

Smoke Signals

Cherokee Bend School



Celebrate, Champion, Challenge!



Circle of Friends Week

November 14th - 18th

Open your heart. Open your mind. Open your circle & "HOP IN" and Help a Friend.

The goal of this week, as recognized in all Mountain Brook Schools, is to promote "Understanding, patience, tolerance and inclusion of all fellow students."

During this week we will recognize and celebrate our individual differences. Special activities in the classroom will promote an understanding of these differences. Students will sign a pledge poster in class to display outside the classrooms showing their support for all students. Students will also discuss special needs and learn that some disabilities are visible and some are unseen. Teachers will guide classroom discussions and will answer questions about this information. Children often have fears or misconceptions about disabilities. For example, "Can I catch that?" Once their questions are answered and information is provided for them they are eager to help and support their peers.

And as a grand finale we will have a fantastic basketball assembly presented by Lakeshore Rehabilitation. So please ask your child what he or she is learning throughout the week. And be on the lookout for frogs at school starting November 15th as we "Hop In" and help a friend!

Julie Lee
Committee Chair



Ring the Bell

From the desk of Principal Betsy Bell



Dear Parents,

Thank you for supporting the Boosterthon Fun Run. The fundraiser was a huge success. Your participation and encouragement truly made this event successful. We are grateful to you, our teachers, the PTO, and the Boosterthon personnel who enthusiastically led the way to help us with this fundraising event.

It is hard to believe that our first nine weeks has already come and gone and 2012 will be upon us before we know it. We truly appreciate all of the many things you do to make our school so great. The list goes on and on, but the BEST thing you do is give us your precious children each day to teach and enjoy!

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CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

Nov 3-	Veterans Day Program
Nov 8-	Election Day
Nov 11-	Veterans Day - NO SCHOOL
Nov 14-18-	Circle of Friends Week
Nov 14-18	Change Autism Now
Nov 16-	Interim Report Cards
Nov 17-	Chick-Fil-A Spirit Day
Nov 17-	PTO Legislative Roundtable @ 8:30 am
Nov 18-	Flippin' Friday at MB Gymnastics
Nov 21-	Expressions Kick-Off
Nov 23-25-	Thanksgiving Holidays - NO SCHOOL
Nov 28-30-	Class Geography Bees for 4th - 6th grades
Dec 2-4-	FOAC Campout 6B

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Expressions Contest Kick-Off

EXPRESSIONS ART CONTEST
Express Ideas through Art

The Expressions Art Contest will kick off Nov 21. All entries are due Jan. 17, so there is plenty of time to work on your masterpiece.

Expressions is a contest that allows students to show their creative side through a variety of ways: literature, visual arts, photography, music composition, and video production.

We are excited to announce that this year's theme is, "If I ruled the World..."

Every student who enters will have his or her name displayed in the school's front windows and will receive a participation surprise. All entries will be displayed with pride at our PTO meeting.

Winners at Cherokee Bend will go on to compete with winners from all of the Mountain Brook elementary schools. All CBS winners will be honored at our April PTO meeting; district winners will be recognized at the MB Elementary Art Council Ceremony on Feb. 13th.

To review contest rules or download the entry form, go to the Cherokee Bend website and look under Parent Resources. This information will be available starting November 21st.

Tricia Pugh
Committee Chair

Change Autism Now Fundraiser

November 14th - 18th

During Circle of Friends Week, we will have our 5th Annual "Donate Your Change—Change Autism Now" fundraiser. During this week there will be two jugs—one for Alabama and one for Auburn—on display outside the front office. Students will bring in their "loose change" and place it in the jug of their choice. All proceeds will go directly to helping the children at Mitchell's Place.



Thank You Cherokee Bend Families! Boosterthon was a success . . . thanks to you.

Wow! What a great Boosterthon we had! Our children loved having Grant and his team in their classrooms for almost two weeks, to talk about important character traits that go hand in hand with our FOAC curriculum. And the day of the Run could not have been better—sunny skies, fall temperatures, lots of cheering parents, and a school full of happy children running their laps!

Please double-check and be sure all your pledges have been paid so we can close our records and let you know the grand total of CBS's major fundraiser! Thanks so much for all your support!

Ann Jones
Michelle Kelly
Boosterthon Chairs





Volunteer Hall of Fame

From the desk of PTO President Amy Roberts



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

Red Ribbon Week

Kimberly Long for organizing and coordinating an awesome Red Ribbon Week. We are so thankful for your support in promoting healthy choices to our kids! Hitting Home - One School - One Goal - Drug Free!!!

Gary Long, Rosemary Nichols, and Stacy White for decorating the school to get our students fired up!

Amy Scofield for another masterpiece with the lunchroom display!

Mary Margaret Hendry for providing meaningful pledge cards for each student.

