

Smoke Signals Cherokee Bend School



Celebrate, Champion, Challenge!



EXPRESSIONS ART CONTEST

Express ideas through Art



This year's Expressions contest kicked off on Nov. 21st. Students watched a video created by Mr. Haller, and members of the Expressions committee visited each classroom to explain the contest rules.

We are very excited about this year's theme, **"If I Ruled the World..."** Imagine all the possibilities.

As you know, the Expressions contest is a great opportunity for students to explore their creativity and talents in five areas: literature, photography, visual arts, musical composition, and video production.

All students who enter will be invited to a doughnut party and will have their names put into a drawing to be one of five lucky students who will take a field trip to Do it

Yourself Crafts during school hours. Cherokee Bend winners will go on to compete with winners from all of the Mountain Brook elementary schools. All CBS students will be honored at our April PTO meeting; district winners will be recognized at the Mountain Brook Elementary Art Council ceremony on Feb. 13th.

Review contest rules or download the entry form at: www.mtnbrook.k12.al.us/CB. Students may submit up to two entries in each arts category. The deadline to submit entries is January 17.

If I Ruled the World, every student would enter the Expressions contest!

Tricia Pugh
Committee Chair
Pugh143@bellsouth.net



Ringing the Bell

From the desk of Principal Betsy Bell



Dear Parents,

As I reflect on the fall semester, I am filled with pride, joy, and continued amazement as our teachers, students, and parents consistently strive for excellence on a daily basis. We are having a great first semester. The students have adjusted beautifully and have settled into a great first half of the school year. I am amazed at how eager our stellar students are

as learners. Our teachers work diligently every day to fulfill our purpose for being here each day. Our purpose is to provide an effective, challenging, and engaging education for every one of our students. The commitment you have as parents speaks volumes as you nurture your children and instill in them the importance of doing their best and applying what they

continued on page 6. . .

CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Dec 2-4-	FOAC Campout 6B
Dec 4-	Holiday Parade in MB Village
Dec 8-	School Geography Bee @ 8:15am
Dec 8-	Economic Outlook Luncheon @ 11:00am at Park Lane
Dec 9-10-	NERF Weekend
Dec 13-	School Spelling Bee @ 8:15am
Dec 15-	Holiday Program @ 8:15 and 9:30am
Dec 20-	Classroom Holiday Parties
Dec 20-	2:00 Dismissal
Dec 21-Jan4-	Holiday Break
Jan 5-	Students Return to School
Jan 6-	Report Cards
Jan 9-	Expressions Entries Due
Jan 9-	Talent Show Kick-Off

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Expressions Art Contest - 1
- Ringing the Bell - 1
- Tremont Wrap-Up - 2
- Volunteer Hall of Fame - 3
- Faculty/Staff Birthdays - 4
- Community News - 4
- Librarians' Corner - 4
- Reading Corner - 4
- Chief Sponsor - 4
- Nerf Weekend - 5
- CBS Giving Spirit - 5
- Talent Show Update - 5
- PE Teachers - 5
- Grades-at-a-Glance - 6



Lost & Found

Now that the weather is changing, please remember to LABEL all your children's clothing (jackets, hats, gloves, etc.).

Lost and Found is located right outside of the cafeteria. There are lots of unclaimed items, so stop by and check for your family's missing items.

A cleanout and donation will occur in December. Thank you!

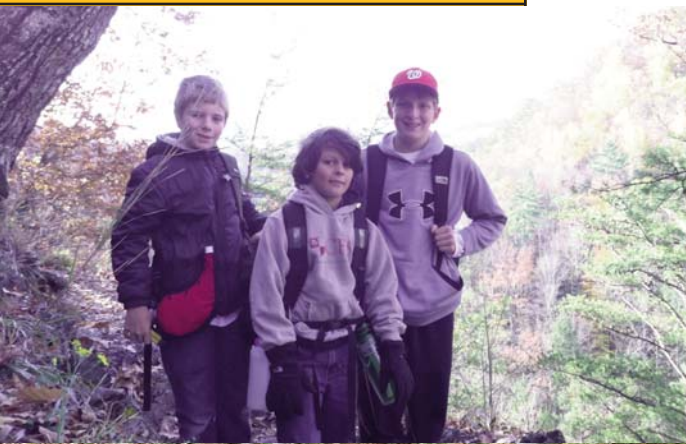
Rosemary Nichols
Cyndy Uncapher
Committee Chairs

