



BUSHY PARK

PTA NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 13
TEN OAKS TAVERN NIGHT

MARCH 14
PROFESSIONAL WORK AND
WELLNESS DAY
3 HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL

MARCH 21
SPIRIT DAY:
BOOK CHARACTER DAY

MARCH 22
ADULT BINGO

MARCH 25
SPIRIT DAY:
MARYLAND DAY

MARCH 26
CAREER / STEM NIGHT

APRIL 2
SPIRIT DAY:
WORLD AUTISM DAY

APRIL 2
PTA MEETING

APRIL 4
END OF 3RD
MARKING PERIOD

APRIL 7 - 10
BOOK FAIR

APRIL 9
BELONGING TOGETHER

APRIL 14 - 21
SPRING BREAK

NOTE FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT

Dear BPES Families,

Spring is just around the corner, and with it comes a season full of exciting events, opportunities to connect, and ways to support our students and staff! We are so grateful for your continued involvement and dedication to making our school community thrive.

This month, we have some wonderful activities planned! We encourage everyone to participate however they can, whether by volunteering, attending events, or simply spreading the word. Every effort makes a difference!















As always, we appreciate your support and involvement. If you have any questions, ideas, or would like to get more involved, please don't hesitate to reach out. Let's make this spring a fantastic one for our students!

Here's to a spring full of learning, laughter, and just enough coffee to keep up with it all!

See you at the next event!

Warmly,
Voula Augustin

WHAT'S AHEAD

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PTA Elections

NOMINATING COMMITTEE



WE ARE LOOKING FOR **VOLUNTEERS** TO HELP COORDINATE EFFORTS FOR THE **PTA BOARD ELECTIONS IN MAY**. THIS IS A SHORT TERM COMMITMENT WITH MINIMAL MEETINGS. PLEASE EMAIL BUSHYPTAPARKVOLUNTEER@GMAIL.COM TO VOLUNTEER OR WITH MORE QUESTIONS.

READY TO MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON OUR SCHOOL?

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION

- Research shows that parental involvement boosts student success.
- Being part of the PTA gives you insight into school policies and programs.

BUILD A STRONGER SCHOOL COMMUNITY

- The PTA helps fund essential programs, school improvements, and classroom resources.

CONNECT WITH OTHER PARENTS AND EDUCATORS

- Meet like-minded parents who care about education.
- Strengthen relationships with teachers and school administrators.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Whether you have an hour a month or more time to give, your involvement matters.
- Help create a welcoming, supportive environment for all students.

PTA Elections

**THE FOLLOWING
POSITIONS NEED TO
BE FILLED FOR THE
2025-2026
SCHOOL YEAR**

PRESIDENT

Leads all PTA meetings • Coordinates the efforts of officers and committees • Serves as a member of all committees (except the nominating committee) • Reviews and signs bank statements monthly • Represents the PTA/PTSA at council meetings or appoints an alternate • Ensures duties outlined in the bylaws or assigned by the board are fulfilled.

VICE PRESIDENT(S)

Assists the President with PTA responsibilities • Steps in for the President when needed • Serves as an advisor to committee chairpersons and may lead a committee • Supports and helps coordinate PTA events and initiatives • Fulfills duties outlined in the bylaws or assigned by the board.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Takes and keeps meeting minutes • Maintains official records and bylaws • Tracks membership and attendance • Works with the President to prepare meeting agendas and conduct quorum checks • Ensures accurate documentation of PTA activities and decisions.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Manages PTA communications and social media • Maintains membership lists and bylaws • Sends acknowledgments, including thank-you notes and condolences • Updates and maintains the PTA website • Assists with distributing important PTA information to members.

TREASURER

Manages all PTA/PTSA funds • Keeps accurate financial records and reconciles bank statements • Handles payments, deposits, and financial reporting • Ensures budget compliance and oversees tax filings • Coordinates the annual financial review and audit process.



**READY TO MAKE A POSITIVE
IMPACT ON OUR SCHOOL?**
**CLICK OR SCAN TO NOMINATE
YOURSELF OR SOMEONE ELSE**

BPES TALENT SHOW

A huge shoutout to all our fabulous participants and to Jasmine Madiou, Talent Show Chair, for creating such a spectacularly fun evening! You all rock!



BUDDY'S LAUGH CORNER



**WHAT IS
ALWAYS IN
FRONT OF YOU
BUT CAN NEVER
BE SEEN?**

Answer on page 13



YEARBOOK

We need your help capturing the amazing memories from this school year! If you have photos from any of the following events, please send them our way:

SWEETHEART DANCE

<https://plicbooks.com/go/4X6HYZ>

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

<https://plicbooks.com/go/1A2A7L>

GENERAL GRADE PICTURES

Pre-K: <https://plicbooks.com/go/U228WQ>

Kindergarten: <https://plicbooks.com/go/G6L7V1>

1st Grade: <https://plicbooks.com/go/2NHDBJ>

2nd Grade: <https://plicbooks.com/go/GYFF4T>

3rd Grade: <https://plicbooks.com/go/6Y613P>

4th Grade: <https://plicbooks.com/go/8VDT1R>

5th Grade: <https://plicbooks.com/go/QCEBZ6>

If you have yearbook questions, please email bushyparkptavolunteer@gmail.com.

