

From the Principal

Hello Bennett Families. This month, there are a couple of important dates to be aware of. There is no school on February 17 for students as teachers have a workday. If your student has participated in honor choir, don't forget about the honor choir concert the on the 18th from 7-8. You will receive more information from Mrs. Hallenbeck if you haven't already. Also, my personal favorite day of the year is coming up. International day is on the 21st. On International Day, our school becomes the "world" with each classroom being a country. Students travel with their passports to different countries to hear presentations from those who are from the country or have special knowledge about the country. It is so amazing to celebrate the diversity in the building on this particular day. Ask your child what countries they visited!

Reminders

- Some of you may have received a Perception Survey email from the school district. If you haven't filled it out, the deadline is tomorrow, Feb. 14.
- We go out for recess if the temperature is at least 10 degrees. Please send your students with the appropriate attire for recess.
- Remember to log your activities on your 5210 log sheet. Log sheets need turned in by March 4! We are hoping to get at least 65% of our students to participate.

Important dates

- Monday February 17- No School
- Friday February 21- International Day

Looking ahead:

- Monday March 2- No School
- Spring Break – March 16-20

Important Information from PSD

Starting in March, all schools will host monthly fire drills, as required by the International Fire Code. Previously, our students and staff participated in three annual fire drills. Each drill serves as an opportunity to educate students and staff about safely evacuating our building in the event of a fire. As we've historically done, we will evaluate our evacuation and processes to determine what we're doing well and what we could improve upon. This work is part of PSD's holistic approach to safety in PSD. We do this because we love your kids and want them to feel as safe as possible each day when they come to school to learn and grow.

International Day

Dear Bennett Families,

Have you heard about **International Day** - a day where Bennett celebrates diversity by learning about different cultures and places? On the morning of **Friday, February 21**, Bennett classrooms will be converted into countries. After an assembly, the children travel to various parts of the world and experience presentations from International Day Volunteers.

Are you from another country or have you spent significant time abroad? Are you willing to give a presentation? Our volunteers set up in their assigned classrooms and present on their country for 20 minutes with an extra 5 minutes for questions. Therefore, you would be giving your presentation 4 times to 4 different classes (they could range from kindergartners to 5th graders - but we will let you know ahead of time the ages of kids who will be attending your sessions).

You would need to **check-in to Bennett by 8:15 on Feb. 21. The last session is over at 11:30am**, but we hope that you are able to join us after for a **"thank you" international luncheon** where you can meet the other presenters.

If you are indeed able to be a presenter on International Day - please email our International Day Coordinator Lisa Verbsky - lisa.verbsky@gmail.com. Lisa will then send you a list of ideas for your presentation.

Thank you,

International Day Committee

Lisa Verbsky, Shelby Sack, Teri McNamee, Michele Yebra

Golden Ticket reward

Dear Bennett Bronco Students and Guardians,

We can proudly announce that we have filled up our golden ticket board. We will be having a PJ/Movie day on February 14th. Each classroom or grade will be watching a movie of their choice. Sadly, 5th graders will not be joining this celebration because they will be at Young Ameritowne. Make sure to be on the lookout for the new golden ticket board by the Spanish room!

(Kindergarten and 5th grade did their Golden ticket celebrations today, Thursday)

Second Grade Art Contest

The Second-Grade students have designed a paver stone for the sidewalks of Fort Collins. The City of Fort Collins is sponsoring a contest to choose the designs for this year's artwork. Last week the second grade students brought their artwork home in Thursday folders. If you would like your student to participate, please help them fill out the information and sign their contest. Return the forms to the art room by Friday, February 28. The contests need to be turned into the City before March 2.

<https://www.fcgov.com/artspublic/files/2020-pedestrian-paver-rfp.pdf?1577755775>

Spectacular Specials!

Happenings in Music!

Kindergarten: In music we continue to explore comparatives: music can be loud and soft; music can have long and short sounds. Since January we have been busy preparing for our music informance on Feb. 14th. See your teacher's newsletter for class performance details.

1st Grade: November and December were pivotal months; 1st graders are reading and tracking rhythmic notation that includes quarter notes and eighth notes! We have also been learning songs that are preparing first graders to read pitch, starting with *so and mi*. The weather and snow has presented some fun creative movement activities. Favorite songs: Snowflakes, Snail Snail, The Kangaroo.

2nd Grade: Second Graders have continued to work on mallet technique on the xylophones/metallaphones/glockenspiels. Soon you will get to see their skills when they present their spring concert on March 5! Details have been sent home in Thursday folders. We

have also started preparing for a new pitch, the home note *do*. Favorite songs: Wake Up Sleepy Head, Shoo Turkey, A mi Burro

3rd Grade: Students are continuing their practice of reading notation of pentatonic songs (songs where the set is *do, re, mi, so, and la*). We've been having fun with timbre – how musical sound can have different qualities. We've been active with many activities that involve music and/or movement in a round. Favorite songs: See the Rabbit, Canoe Round, Peg Leg the Pirate

4th Grade: Students are continuing to work on their mallet technique and practicing a new skill which is the crossover bordun. We are continuing to read notation with our most recently presented pitch *high do*. CSU music education students will be coming every Friday to work with 4th graders and they always have great activities planned to enrich our concepts. Next month information will be sent home about recorders!

5th Grade: Our sequence of melodic concepts is almost complete. We are preparing repertoire that teaches major and minor scales. If recorders have been taken home from the last assessment, please bring them back ASAP as we expand work on our recorders to learn Low D, high D and high C. Coming this spring....guitars!

Counselor Corner

See the attached flyer for some events down in Denver over the next few months. [Girl Leadership 2020.docx](#)

BCO

Happy Get a Different Name Day from the Bennett Community Organization. Your PTO, the BCO! I am Nigel B., your BCO President.