Tremont Wrap-Up

The first week in November the fifth graders, teachers, and parent volunteers traveled to the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont in East Tennessee. The Smokies became the classroom for the week, with the study of mountain ecosystems taking on a whole new meaning. Exploring rushing streams in search of aquatic life, climbing nature trails (including an all-day hike), observing various wildlife in their natural habitats, visiting waterfalls, and spending a day in Cades Cove studying pioneer history are just a few of the hands-on activities that kept participants captivated and eager to learn from morning to night. When asked what their favorite part of Tremont was, students gave many responses and had difficulty narrowing it down. But one aspect they all agreed was a highlight for the week was having two bear families join in on Cherokee Bend's 2011 Tremont adventures. There is something about seeing bears that makes your Smoky Mountain experience feel complete. View our bear sighting at: <http://www.fliqz.com/aspx/permalink.aspx?at=adce62420fa74f46820bf40e05490eb3&a=9c57c821307c4b25a3523cc8c3c6d8fc>

I liked the whole Tremont trip but if I had to pick one part I would pick the Challenge Tree at Cades Cove. It is an arched tree where you had to run up the tree and get to one point. I would get up and just roll off the side of the tree.
- I. Hall

I liked the hiking and the food!
- C. Doidge



GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS INSTITUTE AT TREMONT





Volunteer Hall of Fame


From the desk of PTO President Amy Roberts





Cherokee Bend PTO --
It's all about CELEBRATING!!


Let's celebrate our children, our faculty, our community . . . our education!
Chief thanks to:


Holiday Collection Drive

 **Ashley Robinett and Anne Russell** for organizing the most amazing collection blitz of toys, coats, and books! Your giving spirit is exceptional and helped our students appreciate the importance of caring for others.

 **Lisa Bowling, Sarah Barlow, Susan Logan, Meredith Cashio, and the precious 4th Grade Girls Scout Troop** for collecting items in carpool every day and delivering the books to Preschool Partners.


 **Kennon Walthall and Emily Amberson** for delivering the mountain of toys to the YWCA.


 **Dr. Lisa Beckham**, Director of Administrative Services for MB Schools, for connecting us with Pleasant Grove to provide coats for students in need.

 **Brad Russell and Hug Chiropractic** for providing the amazing leader board display to keep us on track.


Fundraising

 **Alison Gault and Jamie Blattmann** and their talented team of photographers for organizing our CBS Photos fundraiser in time for the holidays. We are overwhelmed with your generosity and time involved with photographing 250 of our precious students and can't wait to see the masterpieces!


 **Emily Amberson and Tricia Pugh** for coordinating and marketing the Flippin' Friday fundraiser with Mountain Brook Gymnastics. Our parents enjoyed a much needed night out, and our kids had a blast - all while raising money for our great school!

 **Emily Amberson** for organizing the Chick-fil-A spirit day. It's always a hit with students and parents alike!


Curriculum Enhancement


 **Julie Lee, Andrea Shapiro, and Isabelle Zitella** for organizing the successful Circle of Friends week. The "Live Fit" assembly presented by the Lakeshore Foundation was a perfect way to educate and celebrate our students! We will continually remember the theme: "Open your heart, Open your mind. Open your circle and 'hop in' and help a friend!"


Faculty Support

 **Elizabeth Farrar and her fabulous team of 5th grade parents** for providing delicious chicken tetrazzini dinners for all of our Tremont chaperones.


Just for our Kids


 **Tricia Pugh** for organizing our much anticipated Expressions campaign to highlight the arts. Our students are motivated and ready to "Rule the World"! We can't wait to find the next Picasso or Spielberg at the Bend!


 **Ashley Robinett and our entire student body** for supporting the Mitchell's Place "Change Autism" drive in a festive Iron Bowl competition. We are so appreciative of your generosity.

 **Beth Norris and Amy Scofield** for developing "The Bend's Got Talent!" website. We already feel like stars!!


Veterans Day Program


 **Mrs. Alexander and our fabulous 4th graders** for presenting an inspiring musical program to celebrate our Veterans.

 **Evelyn Graham** for designing the slideshow of our Veteran friends and relatives. It was such a wonderful addition to our celebration and incredibly meaningful to our audience.

 **Phyllis Pelham, Kelly Rollow, and Julie Petro** for decorating and providing treats for our students and guests. The presentation was remarkable, and the homemade apple turnovers didn't last long!

