

BACH elementary SCHOOL news

OCTOBER 7, 2015



HELLO BACH FAMILIES,

It's hard to believe I'm writing about fall conferences. Parent teacher conferences will be here soon.

Parent teacher conferences provide you an opportunity to have 15-20 minutes of uninterrupted time with your child's classroom teacher. Although that time seems brief, that time is so important in building a relationship with your child's teacher, sharing information about your child and his/her progress, and developing a plan to make the school year successful for your child.

Early in the year, teachers provide information to parents about their teaching style, routines, classroom management, and policies. The home/school partnership can be strengthened if you take a few moments during conferences to describe your child's after school activities, homework routine, and hobbies.

Sharing information about your child's academic progress is the main focus during a parent teacher conference. Writing down your questions, prior to the conference, will help you remember the key points you hope to have covered during the conference. During this time you and the teacher will talk about a plan for continued success, which may include a need for support through an intervention plan. Your child's teacher may also review opportunities to extend the curriculum.

Our goal is for 100% of our families to have a fall conference. Please look for more information from your child's classroom teacher to schedule your conference. My door will be open and parents are invited to stop and say hello.

—*Alison Epler, Principal*



PICTURE DAY

Picture Day is Thursday, October 8th! Order forms were sent home in your child's backpack last week. If you would like to order pictures, please turn in the paper form and payment on or before the morning of Thursday, October 8th.

new BIKE POLICY

K-5 students CAN bike to school, but please remember that there is limited bike parking adjacent to the playground.

K-2 students must be accompanied by an adult while biking to school.

3-5 students should be accompanied by an adult if they are not advanced with bike/safety skills.

Helmets, locks and advanced skills of safety are important when biking to school.

Bach School is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

are you a \$ NUMBERS \$ person?!

Wondering how you can help our school? We are looking for someone to assist our Treasurers, and people to help sell SCRIP cards on Wednesday mornings, 8:50–9:15 am in the lobby. If you're interested or just curious and want more information, please email president@bachpto.org!

BACH PTO GOOGLE CALENDAR

Did you know? You can add the Bach PTO calendar to your personal calendar! Just go to www.bachpto.org and click "+google calendar" in the lower righthand corner of the calendar. It's easy!

BOX TOPS RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who turned in box tops. We made over \$200 for our school!

Congratulations to Mrs. Ramsey's class, who turned in the most box tops. Keep clipping and saving those box tops—the next classroom drive will be in February 2016!

How can you give \$50 to Bach this month without spending anything extra?

BY USING SCRIP and GROCERY STORE CARDS!

Busch's grocery store: Use your grocery card and spend \$125/week or \$500 per month and swipe your loyalty card and Bach gets 5% = \$25

Meijer: buy a \$100 SCRIP gift card to spend \$100 on toiletries, vitamins, leaf bags, pet food, Halloween candy, etc. and Bach gets 3% = \$3

Land's End: buy a \$100 SCRIP gift card for new coat, boots, and mittens for the coming winter and Bach gets 16% = \$16

ITunes: buy a \$25 SCRIP gift card for that niece or nephew who has everything and Bach gets 5% = \$1.25

Noodles and Co.: have dinner out by buying a \$30 SCRIP gift card in advance and Bach gets 8% = \$2.40

Marathon Gas: fill up with a \$50 SCRIP gift card and Bach gets 3% = \$1.50

Little Caesar's Pizza: provide for the group watching the football game with a \$20 SCRIP gift card and Bach gets 8% = \$1.60

TOTAL: \$50.75

With just a few minutes of pre-planning, we can provide Bach with needed funds without having our families sell wrapping paper, cookie dough, or magazine subscriptions. Money raised provides every Bach student with several field trips, a theater performance, and a musical performance each year, in addition to funding a supply budget for every classroom and specials teacher.

How do I get these SCRIP and grocery cards, you ask? The "SCRIP Store" is open every Wednesday morning from 8:45-9:15 in the Jefferson Street entrance. Can't make it at that time? Email scrip@bachpto.org. Want more information about SCRIP or to print an order form? Visit <http://bachpto.org/scrip/>

GROCERY SCRIP SPOTLIGHT: ARBOR FARMS MARKET

Do you shop at Arbor Farms Market? If so, you can support PTO! Participating in the Arbor Farms Market Scrip program couldn't be easier. At check-out, simply tell your cashier to credit your purchase to Bach Elementary PTO. That's it! Bach PTO earns 3% on each purchase.

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.

If you have any questions about Arbor Farms Market's Scrip program or any other grocery Scrip program, please contact the Bach School Scrip Coordinator at scrip@bachpto.org. Thanks for your support!

MUSIC NOTES!

IN THIRD GRADE we have been discussing and practicing the difference between BEAT and RHYTHM. This is an advanced concept that requires practice of vocabulary in addition to physical awareness. Songs such as "Billy" and "Way Down South" help this awareness and conceptualization.

Next we moved into melodic contour with a song from Singapore "Chan Mali Chan" and a jazz tune "String of Pearls."

Third Grade Humanities (Cross Curricular Connections) in music class has inspired some new lessons that combine science and social studies with music! I have loved leading the students in improvised barred instrument playing while reenacting the orbits of planets around the sun. Ask your child to explain this in more detail! Next we learned about Gustav Holst and his tone poems "The Planets." We discussed the Roman/Greek god connections to the planets and how their stories inspired Holst's music. The students all agreed his "Mars" must be the exact orchestral piece that inspired John Williams for the Star Wars movie score. Other connections: music to Star Trek, Lord of the Rings, ET, and many others! These kids know about a lot of movies!

