

“THE BEAR FACTS”

BEAR CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November, 2011



FALL FAMILY FUN!

The men of BCUMC have graciously volunteered to cook hot dogs and hamburgers for us!

Thursday, November 3, 6 PM – 7:30 PM.

Come meet or reconnect with other preschool families while enjoying a meal and some family crafts together.

Our Book Fair will also be open for you to browse and purchase.

Special thanks to Sandy Neilson and her awesome planning team for providing another opportunity for us to build community with preschool families.

Questions? Contact Sandy Neilson at 713-299-9631 or sandy.neilson@sbcglobal.net.

TICKET SALES October 26 – November 3 just \$3 per person (\$15 family max.)

Splinters from the Board

(The School Board)

- Between catalog sales, internet sales and many generous donations, we raised \$2400 for our school through our fall fundraiser. Thank you to all of the families who shared our fundraiser with their friends, family and co-workers in such a huge way!

*****The fundraiser orders should be delivered before we take our Thanksgiving break.*****

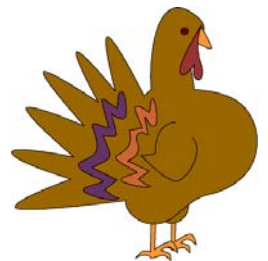
- Thank you for saving and bringing in **Box Tops!** We are expecting a check very soon as income from collected Box Tops and online shopping online at the Box Tops Marketplace! A very special thank you to **Alisha Stubbs** for cutting and counting all of the box tops and mailing them in for us!

STOP - Before you do any **Christmas shopping online**, make sure you go to boxtopsforeducation.com and register to shop at the **Box Tops Marketplace**. Popular stores like Target, Wal-Mart, E-Toys, Barnes & Noble, Circuit City, Best Buy, Shutterfly, Pottery Barn, Gap, and so many more, will donate anywhere from 2% to 5% of your purchase to our school. Check it out!

NO TOM THE TURKEY THIS YEAR...

We have enjoyed the generosity of Wabash Antique and Feed Store for many, many years, as they have provided a live turkey to come visit several area preschools during the Thanksgiving season.

Unfortunately, they have not been able to locate a turkey they feel is tame enough to offer as a “safe school visitor” this year. We will miss this tradition, but we will still have a wonderful season remembering our history and counting our many blessings.



Book Fair is October 31 - November 4

This is a fabulous and easy way to purchase educational Christmas gifts. There will also be an opportunity to purchase books for the school, if you would like to donate a book from our teachers' wish list for the school library.



THANK YOU TO MRS. COX AND ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS FOR MAKING ANOTHER SPECTACULAR CIRCUS DAYS HAPPEN FOR ALL OF OUR CHILDREN TO ENJOY!

THE BEST KIND OF SNACKS ARE FRESH!

Thank you so much for the yummy fruit trays our children have been enjoying this school year. You can never go wrong with fresh fruit and a refreshing glass of water. Snack time is designed as a social experience and an opportunity for busy young bodies to take a rest and refuel for the next set of activities. It is not intended to be a meal, as they will also have lunch at school. When planning what to bring for snack, it is best to think of something fresh. You may bring water in small individual bottles or gallon jug with cups, but please do not send sugary drinks, cookies or candy.

A WORD ABOUT BIRTHDAY SNACKS....

While birthday treats are allowed, you may want to consider some other festive alternatives to the typical cupcakes from the store. We have seen some wonderful things come for birthday snacks, like fruit kabobs, fruit pizza, and one time we even opened oranges to discover fruit salad inside! Some other ideas that have been suggested are homemade muffins or even pancake "sandwiches".

If you have any other fun ideas to help us all reach goals of good nutrition, please feel free to place them in the comment box and we will pass them along in future newsletters.

PLAN AHEAD FOR FIELD TRIPS, SPECIAL EVENTS AND CLASS PARTIES

Make advance arrangements for babysitters for siblings so you can participate on these special days.

Parents of 4's, T's and K's who volunteer for Thanksgiving Experience will need to make a reservation for child care (at no charge) no later than one week before the day they need the care.

We will be able to offer child care for Christmas parties, for \$5 per child, to be paid **WITH YOUR RESERVATION**, no later than one week in advance of your child's party.

BCUMC Thanksgiving Food Drive

The Missions Committee is once again sponsoring A Day of "Thanks" & "Giving" on Saturday, November 19. Our goal is to pack a minimum of 500 food boxes with everything less fortunate families will need for their Thanksgiving dinner.

Your help will be greatly appreciated. We are in need of specific food items. Please pluck a few tail feathers off of the turkey that will be located in the front hall. As you bring your food for the Chapel services, those things we really need are: cans of sweet potatoes, green beans, corn, peas, and cranberry sauce; bags of rice and dried beans; instant mashed potatoes; cake mixes and cans of frosting.

Your family is invited to join us in the gym on Saturday, November 19 from 11:00 to 2:00 and help us pack the boxes and enjoy a lunch prepared by the United Methodist Men.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING from your BCUMCS family

When we count our blessings at Bear Creek, we are thankful that you have chosen our school as your home away from home for your children. We appreciate the fact that you have trusted us with your children and we consider the time we have with them a special gift. **THANK YOU.** Each age group will have special ways they will experience Thanksgiving at school and we hope you will enjoy this season through their eyes, participate in their special times with them, and help provide needed resources when called upon to support their activities. **ENJOY!**

REMEMBER WE WILL BE ENJOYING FAMILY TIME AS SCHOOL IS CLOSED MONDAY, NOV. 21 – FRIDAY, NOV. 25