](mailto:mc.harrison@udmercy.edu). All donations to RX for Reading are tax deductible.

To find out more about RX for Reading, check out their webpage or follow them on Facebook:

<http://rxreading.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/rxreading>

*Bach's MIRM goal is collecting 1,000 new or gently used children's books, enough to create and sustain a library at Covenant Community Care for one year.*



## Will your child attend Slauson Middle School?

Slauson Middle School representatives will attend this month's PTO Meeting! Please join us if you have questions or want to get more information about Slauson!

**Thursday, March 19th**  
6:30-7:00 pm - PTO Meeting  
7:00-7:30 pm - Slauson Information  
Bach Multipurpose Room

Everyone is welcome!  
FREE childcare provided for school-aged children.



**Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> is the last day to make a donation toward Mr. Richmond's gift card!**

Cornell Richmond spent over 20 years as Bach's Head Custodian. He kept our floors shining, made sure rooms were set up for thousands of Bach events, and so much more, always with a smile on his face! If you would like to contribute money toward his gift card, *you can donate online at [bachpto.org](http://bachpto.org) OR write a check payable to "Bach PTO" and return it to the Bach Office (be sure to write "Mr. Richmond" in the memo section).*



# FIZZ BOOM READ

## Bach is Going “MAD” Over Reading!

March is always a special time at Bach when we celebrate reading for learning and for fun! A special thank you to the **Bach PTO** for funding so many events this month.

Meteorologists (weather scientists!) have been tracking super cold weather this winter. Has it been driving you all MAD? This year’s March is Reading Month theme is MAD SCIENCE. Students will be tracking their school combined reading minutes to watch a giant Bunson burner flame grow in the Multi-Purpose Room. Students who read 2,500 minutes will become a “microbe” in the giant Bach beaker! Our goal is to surpass last year’s total while learning a bit about science--both “mad” and real.

### Important Dates:

3/6 Read a Hat Day

3/11 Read a Shirt Day

3/20 Dress as your favorite scientist or book character

3/23 Author Ruth Barshaw presents during the day; 7-8 p.m. workshop for parents/teachers on journaling as a family activity to encourage reading and writing. More information to come!

3/24 Read a Button Day

3/27 6:30-8:30 p.m. FAMILY READING NIGHT AT BACH!



Students received their information packets and first reading log last week. Additional forms and links to sites with lists of science-themed books, careers in science, etc. are on the Bach Media Center web page at: [http://www.a2schools.org/bach.home/bach.mediacenter/-march\\_is\\_reading\\_month](http://www.a2schools.org/bach.home/bach.mediacenter/-march_is_reading_month)

**Students may count all minutes read OUTSIDE of school hours.**

**Participation in all events is voluntary.**

**As part of March is Reading Month this year, Bach students will work to collect 1,000 or more gently-used books to donate to RX for Reading, which will create a new library at the Covenant Community Center in Detroit. Look for more details about this project in this newsletter and in your child’s backpack mail!**

Questions? Contact Media Specialist Kelsey Forester at [foresterk@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:foresterk@aaps.k12.mi.us) or MIRM co-chairs Nieka Apell ([nieka@varnum.org](mailto:nieka@varnum.org)) or Jen Davis ([toddjen2@yahoo.com](mailto:toddjen2@yahoo.com))

## GROCERY SCRIP SPOTLIGHT



**DO YOU SHOP AT KROGER?** If so, you can support PTO! Each year Bach families raise approximately \$10,000 by participating in our grocery Scrip program and purchasing the things they normally would buy from their

favorite supermarkets. Below you will find instructions on how you can help raise money for Bach by shopping at Kroger, this week's grocery Scrip spotlight store.

Get a Kroger Plus Shopper's Card from the customer service desk or any register at your local Kroger store. Then link your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card to Bach PTO by doing the following:

1. Go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com). Scroll down the page and click "Enroll now" under the "Michigan" banner.
2. *If you already have a [Kroger.com](http://Kroger.com) account*, sign in. On the Kroger Community Rewards page, under "Find your organization," enter Bach's NPO number: **82780**. Click "Search." Click the circle to the left of "Bach Elementary School PTO." Click "Save Changes." You are now enrolled in the program.
3. *If you do **not** have a [Kroger.com](http://Kroger.com) account*, sign up for one by clicking on "Get started. Sign up today!" in the right-hand column. Follow the prompts to create an account. After you complete the registration process, you will receive an email from [Kroger.com](http://Kroger.com). Click on the activation link provided in that email and log in to your newly created account. Under "Account Settings," click on "Community Rewards." Click "Edit Kroger Community Rewards Information." On the Kroger Community Rewards page, under "Find your organization," enter Bach's NPO number: **82780**. Click "Search." Click the circle to the left of "Bach Elementary School PTO." Click "Save Changes." You are now enrolled in the program.

In order for Bach PTO to get credit for your purchases, you must use your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card at check-out on each shopping trip. If you have any questions about Kroger's Scrip program or any other grocery Scrip program, please contact the Bach School Scrip Coordinator at [scrip@bachpto.org](mailto:scrip@bachpto.org). Thanks for your support!



# Ann Arbor PTO THRIFT SHOP

[a2ptothriftshop.org](http://a2ptothriftshop.org)

2280 S. Industrial Hwy. 734-996-9155

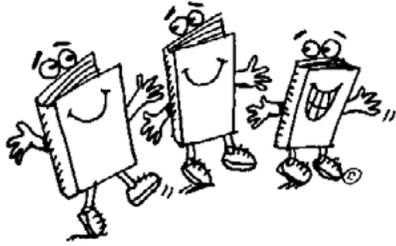
## SHOP DONATE FUNDRAISE

A non-profit resale shop with all proceeds benefitting Ann Arbor Public Schools and student enrichment.

<b>SHOP</b>	<b>DONATE</b>	<b>FREE</b>
Mon-Fri 9-7	Mon-Fri 10-6	furniture pickup
Sat 9-6 Sun 11-5	Sat 10-5 Sun 12-4	call 996-9155

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Athletic Equipment • Books • Clothing • Toys  
Furniture • Household Goods and More



Get LOST In a  
Good Book!



**Purchase SCRIP**

**during March is Reading Month and  
Support Bach School!**

Thank you for making your purchases using Scrip and for helping the Bach School community at the same time! **Our Scrip gift card profit for the year is \$2000!**

**All families who place orders by  
Friday, March 13 will be entered to  
win a gift certificate from Nicolas  
Books!**

**PTO Scrip Store hours**

Wednesdays 8:45 - 9:15am  
(main lobby)  
Fri, March 27<sup>th</sup> @  
Family Reading Night!

**Conveniently, we have cards IN STOCK for many of our  
popular stores.**

**At no cost to you, there is no easier way to  
support Bach PTO!**

Questions? Email: [scrip@bachpto.org](mailto:scrip@bachpto.org) or go to  
<http://bachpto.org/scrip/>



**Bach PTO**