BRAINSTORMS GROW BIG IDEAS

This month, our bulletin board bloomed with creativity! Students helped bring our Brainstorms Grow Big Ideas display to life by decorating shapes into raindrops and flower petals. Their colorful contributions remind us that every idea - big or small - helps our community learn and grow!

Check out the photo of our amazing student artwork and be sure to take a peek in person next time you're at school. Thank you to everyone who participated and made this display so special!



SWEETHEART DANCE

A huge thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the Twirl and Swirl Candyland Dance a night to remember! Special shoutout to our amazing dance chairs, Melissa Westerlund and Katie Moreau, for the fantastic decorations and perfect playlist. We appreciate all who danced, chaperoned, and contributed to the fun!



**UPLOAD YOUR SWEETHEART DANCE
PHOTOS TO THE YEARBOOK ALBUM -
SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS HERE:**
<https://plicbooks.com/go/4X6HYZ>

BEAR HUGS SPOTLIGHT

MS. BIRSA PARAEDUCATOR 1 GRADES 1 & 2

COMING
SOON

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CHILDHOOD BOOK?

Ramona the Pest

IF YOU COULD ONLY EAT ONE FOOD FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Beans!

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE COLOR, AND WHY?

Orange, it's a happy color I think

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL AS A KID?

History

IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY SUPERPOWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Flying

WHAT'S YOUR DREAM VACATION SPOT?

Hiking in any mountain chain on Earth

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE GAME OR ACTIVITY WHEN YOU WERE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL?

Playing basketball at recess with my friends Cheryl Curtis and Marcus Bell and Richie Ryerson.

WHAT'S THE MOST FUN PART OF YOUR JOB AT BUSHY PARK?

Recess with the kids :)

IF YOU COULD BE ANY CARTOON CHARACTER, WHO WOULD YOU BE?

Snoopy

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE WAY TO SPEND A WEEKEND?

Exploring a new hiking or biking trail

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO WORK IN EDUCATION?

I LOVE working with kids

WHO WAS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE TEACHER, AND WHY?

My first grade teacher, Miss Mudd, because first grade is such a memorable experience for all of us.

IF YOU COULD TELL YOUR YOUNGER SELF ONE THING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Don't be afraid of the things that aren't easy for you- keep trying, keep practicing, because mastery and accomplishment of something hard is incredibly rewarding.

SPRING HAS SPRUNG, AND IT'S THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE PTA!

BY JOINING THE BPES PTA, YOU CAN:

Welcome back, everyone!

We hope your winter break was filled with joy and warmth. As we dive into the second half of the school year, we invite you to join the PTA and contribute to our wonderful community!

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS

Assist in organizing events, fundraisers, and programs that benefit our children.

BUILD CONNECTIONS

Connect with other parents, teachers, and community members who share a passion for education.

BE A VOICE FOR STUDENTS

Advocate for constructive changes in education and school policies.

**CLICK
OR SCAN
BELOW**



SCIENCE FAIR RECAP

OUR ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR WAS HELD ON MARCH 6TH WITH OVER 50 REGISTRANTS. THANK YOU TO ALLISON PRUZINER AND BARBARA SMITH FOR ORGANIZING AND TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS AND JUDGES.



SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

PRE-K

- 1 **ETHAN MCCAULEY**
Lemon Potato Bakery

KINDERGARTEN

- 1 **NORA VALLABHANET**
Rethink What You Drink
- 1 **JEREMIAH JARVIS**
What Sweetener Makes Bread Best
- 2 **ADELINA MCFADDEN**
Tissue Colors
- 3 **RAEGAN MCCAULEY**
Borax Crystals

1ST GRADE

- 1 **JACK PRUZINER**
Mano Speedway
- 2 **CHARLIE BRUNONE**
Best Tire Pressure
- 3 **SAOIRSE AUTH**
Yummy Gummy Bear

2ND GRADE

- 1 **JAKE KAPLAN**
Rice Krispy Magic
- 2 **THOMAS WILLIAMS**
Mentos & Soda
- 3 **MADISON SILVA**
Surface Tension

3RD GRADE

- 1 **ALI PRUZNER & MADISON BROOKS**
Let's Freeze
- 2 **LUKE BIANCO**
Stain Wars
- 3 **NICOLE YINGLING & BENTLY O'CONNOR**
Too Much Sugar