General Support

 **Stephanie Carothers, Tracy Bragg, Melissa Robinett, and Alison Gault** for serving on our Nominating Committee. We appreciate your commitment in preparing for the best year ever in 2012-2013!

 **Alice Womack** for serving as our Legislative Representative and participating in the community forum. Thanks for being such an advocate for our children!

THANK
YOU SO
MUCH!



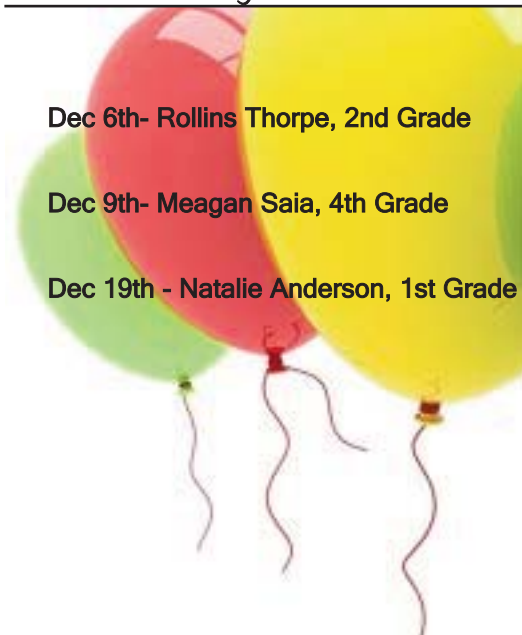
Who's Celebrating?

December Birthdays

Dec 6th- Rollins Thorpe, 2nd Grade

Dec 9th- Meagan Saia, 4th Grade

Dec 19th - Natalie Anderson, 1st Grade



Librarians' Corner

From the CBS Library Media Center, Beth Shea & Kathy Hoskins

The Cherokee Bend Library Media Center wants to thank YOU! Due to the success of our Scholastic Book Fair and the generosity of the PTO, close to 500 books have been added to our collection. Our students and teachers are enjoying the new titles and resources that are now available. Stop by and see what the excitement is all about! Thank you!



Reading Corner

From the desk of Susan McCall, Reading Coach

The Luxury of Extra Reading Time Over the Winter Holidays

The upcoming Winter Holidays provide a great opportunity for reading. Just like you might prepare your own stack of reading materials for a beach vacation, you can help your children look ahead to their vacation reading. Discuss the extra opportunities for reading with your children. There may be time in a car or on a plane, a chance to read with younger relatives, or quiet moment on a long afternoon in a warm house. Ask your children what types of books or magazines

they would like to read. Take them to the library or book store to stock up on reading material. Allow plenty of time to just browse and preview new books. This will help give your children control of their reading lives and help them think about who they are as a reader. With this extra planning, your children will have lots of choices for reading. May your Winter Holidays be filled with books!

Community News



Holiday Parade- Dec. 4th

2 - 5pm - Merchants in Mountain Brook Village open

3 pm - Parade activities begin

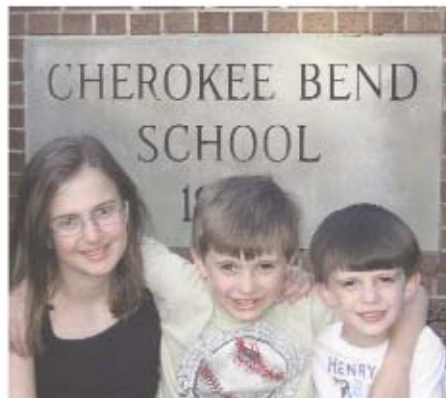
Economic Outlook Luncheon- Dec. 8th

Gain insight on the economic outlook going into 2012. Register for this event online.

For more information on these events go to www.welcometomountainbrook.com.

Thank you to this Chief Sponsor.

Your generosity makes CBS a little bit better for all of us!



DAVID C. HUFHAM D.M.D., P.C.
ORTHO DONTICS for children & adults

Dr. Hufham, located in Crestline Village, practices orthodontics for both children and adults. Certified by the American Board of Orthodontics, Dr. Hufham offers individualized orthodontic treatment for each patient. He offers braces of all colors for children and discreet clear braces or aligners for adult patients. Dr. Hufham's family and staff are proud supporters of Cherokee Bend School.

