

The Bobcat Bulletin

November 2017

Dear Parents,

It's that time again to make an important contribution to education at our school and receive an income tax credit for the full amount you contribute up to \$400 (or \$200 single). Please see page 2 of this newsletter to learn how you can be a winner for making a tax credit contribution.

Thanks to you and your generous tax credit contributions, our Music, Art, Spanish, Technology, and Character Education programs have continued to thrive. These enrichment programs are an intricate part of BBS that help students become involved in fun, meaningful and life-enhancing activities. Our goal is to continue to provide vibrant programs to our students through use of the tax credit dollars.

Although charter schools are publicly funded, the funding is approximately 20 percent less than district schools. What separates Bright Beginnings from a regular district school is that we give a quality education in a private school setting, as well as a caring and nurturing environment. Our goal is to always provide the best education for your child.

Contributions can be made to BBS by completing the tax credit form on page 3 or by downloading it from our website at www.bbschl.com. Make your contribution any time between now and December 31st to claim the tax credit on your 2017 state tax return. Get family and friends involved by forwarding this information to them. As long as they reside in Arizona, they may contribute tax credit money as well. Checks can be dropped off at the school office or mailed in before December 31st.



Sincerely,

Dr. Sophia M. Patterson

Principal



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A Message From Coach M

Members of the before-school running club are heading to Freestone Park for the Gilbert Days 5K on Friday, Nov. 17 at 5pm. Come join in on the fun! We will leave from school at about 3:30 and share a few treats at the finish line. Register at www.gilbertrecreation.com and then let Coach M know when you have registered.

The Bobcat basketball team has scheduled a fund-raiser for Saturday, Dec. 9. The team will host a double-elimination dodgeball tournament beginning at 11 am and it is open to all students of BBS. More details to come, but mark your calendars now to be part of the fun and help support the Bobcats in their first-ever season of basketball.

In addition to the co-ed basketball team, Coach M is hoping to organize a co-ed soccer team this spring. The team would play other charter schools in the area and would be open to all 4th - 6th graders. The team would practice once, maybe twice a week, and the season would begin in early March and conclude in mid May. More details to come in early 2018.

Important Dates

- 11/4-Fall Festival from 2-5 p.m.
- 11/10-No School for Veteran's Day
- 11/14-BBS Open House from 6-8 p.m.
- 11/21-NFL Day
- 11/22-1:30 Dismissal
- 11/23 & 11/24-No School for Thanksgiving

Story Time at BBS

Come enjoy a free engaging hour with your 3, 4, or 5 year old every Tuesday morning. We will read stories, sing songs, and offer a variety of games and activities to enjoy with your child. This event is open to the public, so please bring your friends. Younger siblings are always welcome as well.

BBS OPEN HOUSE

Bright Beginning is hosting an Open House on November 14th from 6-8pm. This event is both for new families searching for that perfect school fit as well as all of our current families. It will be a great night to revisit our mission here at BBS! You are invited to come engage in STEAM activities with your children, meet new families, and learn what is in store for your children as they continue their journey here at BBS. BRING A FRIEND and be entered into a raffle to win a free parking spot for the remainder of the year!! We will also have a student raffle for lots of fun prizes!

We are also looking for volunteers that evening, both parents and BBS alumni!! If you are interested in lending a hand that night, please contact Amy Bates at abates@bbschl.com.

CORNER



Great Things are Happening in Your Child's Classroom



Preschool

- We went on a field trip to Peter Piper Pizza.
- We will finish up our fall unit and move into learning about Thanksgiving and what it means to be thankful.
- We have been learning all about teen numbers, the letters of the alphabet, and how to blend our letter sounds into simple words!

Kindergarten

- In November, the kindergarteners will learn about pushes and pulls. We will learn about force, motion, and friction. Students will do STEAM projects to explore these concepts.
- Kindergarteners will also learn about Native Americans, Pilgrims, and the story of the First Thanksgiving. Right before Thanksgiving, we will have a Pilgrim Day where we will dress up like Pilgrims, make our own butter, and play games that Pilgrim children played.
- After Thanksgiving, we will study community helpers. We will learn about our community, and study the jobs and tools people use in those jobs.

First Grade

- This month first graders will be exploring pumpkins. We will learn about the life cycle of a pumpkin and do some pumpkin science exploration. We will also have a Pumpkin Tasting Party and vote on which pumpkin item was our favorite.
- First graders will learn about the first Thanksgiving this

month. We will learn about the pilgrims and the relationship they had with the Wampanoag people, and how important Squanto was to the pilgrims. We will also learn about life in colonial times and how it differs from our life today.

- On November 9th, first grade will take a field trip to the zoo. Experiencing the zoo will reinforce what we learned in our Sonoran Desert unit in October.

