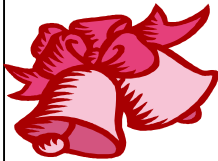


Buddy Taylor Middle School

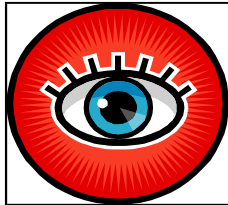
BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Raising Student Achievement Every Day In Every Way

The Inside Swoop

... A note from the principal

Here at BTMS we're looking forward to a very busy holiday season. Not only are we all cooking, shopping, and preparing, we're also packing! Moving day is almost here and we're looking forward to starting the new year in our new building. Please read the letter on the back page for important information about the move.



Eagle Eye News...

* Congratulations to Joshua Ore for winning the Flagler County Public Library's Scary Story contest. Way to go!

* Thanks to the generosity of the BTMS family, the NJHS collected almost 600 cans of food which was donated to Elizabeth Ann Seton Outreach program. Thanks to NJHS and Ms Coolican for sponsoring this event!

* Watch for a new club called SWAT (students working against tobacco) It is going to be an afterschool club that will participate in county wide events to make students aware of the dangers of smoking.



TALON TIDBITS FOR DEC/JAN

Dates of what's happening

- * Dec 5th—Progress reports went home.
- * Dec 5th—12th Book Fair in the media center
- * Dec 9th—Chorus Holiday Concert at Flagler Auditorium
- * Dec 18th—Band winter concert at Flagler Auditorium.
- * Dec 22nd—Jan 2nd—Winter Break!
- * Jan 5th—Classes resume (see note about moving into the new building)
- * Jan 15th—End of 1st semester
- * Jan 16th—Teacher work day no school for students.
- * Jan 19th MLK Day— No classes for students
- * Jan 21st—Early release day for students.



Chorus News.....

The BTMS Chorus has been busy! In October The BTMS Idol Show was a hit. It was a great show put on by some very talented students. Congratulations to the winners... 1st place Vanessa Pearson, 2nd place Felicity Furtado, and 3rd place Austyn Berry.

If you missed this performance, there's still time for you to catch the BTMS chorus on stage. On Dec 9th they will performing in a Holiday Concert at FPC auditorium and on Dec 13th they will be participating the City of Palm Coast Christmas Celebration and Parade. Why not celebrate the season and show your support to BTMS? The students would love to see you in the audience!

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

In case you haven't noticed.....BTMS is very close to having some new digs! We are very excited. Of course, change needs a lot of planning, packing, decision making and the list goes on. Our new building will be ready for students when we return after winter break. There are 28 new classrooms, a new cafeteria, and windows! Did I mention we were excited?! Half of the students will be in the new building and the other half will still be in the back portables. From January to August, the exterior and interior of BTMS will be renovated. This has been long overdue. In August, those in the portables will move into the renovated building and we will be ready for the start of a new year.

We are in the process of packing everything and I mean everything....down to the last bulletin board, chalk board, chair, desk, well you get the idea. This has been quite an undertaking. The move will require at least 3500 boxes. We have over 13,000 books in the media center alone that must be packed and moved. Of course, the move would not be possible without the wonderful custodial staff and maintenance crews [both in-house and district wide] who will be working to make this happen. I have been amazed and appreciative of the patience and attention to detail exhibited by our staff. Not only are they packing but they are giving their full attention to the academic progress of our students. This means a lot of late afternoon packing and weekend work. They have not lost the focus of what's important and I believe that's a testament to their professionalism.

OK – let's talk about the first day back after winter break. Students will have the same teachers and same classes; however, they will be in different classroom locations. Here's the plan: Every student will come through the cafeteria and get breakfast if they so choose. For that day only, WES has allowed us to use their side of the cafeteria. The 7th graders will go there. The 8th graders will stay on the BTMS side and the 6th graders will go to our gym. The homeroom teachers will gather their class and head to the new class location. At that time students will highlight a map so they know where to go for the rest of the day. Students are very resilient! We expect by day 3 everyone will be moving across campus with ease and confidence. Of course, we will be patient and available to head them in the right direction.

Some other notes:

- Car rider pick up/drop off location will not change
- Bike racks will remain in the same place. We are adding an extra pad for our increased number of bike riders.

We are looking forward to a new place for students to learn. While it has involved a herculean effort to accomplish, it will be well worth the time and energy. Please check our web site. We will be putting pictures there for all to enjoy!