120 LUCLID AVENUE [BIRMINGHAM, AL 35213] 205.871.8881



Nerf Night Out carries on that Giving Spirit December 9-10

We are giving those who participate in "Cherokee Bend has a Giving Spirit" an "extra life" in our elimination games during Nerf. So bring an unwrapped toy, new coat, or new or gently used book with you to Nerf Night Out and rack up that "extra life".

Remember that siblings can share one Nerf registration form. Forms were sent home from school and are also available on the PE page of the CBS website.

Cherokee Bend has a Giving Spirit

In the spirit of giving back this holiday season, Cherokee Bend families had three wonderful opportunities to help our community. You can donate new or gently used children's books to PreSchool Partners, new toys to the YWCA, and new coats to families in Pleasant Grove that were affected by the April 27th tornadoes.



New or gently used books, unwrapped toys, and new coats were collected in morning carpool November 28th through December 1st and will also be collected also during Nerf Weekend December 9-10th.

Each student who donates an item will be given a special recognition "leaf" to be placed on the "Giving Tree" display in the lunchroom.



Talent Show Update

Be sure to check out what is going on at the Talent Show website at: <http://www.thebendsgottalent.com>.

The Talent Show season will officially kickoff right after the holiday break!

The Bend's got Talent! March 9, 2011

Changing of the Guard in PE

We will miss you Mrs. Brookshier. Welcome Coach Cence.

After six fun and energetic years at Cherokee Bend, Mrs. Brookshier is moving at the end of this semester. She has been dedicated to the physical development, education, and overall well-being of our students. She will be moving to Virginia and is looking forward to being closer to her family but is going to miss Cherokee Bend terribly. As her colleague and friend, I am so sad to see her leave but am happy about the opportunities that lie ahead for her.

Mrs. Sokol

Welcome to Coach Chris Cence, our new PE teacher. Coach Cence will join Mrs. Sokol in leading our Physical Education curriculum.





... From the desk of Principal Betsy Bell

... continued from page 1

learn to their lives. We appreciate you deeply.

The "Cherokee Bend has a Giving Spirit" initiative has exceeded all expectations! Wow, we topped off each category with 100% and beyond! Coats, Books, and Toys—it doesn't get much better than that! The faces on the children as they entered the front doors to drop off a precious gift of giving to others has been a sight to behold. What joyful hearts they have!

As we approach the holiday season, it's a great time to reflect on what each one of us holds near and dear to our hearts and to be thankful for all of our blessings. Have a warm and wonderful holiday season.

Ring the bell with joy, laughter, and possibility,



Grades-at-a-Glance

Kindergarten

Music - Work on songs for the Holiday Program, seasonal songs and music games.

Spanish - Foods/Family/The Legend of the Poinsettia

PE - Dribbling

First Grade

Music - Work on songs for the Holiday Program, seasonal songs and rhythm reading skill.

Spanish - Body Parts/ Animals/ Spain's New Year Celebrations

PE - Dribbling

Second Grade

Music - Work on songs for the Holiday Program, seasonal songs and rhythm reading and melodic reading skills.

Spanish - House/ Body Parts/ José Feliciano's Feliz Navidad

PE - Dribbling

Third Grade

Music - Work on songs for the Holiday Program, curriculum from music books.

Spanish - The Story of Chocolate/Mexico's Holiday Celebrations

PE - Basketball

Fourth Grade

Music - Introduce reading B, A, and G on the staff and learning to play those pitches on the recorder.

Spanish - Colombia/Ecuador/ South American Celebrations

PE - Basketball

Fifth Grade

Music - Start working on musical "Shh! We're writing the Constitution."

Spanish - Sports/El Salvador/ Central American Celebrations

PE - Basketball

Sixth Grade

Music - 1. Learning a second song on the barred instruments from the Orff volumes

2. Creating movement after studying certain pieces of art work by Mondrian and Kadinsky
3. Combing the two activities for a performance

Spanish - Me gusta más/ Me gusta menos/ Spanish Food Fiesta

PE - Basketball

FOAC - Campout 6B Dec. 2nd-4th



Hey Ms. Francis!



HOURS ARE PASSING SLOWLY SINCE YOU WENT AWAY. YOU'RE ALWAYS IN MY THOUGHTS EACH AND EVERY DAY.

MISSING YOU SO MUCH

For Smoke Signals comments, questions, or input contact:

Lori Allen at lallen66@charter.net