Second Grade

- For the month of November second grade will be incorporating some special events and STEAM activities.
- On Nov. 3rd we have our field trip to the Phoenix Herpetological Society.
- The students have been learning about bats (the only flying mammal), insects that fly, and birds. On “Wings to Fly” day the students will learn more about the Wright brothers. A guest pilot will speak to the 2nd graders about how an airplane works and flies through the sky. The students will then get the opportunity to create their own flying object. The students are excited to continue to learn more about inventions.
- In science, the students will investigate solids, liquids, and gases. The company SubZero will be visiting to show a demonstration of these different states of matter.
- Students will present their animal habitat dioramas and informational research reports to the

class.

- In writing the students will continue to read and write informational text and identify and use informational text features including table of contents, glossaries, titles, indexes, etc...
- In math, students are immersed in using various strategies to solve multiplication and division problems.

Third Grade

- In social studies, students will be learning about Early America. They will also be rehearsing a play entitled, “The Pilgrims and the First Thanksgiving.”
- In science, students will continue to learn about weather. They will learn to identify the different types of clouds and how weather tools help meteorologists predict the weather.
- Both classes will be having a special celebration for Thanksgiving at the end of the month.
- In Language Arts, students will focus on reading and understanding informational text about animals. They will learn to identify the main idea and supporting details.



Great Things are Happening in Your Child's Classroom



Fourth Grade

- November is a busy month for Room #16. In science, the children will wrap up their unit on Classification of Living Things and begin studying about Energy, Electricity, Magnets, and Waves. SRP will present a program called "Empowering Our Future" to kick off the unit.
- Social Studies will take us into Economics and Writing will still be focused on persuasive letters.
- In reading, studying the novel Bud, Not Buddy will continue as we travel with Bud to see if he can find his father.
- In Room #18, we are digging more into our Arizona State History and learning about the early years of Arizona. Arizona became a state on February 14, 1912 by a telegram sent from President William Howard Taft. This was an exciting time in Arizona's history as they increased in population by 150,000 between the years 1910 to 1920 from about 200,000 people to 350,000 people! We will continue to learn more about Arizona and how the state has progressed through the years of war and conflict and how people make a living in Arizona.
- We are starting our new Literature Unit, Bud Not Buddy, by the award winning author Christopher Paul Curtis. This book takes place during the

depression and follows an African American boy on his journey to find his father. This book will teach us all about figurative language. We will also focus on writing summaries, drawing conclusions, and understanding cause and effect.

Fifth Grade

- In Mr. Johnson's ELA class we started reading the book: The Million- Dollar Throw by Mike Lupica. Each student has a reading partner to work with throughout the quarter. We will be doing vocabulary and comprehension questions, plus summaries of chapters. Additionally, we have started planning for our persuasive writing paper that we will work on throughout the month of November. Your child will be bringing home a rubric for the grading of the written paper.
- Students will examine the structure, properties, and changes in matter in Science during the month of November. These studies lend well to hands-on investigations of things associated with matter, such as elements, molecules, mass, volume and density!

Sixth Grade

- In ELA, we are starting two new units. The first is about child labor in the US during the Industrial Revolution. We will focus on primary

documents and informational texts to find our information. We will finish the unit by looking at child labor today in other parts of the world. Their research will focus on diamond mines and cacao farms in Africa.

- In social studies, the students are finishing their research on an ancient culture. They will create a poster and an oral presentation of their choice to showcase their information. We will present these to the parents at a date to be decided!!
- In math we are studying algebraic expressions, ratios/units/percents.
- In science we are learning about renewable energy resources and building advertisements in teams to present to one another. We will also be building miniature wind powered turbines, exploring solar power kits, and air and water energy models!



Student of the Month



**The following students were named Student of the Month for
October:**

- Blakely Hemelstrand
- Derrick Ye
- Ryan Skalny
- David Jin
- Eliana Stephenson
- Gwen Satterlee
- Micah Stoloff
- Arnav Verma
- Emily Yin
- Noah Leptuch
- Eve Rubenstein
- Kelly Dai
- Nicolai Naranjo
- Bruce Roman
- Brooklyn Bates
- Jake DiSanti
- Bentley Weaver
- Max Luma
- Seanna Ramirez
- Tisha Mukherjee
- Lyvia Stowell
- Colin LaZear
- Rishi Malatkar
- Elijah Sanchez
- Sierra Leone
- Tyler Merritt
- Saishree Ramkumar
- Yohann Miranda
- Ethan Eccleston
- Cassie Kantrud
- Cara Ramey
- Isaiah Reyna
- Jackson Workman
- Vincent Cao