BCO MEETING RECAP! Despite the snow, we had a decent turnout for the BCO meeting. If you didn't get a chance to attend, please follow the BCO Facebook page (Bennett Community Organization - BCO) and look for videos of the meeting (unintentionally a three part series). We ate cream cheese brownies, discussed upcoming events such as the Box Top Derby, International Day, and the Spring Book Fair. Special guest Melissa Wagner, the Principal of Blevins Middle School, informed us about the current state of the middle school. We'll make meeting minutes available soon, or please contact me if you'd like specific information about what we discussed. Thank you to everyone who attended or watched online!

Prior to the BCO meeting, we had the School Security Informational Meeting. Thank you to Bennett for setting this up, and to those who attended. A big thank you to Officer Calahan and Shawn Streeter for their presentation! We certainly learned a lot, and had some good questions answered.

Q&A about the BCO:

Q: Eric, did anything come up at the BCO meeting that you'd like to tell people about? - Nigel B.

A: Thank you for your question, Nigel. Yes, I do have some takeaways from the meeting.

1. We will be setting up the BCO as a nonprofit and need to file documents with the State of Colorado and the IRS in order to do so. I can fill out forms as well as any first grader, but I'd like to form a nonprofit committee to help out. If you have any experience with a nonprofit, I'd love to talk to you. The Blevins Middle School PTO is set up as a nonprofit, and I'm hoping to leverage their knowledge (thanks Melissa!).
2. The position of BCO Vice President is open. This position is NOT the President's BFF (a separate application is required). If you think you'd like to be involved in the BCO as the Vice President (or BFF), please let me know. I am happy to discuss the position and expectations with you. I'm new at this too, so this is a great chance to get involved early..

Upcoming events:

Friday, February 21st - Paint a base coat on the bathroom stalls in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade hallways in preparation for artwork! There are only a couple slots left, so check your email for a sign-up genius to get started.

Friday, February 21st - International Day! Based on our conversation at the BCO meeting, International Day will be really fun this year! Please sign up to bring a lunch item for the guest presenters!

March 9th through the 13th - JUNGLE THEMED SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR!!!! Featuring a special Saturday grand opening event! More information will be coming soon.

Please contact me if you have any questions. Please contact Nigel if you are upset...

Eric Bowman

enamwob@gmail.com

303-885-9734

Spring Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is right around the corner! We need a lot of volunteers to make this fun event a success! Remember that for every shift you sign up for, you get a free book (\$6.99 or less). In order to volunteer you need to be a registered volunteer with the Poudre School District. It's a fairly fast and easy process; follow the link for more info and to register if you haven't already! <https://www.psdschools.org/community/volunteers>

Thanks in advance for your time and commitment to Bennett! Check out the Sign Up Genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080449ADAA2AA5F85-book2>

Thanks again!

Erica Andrews and Anali Siegle - Book Fair Coordinators

5210 Challenge

Dear Bennett Staff and Guardians,

It's 5210+ challenge time! Students and family members can participate by filling out their student and family logs that came home in Thursday Folders at the end of January. We have a lot of new goals for Bennett this year and hope to achieve all of them. Our goal is to have 65% of student participation. We would also like to have 65% staff participation and 100 family logs turned in. If students get 80 or more checks they will receive a free T-shirt and if families get 20 or more checks they will have a chance to win a \$50 King Soopers gift card. We can win up to \$1500 in prize money for our school. Remember to turn in your logs by March 4th or you won't get a T-shirt or be entered to win the gift card. Come on Bennett Broncos, turn in your logs and claim those rewards by filling them out! Lets earn some money for Bennett and get healthy while we do it!

Sincerely,

5th Grade Leadership Team

Box Top Derby

7th Annual Bennett Box Top Derby

Get your horses ready!!! The race is about to begin. Round up your friends and family to help support our school and cheer on your derby horse (teacher/classroom) by collecting & donating Box Tops. The race gate will open **January 24** with a final push to the finish line **February 24**. The race details are below:

- Each teacher/classroom will have a derby horse, racing on a track
- All horses that reach the **300 box tops "gate"** will win an **extra recess**.
- All horses that reach the **500 box tops "gate"** will win their choice of **crazy hair/hat day, pajama day, or other dress-up theme**.
- All horses that reach the **900 box tops "gate"** will win a **class popsicle treat**.

- The **highest collecting** derby horse will win a **classroom pizza party**.

Submit Your Box Tops for classroom credit in one of two ways:

Paper Box Tops -- Collect box tops in a bag that is clearly labeled with classroom information and give directly to your teacher. (e.g., Allen or Allen-K, Henke or Henke-3)

Digital Box Tops – Use the “**give credit**” feature on the Box Top App. After you snap the picture of your receipt, look for the **star icon** on the bottom of the screen. Tap the star and **enter your classroom information** in the text field (e.g., Allen or Allen-K, Henke or Henke-3). **Please only put one teacher per entry.**

Watch the bulletin board by the gym for **LIVE** results!

Drop off and pick up

A couple of reminders to help make the drop offs and pick-ups go smoother:

1. Do not park in the handicap spots, unless you have a valid placard.
2. Any time you or your student needs to cross Bennett road, please use the cross walk (with the crossing guard) which is in front of the school.
3. Pull as far forward as you can in the parking lot pickup lane, before letting your child get into your car.
4. Please wait to let your children into your car until you are in the parking lot. Do not pick them up while you are parked on Bennett Road.
5. While waiting to get into the parking lot, do not block the cross walk.

Fun Things to do:

- Rocky Mountain baseball camp- February 28 [Rocky baseball Flyer 20.pdf](#)
- Museum of Art Fort Collins art classes [Museum of Art classes.pdf](#)