

BACH elementary SCHOOL NEWS

APRIL 1, 2015



DEAR BACH FAMILIES,

For this edition of the newsletter, I'd like to thank YOU. This week, I had the privilege of giving a tour to a potentially new to Bach family. After touring our beautiful school with Kim Kauffman, I sat down with the family and asked if they had any questions. The first question they asked was, "What makes Bach special?" First off, what a great question, right?! So, I took my time and thought about it. I started by saying that all students will get a great education, feel safe and that we would love them here. But the one word that I used to describe what makes Bach special is "community." Then she smiled.

March is Reading Month

How fortunate we are to have such an amazing and talented group of parent volunteers working alongside Ms. Kelsey Forrester to bring us MIRM. From daily minute counting to Family Reading night, our parent volunteers go ABOVE and BEYOND to enrich the life experiences of our children. Did someone say we now have over 3,000 books collected???

District Surveys for students and parents

If you have completed the parent survey, thank you so much for your time.

We encourage ALL of our parents to complete a survey by April 2nd in order to truly grow as a community of learners. Please click the link below, it only takes 10 minutes or so. <http://www.a2schools.org/aaps/parents>

TV (Kiosk)

Stop by the front lobby to check out the news and events on our new TV.

Message from Bach

During the months of April and May, many of our students will be taking multiple assessments, from the M-step to the NWEA. It can be a difficult time for some. Below is a wonderfully inspiring message from one of our own...

"Two factors which have been proven to improve performance, however, are adequate rest and healthy eating. I would like to be sure your children do their very best on these tests. To that end, I'm asking you to ensure that your student gets to bed every night at a reasonable hour. I will be minimizing the homework load during these three weeks, so schedules are not too tight for early bedtimes. I am also trying to find ways to brighten our days as we face the stress of intense testing..."

We are truly in this together.

Home-School Connection

Here is what Bach staff have to say about our school. What do you have to say?

Bach is...

Home. Cool. Happy. Friends. Pawsome. A community. Great teamwork. A happy place. A place with heart. Home away from home. A place with hardworkers. A good place for children. Has the best staff in the district. A place where a kid can be a kid. A caring, nurturing place to learn. A safe place for students to learn. A warm, helpful and welcoming place. Full of a lot of great and caring people. A place I love bringing my children everyday. An engaging learning environment for ALL students. A very collaborative environment with great colleagues.

— *Hyeuo Park, Principal*

APRIL

1 Bach Talent Show (K-2, plus one 3rd grade), MPR 2–3pm

2 Bach Talent Show (4-5, plus one 3rd grade), MPR 2–3pm
5th Grade Field Trip to Library Songsters 10:30-12:30
Pioneer Health Fair at Bach, MPR in the morning

3–12 Spring Break

14 Tarchinski Water Tour Field Trip from 9:30-2:30pm

23 Bach SIT 4–5pm
Bach PTO Meeting 6:30–7:30pm

24 3rd Grade Field Trip to Farm Council Grounds 9:30–12:15pm

29 2nd Grade Day Concert 2–3pm

30 2nd Grade Evening Concert 7–8pm

MAY

4–8 Staff Appreciation Week

6 Bike/walk to School Day (rain date, May 7)

BACH SPRING CLEANING THIS WEEK AFTER SCHOOL!

**It's Spring Cleaning time at Bach!
Can you give an hour of your time?**

**Join Bach staff and
parents immediately
after school tonight
and tomorrow.**

An AAPS crew is coming to do some cleaning and repair in the Bach basement storage area, affectionately known as The Dig. The prospect of turning this area into a better functioning, usable space is exciting, and we need parent helpers to make it happen. Bach staff and the PTO are tasked with moving everything that should be saved out of the basement; the district crew will dispose of unwanted items.

Since the work will take place during Spring Break, our timeline is short. BEFORE April 6, we have to claim what we want to keep and move it into the hallway. After April 6 and BEFORE April 13 when school resumes, we have to move items back into the room. Once we have a sense of the space and storage needs, we may build additional shelving this spring or summer. Wear work clothes: it's dusty in The Dig!



You're INVITED

PTO meeting!