4TH GRADE

- 1 **SAM BRUNONE**
How Does Music Affect My Heart Rate?
- 2 **CHARLIE FRANKS**
Buddy Bear's Bounce Off
- 3 **SAHANA DESAI**
Which Of My Favorite Fruit & Sugar

5TH GRADE

- 1 **LILIANA PARRISH & SUSANNAH BIANCO**
A Burning Question
- 2 **JAMESON GERSTNER**
Chicken Hatching
- 3 **ADIL FAKHIZI**
Health Of Watershed

GRAND OVERALL WINNERS

**LILIANA PARRISH AND
SUSANNAH BIANCO**
A Burning Question

UPCOMING PTA EVENTS

JOIN US AT

TEN OAKS
TAVERN

FOR A

RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER NIGHT!

**MARCH 13, 2025
OPEN TO CLOSE**

**TEN OAKS TAVERN
3900 TEN OAKS RD #1,
GLENELG, MD 21737**

Dine in or carry out, and 10% of
all sales will be donated to
Bushy Park Elementary School!

Enjoy a great meal while
supporting our school—spread
the word!



UPCOMING PTA EVENTS

70'S

BUSHY PARK & GLENWOOD MIDDLE PTA'S

CLASSIC
ROCK

80'S

90'S

90'S

TOP
HITS

LUCKY YOU! MUSIC BINGO

SPECIAL GIVEAWAYS, SILENT
AUCTION, MYSTERY BAGS, 50/50
RAFFLE, SPECIALTY DRINK & TREATS

2000'S

TV
FAVORITS

5 - 9 PM AMERICAN LEGION 223

7327 SLACKS ROAD SYKESVILLE, MARYLAND 21784

CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!



UPCOMING PTA EVENTS

BPES PTA STEM AND CAREER NIGHT

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26TH
6:30PM - 8:00PM**

CALLING ALL YOUNG EXPLORERS, SCIENTISTS, AND INNOVATORS!

Come dive into the exciting world of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) with hands-on activities, live demonstrations, and special guests from real STEM careers.

WHAT'S IN STORE?

- Meet engineers, doctors, and scientists up close
- Explore interactive STEM stations and experiments
- Win cool prizes and giveaways

Get inspired by professionals from a wide range of fields —firefighters, nurses, AI and data scientists, EMTs, musicians, engineers, chefs, robotics experts, planetary scientists, mathematicians, and more.

Arrive early to snag a Foldscope, and stick around for a special performance by The Ten Roars featuring BPES' very own Mr. Tez from 8:00 to 8:15 PM. You won't want to miss it!



UPCOMING PTA EVENTS



BUSHY **blooms**

Get ready for spring....Bushy Blooms are back!

Add some color and life to your garden, or give the gift of plants and flowers to a loved one or favorite BPES staff with the PTA's Bushy Blooms fundraiser.

Order plants and flowers, or give Blooms Bucks gifts for staff at <https://form.jotform.com/bpesptapres/BushyBlooms2025>

Payments can be made at
<https://bpes.givebacks.com/store/items/679375>

Blooms Bucks *gifts for staff are due by March 24* and all Bushy Blooms orders are due by April 7. Pick up will be just in time for Mother's Day, on Saturday, May 10 from 9am-12pm.

**NEW THIS YEAR! SPEND \$20 OR MORE AND
AUTOMATICALLY BE ENTERED INTO A RAFFLE
TO WIN A BEAUTIFUL HANGING BASKET.
FIVE WINNERS WILL BE SELECTED.**

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Women's History Month in March highlights amazing women from the past and present who've made a big difference in the world.

We celebrate women who fought for the vote, invented, and stood for fairness, showing that women can do anything with bravery, creativity, and hard work!

Celebrating Women's History is incomplete without recognizing how all heritage months intersect, shaping our stories together. We are both and not or.

1869

SUSAN B. ANTHONY AND ELIZABETH CADY STANTON



Leaders in the fight for women's voting rights.

1919

SARAH BREEDLOVE



Daughter of formerly enslaved parents, known as Madam C.J. Walker, she is the first self-made female millionaire in the U.S.

1972

TITLE IX
Ensured girls had the same opportunities as boys in sports and education.



1903

MARIE CURIE



First woman to win a Nobel Prize for discovering radioactive elements.

1932

AMELIA EARHART



First woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.

1955

ROSA PARKS



Refused to give up her bus seat, sparking the Civil Rights Movement.

1981

SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR



First woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

2009

SONIA SOTOMAYOR



The third female Supreme Court Justice and first Latina.

2021

DEBRA ANNE HAALAND



The first Native American woman to serve as a U.S. Cabinet Secretary.

1865

DR. MARY WALKER



The only woman to receive the Medal of Honor for her work as a Civil War surgeon.

