

904 N. Roosevelt

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December 2011



DISTRICT 87

BENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SUPERSTAR GAZETTE

Message From The Principal

Greetings Superstar Parents!

I know I mentioned this before, but it is getting pretty cold outside. I'd like to remind you that we will be going outside unless the temperature drops below 20 degrees. We do take wind chill into account. I have seen a number of boys and girls coming to school in shorts and light jackets and I am a little concerned. I don't want to deny the children the opportunity to go outside and burn off some energy. Thank you for all of your support! As always, please feel free to contact me with any concerns.

Mr. G

PBIS Update

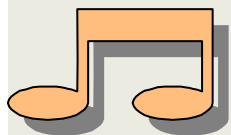
With each day one day closer to Winter Break, the excitement and anticipation grows. This proves to be an exceptionally challenging time behaviorally for students. In the month of December we will continue to put our attention toward proper bus and cafeteria behavior. We will also encourage teachers to

really look for students who are doing an exceptional job staying on task and following directions. Talk with your children about the 3 Be's and ask them to evaluate their own behavior during this month full of excitement and fun!

Be Safe
Be Respectful
Be Responsible



¡Congratulations to our prize winners for the month of November, Isaac in Mrs. Young's class and Rick in Ms. Matlock's class!!



Mark your calendar for the All School Musical Performance of "The Music Connection" on Thursday, January 19th at 6:30 p.m. Our concert will be held at the BHS Auditorium with kids dressed up and ready to sing at 6:20 p.m. Invite family and friends to enjoy this hour of musical fun presented by our fantastic kids!

A holiday Idea from the Writing Committee

Students can write a poem and send it in a card.



Children recognize the power of poetry—its ability to inspire emotions and the special pleasure you can get from memorizing a favorite poem or reading it again and again. But children may not know where to start in writing their own poems. And they may not realize that poems come in a wide variety of flavors—from succinct haikus, to ones that follow conventions of word choice and line length, to the-sky-is-the-limit free verse. Help a child recognize the elements of a poem and explore different ways of writing one, and you’ll also enable the child to become more familiar with the meaning of words and sentences, sentence structure, rhymes, and vocabulary. Plus, in writing poetry, a child will discover a new, limitless world of expression that’s just as fun to share with others as it is to create.

What To Do

Choose some books of poetry. Read some poems aloud with the child. Talk about where each line of the poem ends and how it creates rhythm, affects the meaning of the poem, and might even make the poem look a particular way.

Sing a favorite song together and write down the lyrics. Then ask the child to write a poem that he or she could sing to the melody of the song. Use the structure of the original lyrics as a guide.

Go on a neighborhood poetry walk. Stop at various points—the park, the street corner, the newsstand—and ask the child to write a sentence or two that describes what he or she sees. Back at home, the child can revise and shorten those sentences and turn them into a poem.

Show the child how to write an acrostic poem, in which the first letter of each line spells out his or her name, when read top to bottom. Once the child writes a poem based on his or her own name, the child can write about family members, friends, or pets.

Make a slideshow poem. Have the child photograph a series of five to ten pictures (based on a common theme or during a trip). Import the photos into a multimedia software program such as PowerPoint, iPhoto, or Photo Story and ask the child to write a poem by posting a word or two with each image. Add special effects, transitions, or music to enhance the slideshow.

Show an older child how to write a “found” poem, using the [Found Poem Instructions](#). Found poems take existing text (e.g., from a passage in a book, a magazine article, a sign, a letter) and condense and reorder the words to form a new poem. Help the child select a paragraph or two from a favorite book and turn it into a found poem.

Introduce the rhyming dictionary at [Poetry4Kids.com](#) and a thesaurus as helpful tools for writing poetry. Explore different types and even shapes of poems. For younger children, the three-line haiku (five words/seven words/five words) is a fun way to start. Older children may want to experiment with formats like the diamante, a seven-line poem that is shaped like a diamond

Source: www.readwritethink.org

Reminder – Yearbooks can still be ordered – 16.00 each

¡Be Cool!

¡Join us for breakfast and start your day right!

¡We wish you and your families a most happy, joyous, Holiday Season!