Mountain Brook High School football players, cheerleaders, and Dorians for assisting with carpool and helping us "red ribbon" all the cars at the Bend. You rock!

Amy and Michael Littleton for hosting such an important education event for our parents and our community.

Fundraising

Isabel Corley, Betsy Byars, Brooke Cobb, Ann Jones, and Michelle Kelly for tabulating the results from our EPIC Boosterthon!

Amy Scofield and Beth Norris for their creativity and marketing in preparing for our first-ever "The Bend's Got Talent!"

Kimm Eckhoff and Isabelle Zitella and their committee for counting all those little box tops for the Bend!

Jamie Blattmann for creating the CBS Photo display during conferences. We can't wait to see the pictures from our stellar CBS Photography team of our precious kids!

Curriculum Enhancement

Kimm Eckhoff and Amy Littleton and their committee for all the extra touches with our Fall Book Fair to support our library. The student wish lists, Cornucopia of Books event, and "Star" books were such big hits!

Faculty Support

Susan Davies and committee for the wonderful lunches during conferences. Our teachers are so appreciative to have such healthy meals during this busy week. And what a beautiful presentation you created!

Just for our Kids

Joanna Hufham, Laura Barron, and the 6th grade committee for organizing surprise locker treats for our "graduating class." Personalized t-shirts, Spartan cups, and candy—Need we say more?!!!

General Support

Phyllis Pelham, Julie Petro, and Kelly Rollow for hosting an amazing Mountain Brook School Board meeting at Cherokee Bend with such flair!

Rosemary Nichols and Cyndy Uncapher for keeping our Lost and Found so tidy and returning all the items to their owners!

Ashley Monachelli for coordinating Vision Screenings for our kids and providing this very important check-up!

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



PTO Update-Boosterthon



Thanks for your amazing support during Boosterthon! The PTO has started making allocations to our school!

Our initial distribution of funds has been allocated as follows:

- \$8,000 - Individual Teacher/Staff classroom and support projects
- \$5,000 - Technology Updates
- \$4,500 - New Fiction and Nonfiction collections for the Library

Stay tuned for another allocation this year—our playground upgrade!!

Mary Margaret Hendry, Caroline Ezelle, David Faulkner, and Lizzie Jeffcoat are teaming up to determine the project scope to fit our needs at the Bend. These improvements will go beyond general use during recess time. We anticipate creating a space that will be incorporated into our FOAC groups, organized PE activities, and even outdoor classroom experiences! We can't wait to provide this for our kids!!





Who's Celebrating? September Birthdays

Nov 3rd - Debra Turner, Lunchroom

Nov. 12th- Stacey Ewing, Aide

Nov 20th- Polly Harper, Special Ed

Nov 21st- Laurie Placey, Speech

Nov 30th - Billie D. Williams, Custodian



Librarians' Corner

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

The Cherokee Bend Library Media Center is extremely thankful!!

The Scholastic Book Fair was a great success! The friends and families from Cherokee Bend helped make our recent Book Fair the most successful ever. Many, many thanks to Kimm Eckhoff, Amy Littleton, and their many volunteers for all the help. Their creativity and organization contributed greatly to the book fair's success! We have already placed a large order of new books for the CBS Library collection.



Remember, **our online Book Fair is still happening.** If you would like to place an order that helps support our library, please visit <http://onlinebookfairs.scholastic.com/default.aspx?f=2881809>. The Online Book Fair ends November 7. Thank you for your support!!



Reading Corner

From the desk of Susan McCall, Reading Coach

Reading aloud to your children is a great way to relax and just enjoy being together. Here are some ideas to get a book discussion going:

- Check for understanding by asking "Does that make sense to you?"
- Encourage thinking with questions like "Do you think that could really happen?"
- Connect the story to other ideas: "Does that character's reaction remind you of anything?"
- Share the enjoyment of language by pointing out words that are fun to say.
- Value your child's comments by saying, "That's what I was thinking!"

If children don't understand what they read, they will never embrace reading. What can YOU do to help? Join the Reading Coach on Thursday, December 1 at 8:00am for a discussion on the 7 Keys to Comprehension. This session will include practical information about the seven simple thinking strategies that proficient readers use.

Community News



Tuesday Tweet Up - November 8th

An opportunity to meet new career contacts, friends, and people who share common interests with you.

MBTV Goes Live- November 16th

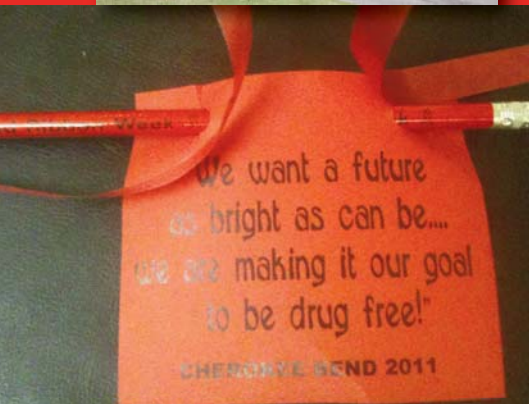
Mountain Brook's very own television show premieres.