Thursday, April 23
6:30 – 7:30 pm
Bach Multipurpose Room

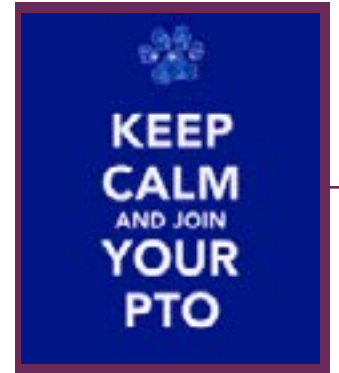
FREE childcare provided for school-aged children.
Everyone is welcome!

PTO BOARD NOMINATIONS

Make a difference in the lives of our kids! Meet great people! Learn more about how Bach operates! Share your skills and talents! Have fun!

The Bach PTO is seeking NOMINATIONS for next year's PTO Board. Nominate yourself or a friend.
Board positions include:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Grade Representative – Lower
- Grade Representative – Upper
- Multicultural Outreach Representative
- PTOC Representative
- Room Parent Coordinator



To nominate a candidate, or for more information, please contact president@bachpto.org. Everyone is welcome!

5TH GRADERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LIBRARY SONGSTERS PROGRAM

We are pleased to announce that Bach 5th graders are participating in the Ann Arbor District Library's "Library Songsters Program." Local musician and teacher Carol Palms is working with our instrumental music classes, teaching them about "Log Cabin Songs" and the role of early American music. The violin, viola and cello students are learning to play some of the songs. All the 5th graders will participate in a special performance at the Ann Arbor District Library main branch on **Thursday April 2 at 11AM**. The Library Songsters program, funded now entirely by AADL, is a wonderful partnership with schools to let students know what the library offers, and to teach them that playing and singing together is a good way to learn, build community and have a lot of fun.

THE FOURTH GRADE POETS FEATURED

The Fourth Grade Students in Mrs. Gleason's class have been working very hard on a poetry unit focusing on Water. This unit was taught by Student Teacher Evelyn Daugherty with the goal of submitting poems to the United Nations Committee for World Water Day. Simultaneously, Ms. Furey taught art lessons about water: impressionism, different media, foreground, background – and the students made some beautiful water artwork. Ms. Daugherty combined the poems with the artwork and submitted them to the UN Committee. These beautiful water creations were put on the FRONT PAGE of the UN World Water Day Website, as well as an article about the project on the FRONT PAGE of the AAPS News, on the district website!! The links are posted here for you to view these beautiful works!

<http://www.unwater.org/worldwaterday/features/all/en/>

<http://news.a2schools.org/united-nations-website-features-work-of-bach-fourth-graders/>

Or go to: <http://bachpoets.weebly.com/final-water-poems.html>

These poetry-artwork collaborations are also posted on our Bach School Informational Kiosk in the Jefferson Street Lobby! Kudos to the fourth graders, and also to Ms. Daugherty, Ms. Furey and Ms. Gleason!!



Bach Bike/Walk to School Day

Wednesday, May 6, 2015

(Rain date Thursday, May 7)

Join in the spring Bach Bike/Walk to School Day to encourage and support young people to bike or walk to school!

All bikers and walkers are invited to arrive at the Bach playground at 8:35 for a group photo!

Bike/Walk Route Planning: The National Center for Safe Routes to School provides helpful information, including safe route planning, at walkbiketoschool.org/. Please consider planning a group ride or walk with other families in your neighborhood.

Bike/Walk Safety: Parents are responsible for children’s safety traveling between home and school, so please accompany your young biker(s) and walkers to school. All children must have a helmet and a bike lock. Bach cannot be responsible for unsecured bikes. Parents may also bring a child’s bike home. Please do not leave bikes at school overnight. **Let your bus driver know** if your child won’t be riding. **PARENTS: BE A GOOD EXAMPLE—WEAR A HELMET!**

Questions?

John Beeson, Erica Briggs, Kelly Fitzsimmons—Bach BWTS Day coordinators, biketoschool@bachpto.org or 734.945.0442.