1942

ROSIE THE RIVETOR



A symbol of the women who worked in factories during World War II, proving that women can do any job!

1900

HÉLÈNE DE POURTALES



First woman to win an Olympic gold medal.

1920



Women win the right to vote in the United States with the 19th Amendment.

1948

ALICE COACHMAN



First Black woman to win Olympic gold.

1958

ELLA FITZGERALD



First woman to win the not one, but TWO Grammy awards.

1987



Women's History Month is officially declared to be celebrated every March in the US

1966

KATHERINE JOHNSON



NASA mathematician who helped send astronauts to space.

2021

KAMALA HARRIS

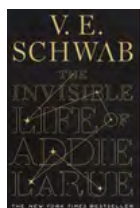


First female Vice President, shattering a 244-year-old glass ceiling.

YOU ARE HERE

REMARKABLE WOMEN, TIMELESS TALES, INSPIRING HEROINES

A timeless portrayal of female empowerment, self-discovery, and resilience. Through Janie Crawford's journey, the novel challenges gender roles, racism, and societal expectations, making it a cornerstone of Black feminist literature. Hurston's groundbreaking work amplifies women's voices, celebrates storytelling, and continues to inspire generations of readers.



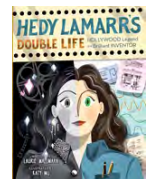
A poignant tale of female resilience and freedom; Addie defies societal expectations in 18th-century France by making a deal for immortality, only to find herself forgotten by everyone she meets. Her journey across centuries mirrors women's historical struggles for autonomy, agency, and a lasting legacy in a world that often silences them. This novel is a powerful reflection on women's fight to be seen, heard, and remembered.

Blending Indigenous wisdom and scientific knowledge to explore humanity's connection to nature. Through storytelling, ecology, and cultural traditions, Kimmerer highlights themes of reciprocity, sustainability, and respect for the Earth. Uplifting Indigenous women's voices, it honors women's role as caretakers of land and culture, and challenges us to embrace a more holistic, nurturing relationship with the world.



A beautifully illustrated children's book (ages 4-8) highlighting 14 groundbreaking women from different periods in history, including Ruby Bridges, Malala Yousafzai, and Frida Kahlo. Mixing poetry with biography, this book features art by 13 different female illustrators

To her adoring public, Hedy Lamarr was a glamorous movie star, widely considered the most beautiful woman in the world. But in private, she was something more: a brilliant inventor. This is the inspiring story of how Lamarr developed a groundbreaking communications system that we still use today. **For ages 5+**



Audrey Hepburn was more than a fashion icon and famous actress, she was a child in WWII who joined the Dutch Resistance, and a humanitarian who advocated for children all over the world. **For children aged 6 to 9**, this biography presents Audrey's life in short chapters with simple language, making it accessible for independent readers.

STAFF SNACK CART SIGN UP

SPRING INTO SNACKS

Kindly check the available time slots to share some spring treats with our teachers and staff!

Please keep in mind the quick turnaround; items need to be delivered by **9:00am on Thursday, March 20th.**



[**CLICK TO SIGN UP**](#)

QUESTIONS? Please email Nicole Oxenham at oxenhamfam@gmail.com

Celebrate the diversity of our school community!

WE BELONG TOGETHER NIGHT

APRIL 9, 6:30-8:30 PM

This special event is an opportunity for families to share and experience the rich traditions, customs, and cultures that make our school unique.

Families are invited to showcase their heritage through food, music, dance, clothing, and more. Whether you'd like to set up a display, perform, or share a favorite dish, we'd love to have you participate!



Want to be part of the fun?
[CLICK TO SIGN UP](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ELECTION NOMINATION COMMITTEE
[MORE INFO ON PAGES 2-3](#)

WE BELONG TOGETHER
CO-CHAIR NEEDED
APRIL 9

FORMERLY INTERNATIONAL NIGHT, WE ARE SEARCHING FOR ONE MORE ORGANIZER TO ASSIST THE CURRENT CHAIR

INTERESTED? EMAIL
[**BUSHYPARKPTAVOLUNTEER@GMAIL.COM**](mailto:BUSHYPARKPTAVOLUNTEER@GMAIL.COM)



Answer to Buddy's Riddle from page 4

A: The future.



CLICK TO SHOP

SAVE 20% SITEWIDE

USE CODE: SPRING

SHOP AT: 1STPLACE.SALE/43944

SALE RUNS MARCH 10TH - APRIL 1ST

NEXT PTA MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2
AT 7:30PM**

LOOK FOR THE ZOOM LINK IN YOUR EMAIL
OR ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

**STAY UP TO DATE ON
EVENTS AND REMINDERS:**



[FACEBOOK](#)



[PTA WEBSITE](#)