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





Red Ribbon Week Photo Gallery



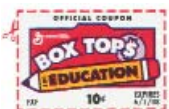
The Bend's got Talent! March 9, 2011

In place of Auction this year, we are excited to introduce our new Talent Show and Spring Fundraiser to celebrate our kids! The students and faculty voted, and the name of the first CBS talent show will be.....drumroll, please.....The Bend's Got Talent!

Get your creative juices flowing to come up with a great act. Ideas may include, but are not limited, comedy, magic, poetry, acting, dancing, singing, karate, playing an instrument, hula hoop, gymnastics—the list could go on! Think about entertaining acts that you enjoy and that the audience will enjoy too.

To provide information, guidelines, inspiration, and suggestions, a website has been created. Go to www.thebendsgottalent.com and learn about this terrific show, which will be Friday, March 9, 2012 at the Fine Arts Center at Mountain Brook High School. The link will be available on the CBS website. The student performers need a big, excited, encouraging crowd, so make plans for the whole family to attend.

Amy Scofield - adivas23@yahoo.com
Beth Norris - bnbenorris@gmail.com
Committee Chairs



Box Tops Update

Thank you Cherokee Bend Box Toppers!! We raised over \$1,200 for CBS with our most recent BOX TOP collection and we had in excess of 15 winners that sent in over 100 Box Tops each. Our next competition isn't until spring (there are only two this year) so please keep clipping and saving! Thanks so much.

Kimm Eckhoff
Isabelle Zitella

Kids Mercedes Marathon Saturday, February 11th, 2012

Registration is now open for the Kids Mercedes Marathon. The race this year is Saturday, February 11, 2012.

Go green and register online through www.mercedesmarathon.com for \$20 now through November 15th. Click on Kids Mercedes Marathon and then on registration. Please save a copy of your receipt if you register online. Paper registration is also available through November 15th for \$25.



Race packets will be handed out in PE class the week before the race. We have already started logging our mileage in PE, so we are well on our way to meeting our goal! For further information, visit the Mercedes Marathon website at www.mercedesmarathon.com.



... From the desk of Principal Betsy Bell

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As a faculty, we have been working on our yearly school goals through faculty workshop meetings, professional learning communities and professional development.

Our school goal is as follows: By May 2012, 100% of the instructional staff will have participated in a Professional Learning Community focused on gaining and implementing the knowledge necessary to collaboratively design and reflect on effective assessments that both promote student ownership and guide differentiated instruction for all students.

Thank you for supporting us in all we do to make Cherokee Bend School a wonderful teaching and learning environment for every one of our students.

Ringing the bell,



For Smoke Signals comments, questions, or input contact:

Lori Allen at lallen66@charter.net

Grades-at-a-Glance

Kindergarten

Art - Caterpillars line design and collage

Music - Work on songs for the holiday program, seasonal songs, and music games.

Spanish - Foods/ Yo quiero/ Me gusta/ Por favor

PE - Soccer/Juggling

First Grade

Art - Computer picture

Music - Work on songs for the holiday program, seasonal songs, and rhythm reading skills.

Spanish - Body parts and animals/ de la cabeza a los pies

PE - Soccer/Juggling

Second Grade

Art - Monsters

Music - Work on songs for the holiday program, seasonal songs, and rhythm reading and melodic reading skills.

Spanish - Shapes review/parts of the house

PE - Soccer/Juggling

Third Grade

Art - Monsters

Music - Work on songs for the holiday program, curriculum from music books.

Spanish - The Story of Chocolate/ Mexico

PE - Football/Soccer

Fourth Grade

Art - Klimt's Trees

Music - Start learning to play the recorder.

Spanish - Bolivia/ Practice writing/ Verbs/ Parts of the house

PE - Football/Soccer

Veterans' Day Program - Nov. 3rd
Classroom Geography Bees - Nov 28th-30th

Fifth Grade

Art - Klimt's Trees

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

Spanish - El Salvador/ Practice writing/ Verbs/ Sports vocabulary

PE - Football/Soccer

Classroom Geography Bees - Nov. 28th-30th

Sixth Grade

Art - One Point and Two Point Perspective

Music - Learning a song on the barred instruments from the Orff volumes. Creating movement after studying certain pieces of artwork. Combining the two activities for a performance.

Spanish - Don Quijote/ Foods from Spain/ Me gusta más/ Me gusta menos

PE - Football/Soccer

Classroom Geography Bees - Nov 28th-30th

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