**Ann Arbor
PTO
THRIFT SHOP**
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.

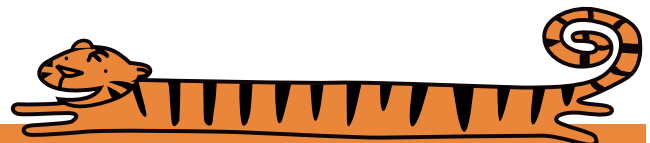
SHOP Mon-Fri 9-7 Sat 9-6 Sun 11-5	DONATE Mon-Fri 10-6 Sat 10-5 Sun 12-4	FREE furniture pickup call 996-9155
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Find us on Facebook  Follow us on Twitter 

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

EARTH-FRIENDLY HELP NEEDED!

We need a parent to take charge of our composting bin! The Bach School students and staff do a fantastic job collecting compost every day, and minimizing our waste by putting compostables in a separate compost area. **We are in desperate need of a parent to take over the task of turning the compost,** adding the necessary ingredients, and helping to make the compost ready to put in our gardens. Without parent help, we will need to discontinue our compost efforts. If you are interested in taking on this wonderful earth-friendly task, please contact Robin Gleason or Tina Ezekiel.



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 share 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.



**"Bookies and Cookies"
a.k.a
Family Reading Night!**



This year's culmination of March is Reading Month featured a literary scavenger hunt, an open-mic, reading rooms, Scattergories, reading with Colby the dog, book-themed baked goods, and performances by Laura Raynor and Gemini!

We also learned that we **WON** the \$100 book grant from RX for Reading because we collected over 3,000 books! **WOW!** Books can be brought to classrooms through the end of the week.



Special thanks to coordinator Monique Sluymers, Open Mic MC Francisco Fiori, brave and talented poets and readers, Mary-Catherine Harrison and RX for Reading, Elameno Peace for the great door prizes, 4th Grade Service Squad, Pioneer Trailblazers, UM School of Social Work volunteers, middle school volunteers, the Roderique Family and Colby the Dog, MIRM chairs Nieka Apell and Jen Davis, Mrs. Forester, and all the teachers, readers, bakers, greeters, and other volunteers who made this possible.



What a fun month!
We learned picture writing and created stories with author and illustrator Ruth McNally Barshaw, dressed as our favorite book characters or scientists, and have read THOUSANDS of minutes!

Can we meet our goal??
Don't forget to turn in minutes by tomorrow--Thursday, April 2--to get counted and to earn prizes!



March is Reading Month!
Fizz, Boom, READ!
Bach is MAD for Books!



ATTENTION KROGER SHOPPERS! IT'S RE-ENROLLMENT TIME!



Attention Kroger Shoppers! April will be here in a blink of the eye. Please be sure to re-enroll in the Kroger Community Rewards by the April 30 deadline!

Do you shop at Kroger? If so, it's time to re-enroll (or enroll for the first time!) in the Kroger Community Rewards Program so you can help the PTO earn money for Bach.

Already participating? Re-enroll by APRIL 30 to ensure that your Kroger purchases continue to be credited to Bach for the upcoming program year (May 2015–April 2016).

Not yet signed up? It's not too late! To participate, you need (1) a Kroger Plus Shopper's Card, available at the customer service desk or any register at your local Kroger store, and (2) a Kroger.com account.

To enroll or re-enroll, [click here](#). If you do not have a Kroger.com account, click on "Create an Account" to register. If you do have a Kroger.com account, click on "Sign In." After creating an account or signing in, click "Enroll Now." Bach's Organization Number is **82780**. **After enrolling or re-enrolling, please email us at scrip@bachpto.org** and let us know you're participating in the program.

What if you miss the April 30 deadline? Go ahead and sign up anyway! Bach PTO will begin to receive credit for your purchases after you sign up.

Questions? Email us at scrip@bachpto.org.

Bach PTO raised nearly \$2,000 from Kroger Community Rewards last year. Thanks for your support!

Save the Date

ICE CREAM SOCIAL



.... the Bach Ice Cream Social is Friday, June 5th!

Young People's Theater

MARY POPPINS



Featuring Bach Students

Oliver Cackett

Ethan Palms

Peach Trippell

May 15 - 17, 2015

**Power Center for the
Performing Arts**

Tickets go on sale April 6

**Tickets: 734.763.TKTS www.muto.umich.edu
youngpeoplestheater.com**

Mary Poppins is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)
421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 212.541.4684 www.MTIShows.com