FOURTH GRADE: These kids have learned a really fun cooperative dance to do along with the old favorite song of mine "Grandma's Feather Bed." Each class clamored for more at the end of class! We used partners, original hand jives, and some concentric circle moves with fun success!

FIFTH GRADE students are reviewing note naming to be prepared for instrumental music. They have also been singing their class song "Blue Skies" and preparing it for the ribbon cutting ceremony for Stephen's Theater.

Fifth grade is such a rewarding year for me to teach as I get to reap the benefits of 6 years of musical investment! These kids are stellar!

In Fifth Grade Instrumental Music, Mr. Smith and I have been busy trying kids out on different instruments. Soon we will have conferences with them and help each child make the best decision for his or her instrument for the year. We do not often make switches once our long and involved process is complete. Thanks for your patience, and GET READY FOR FUN MUSIC MAKING AT HOME! There's nothing like a beginning instrument sound! ;)



Thank you to John Beeson, Kelly Fitzsimmons, Erica Briggs, and all of the people who helped make our fall Walk/Bike to School Day a great success!



Thank you for making your purchases using Scrip and for helping the Bach School community at the same time!

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



Bach PTO

Questions?

scrip@bachpto.org

www.bachpto.org/scrip/

SCRIP Store Hours

Wednesdays

8:45 - 9:15am (lobby)



2015 **FUN** **BACH** **RUN**

**WALK, JOG OR RUN TO RAISE FUNDS AT OUR
BIGGEST FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!**

Friday, October 16 (run during school) **&**
Sunday, October 18 (1-4 p.m. obstacle course run)

➔ **Donate online this year at:** **bachpto.org/funrun** ←

Donations can also be collected and submitted via the pledge envelopes that came home last week (cash or check made out to Bach PTO). Any amount is greatly appreciated. Questions? Email us! funrun@bachPTO.org

Money raised is used to pay for field trips, theater productions, author talks, teacher supplies, and to sponsor more than ten family events each year. These programs would otherwise go unfunded.



Sunday's amazing obstacle course provided by our friends at Wolverine Strength and Conditioning. Locally owned and operated. Visit them today at a2xfit.com



HUNGRY? Grab a bite at Connor O'Neill's any time on Sunday, October 18, and if you mention Bach, a portion of your bill will be donated back to the school!





Girls on the Run of Southeastern Michigan's

Superhero 5k

presented by Door to Door Organics - Michigan

Join us for our third annual run/walk at Hudson Mills Metropark in Dexter! It's not just for girls... ALL Superheroes are welcome!
New afternoon event schedule for 2015!

Sunday, October 25, 2015

2:20 pm Kids' Dash

2:30 pm 1 Mile Run/Walk

3:00 pm 5k Run/Walk

The Superhero 5k raises funds for the Girls on the Run of Southeastern Michigan scholarship program. If you cannot attend, please make a donation to the Superhero fundraising campaign. Every \$150 donated allows a girl to realize her superpowers as a Girl on the Run!

We are now accepting applications for sites and coaches for the 2016 season!

To learn more, visit www.girlsontherunsemi.org!

CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING @ aadl!

Listed here is just a sampling of the dozens of programs happening at Ann Arbor District Library! We offer a wide variety of events including author presentations, crafts, gaming, science, music, stories, and more. To find out about other programs at AADL, go to aadl.org/events. You can select programs by branch location, series, category, or age group.

Bullying in Our Schools: Strategies for Students, Parents and Educators

Monday Oct. 26, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm, for teens and adults grade 6 and up, Downtown Library: Multi-Purpose Room

Huron High School basketball coach Waleed Samaha leads this informative program on the destructive effects of bullying. The discussion will feature teens and adults he has worked with to promote a safe, respectful, and positive educational environment at Huron High School.

Day of the Dead/El Dia De Los Muertos Tissue Paper Flowers

Wednesday Oct. 28, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm, adults, teens and youth, grade K and up, Pittsfield

In Hispanic cultures Dia de los Muertos (the Day of the Dead) is a day to celebrate, remember, and prepare special treats in honor of those who have departed. Join us in creating an assortment of tissue paper flowers to kick off this Hispanic celebration.

Homework Help Highlights

Do you have a student that could use some extra help with his or her homework? AADL can help with a variety of services and products offered over the Internet or on-site at any of our locations. [Our In-Person Tutoring](#) is available at the Downtown Library Youth Story Corner on Mondays from 4:00 to 8:00 pm (except Oct. 12), on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 8:00 pm, on Sundays from 3:00-5:00 pm (except Oct. 4). College students from UM's Circle K International will provide homework help for grades K-12 at no charge. No appointment necessary—just drop by!



**Ann Arbor
PTO
THRIFT SHOP**
a2ptothriftshop.org
2280 S. Industrial Hwy. 734-996-9155

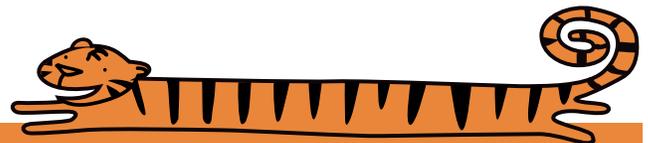
SHOP DONATE FUNDRAISE
A non-profit resale shop with all proceeds benefitting
Ann Arbor Public Schools and student enrichment.

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

When your shop at the PTO Thrift Shop now through October 10th, a portion of what you spend goes to our Bach Science Olympiad Program!



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.