



A Catholic, Dual-Language, Community School  
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# The Borders Buzz

October 2016

## Calendar Highlights for more see pg. 8

- October 3—  
No School
- October 5—  
HSA General  
Meeting 6:00-6:30pm  
Chat with the  
Principal 6:30-7:00pm
- October 14—Last day  
to wear Fall/Spring  
Option Uniform
- October 20—  
Half Day/  
Noon Dismissal; Parent  
Teacher Conferences
- October 21—  
School OPEN \*\* change  
from original calendar
- November 4—No  
School

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## From the Desk of Principal Freeman...

Our Borders Bobcats are off to a great start to the new school year! Students have started participating in our Morning Meeting by saying the pledge of allegiance in both English and Spanish, and by sharing interesting facts about prominent Hispanic cultural and political leaders in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. Recently, 5th grader Carlos Rodriguez told our students about Ritchie Valens and then proceeded to sing "La Bamba!" What a fantastic way to welcome our new week!

Our "Moving our Paws in the Right Direction" initiative is gaining momentum, and October's Virtue of the Month is "Self-Discipline." Please help us here at school by talking to your kids at home about what it means to have self-discipline, whether it's raising your hand in class, or taking a few deep breaths if you start to feel upset. Students are also excited about the upcoming Student Council elections! 8th graders who are running for the Student Council executive committee have started their campaigns, and will be giving their speeches in front of the rest of the school on Wednesday during student convocation. This is such an awesome opportunity for our kids to learn about democracy, and to see themselves as agents of change!

It was great to see so many of you at both our Back to School Night and our first Dual Language Program Parent Night! I hope that both were informative and useful, and that you were able to get a good understanding of what to expect academically this year for your child/ren. Don't hesitate to reach out to teachers, Ms. Collins, or myself at any time for clarification about assignments or expectations.

Lastly, I want to end with a quote from a poem/prayer that I shared with our students and teachers recently one morning:

For those who have no voice, we ask you to speak.

For those who feel unworthy, we ask you to pour your love out in waterfalls of tenderness.

For those who live in pain, we ask you to bathe them in the river of your healing.

For those who are lonely, we ask you to keep them company.

For those who are depressed, we ask you to shower upon them the light of hope.

Dear Creator, you, the borderless sea of substance, we ask you to give to all the world that which we need most — Peace. - Maya Angelou

## From the Desk of Principal Freeman..., continued

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My hope for our community, in these tumultuous times, is that we can accept these gifts from God, as written by the late Dr. Angelou: the voice, the love, the healing... that we can internalize these gifts in order to give them to others. The work of Archbishop Borders School is not just to educate our children academically, but to help our students cultivate a sense of shared responsibility and love for one another, for their families, communities, and ultimately, the greater world. I am grateful that you all are participating in this work with us.

## Volunteer Training

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Are you interested in volunteering at Archbishop Borders School this year? We are always looking for parents and guardians to help us create the best environment we can for our students. Some volunteer opportunities include helping at lunch and recess, chaperoning field trips, or assisting at the front desk. Parents must have completed the Shield the Vulnerable training to participate in many of these opportunities.

We are hosting an Open Lab for families interested in completing this process on Wednesday, October 5th. There are three times available (8:00 AM-Right after drop-off, 1:00 PM-Right before pick up, and 5:00 PM-Right before the HSA Meeting and Chat with the Principal. Registration is required. Please e-mail Anna Danz ([adan@abbschool.com](mailto:adan@abbschool.com)) with your name and the time you would like to come in.

## Email Announcement

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Thank you to everyone who has signed up for our emails. A number of parents have expressed that they are on the list, but not receiving emails. Please note that we have made sure your information is up to date in our system. If you are still not receiving emails, please check your Spam folder and filters. Thanks!

## Moving our Paws in the Right Direction

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This month's virtue is Self Discipline. Some of the ways you can demonstrate this virtue are:

Follow all rules.

Avoid interrupting when someone is talking.

Get into and walk in line without talking.

Clean your table in the cafeteria.

Listen to morning and afternoon announcements.

Keep your feet and hands and any other objects to yourself.

Say only kind words.

If you get angry, walk away from the situation until you are calm and can discuss peacefully, or get help from an adult.

Keep earning those Bobcat Bucks!

## Dual Language Resources

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The Dual Language Program night was a success. Ms. Collins and the Dual Language teachers presented information regarding second language acquisition, how parents/guardians can help with assignments and demonstrated various activities that parents/guardians can do to extend language learning beyond school. Parents and teachers discussed questions in the opening forum and then after the presentation they learned and practices language learning strategies during the workshop session. Many parents after the workshop were better informed and felt more confident about the Dual Language Immersion Program. The materials from this event can now be found on our website. The next Dual Language Program Night is January 12, 2017 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

## Classroom News

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**Early Childhood:** Students in grades Pre-K 3, Pre-K 4, and Kindergarten will be taking their first field trip to Clark Elioak Farms in Ellicott City, MD on Tuesday, October 11th. Not only will they get to visit a petting zoo, take a hayride, and pick pumpkins, but they will also get to explore structures from the former Enchanted Forest Park. Please remember to return your permission slips with the \$25.00 fee (exact amount in cash) by Tuesday, October 4th.

**Mrs. Carmen (Pre-K 3):** Our class is enjoying their learning centers. Children are making schools and castles with blocks, they are enjoying making food with play dough and inviting Mrs. Carmen and Mrs. Erica for dinner, they are coloring and pasting letters, making puppets, and enjoying the story “Salta Ranita Salta” They are also counting dinosaurs and making figures with shapes. They are learning about school and discovering the classroom is a place to learn and have fun!

**Mrs. Jo-Ann and Mrs. Nancy (Pre-K 4 and K):** Pre-K 4 will be starting their first school project at home with their families. They will receive a poster “All About Me”. They will have the chance to tell all about themselves and their favorite things as well as anything about their family. This project helps with speaking in complete sentences in front of their classmates. A rubric will be coming home with more explanation.

With Mrs. Nancy, the students will be talking about their family, in Spanish, as well. They will also be learning about the colors brown, orange and pink, the letters, Ee, Mm, Pp and Ss, and the numbers from 1 to 5.

**Ms. Reyes and Ms. Taylor (1st and 2nd):** Both grades are finishing up on addition and will be beginning subtraction after administration of the Easy CBM.

First grade science will be working on learning about the weather. They are also working on understanding the election. In English Language Arts, they are focusing on a school theme, as well as sentence structure. In Spanish their stories are focusing on friends and family as well as sentence structure with punctuation.

The second graders are working with both Ms. Reyes and Ms. Taylor on the essential questions of friendship and fostering their friendship skills. In their Language Arts classes, the stories that are being read tie back to these ideas and skills. They are also working on sentence structures.

**Mrs. Nieves and Mrs. Noble (3rd and 4th):** Spotlight!: Hip Hip Hooray!! Third Grader, Kenneth Norton, who is a 1st year student in the Dual Language program has demonstrated tremendous motivation. He has worked hard to learn to speak and write in Spanish with his peers.

In Mrs. Nieves' classes, the Third Grade unit's theme “Vamos a aprender” and the Fourth Grade's is “Crecer.” Both grades are really excited about science. Third graders made an instrument to observe the sun, which helped them learn more about the Solar System. Fourth graders are learning about the movement of the Earth. They have so much fun going out, marking their shadow, and going back a few hours later to look where their shadow is now.

Both grades have been learning about group work, communication and problem solving. Working collaboratively is good practice for their trip to Rodgers Corn Maze where teams will have to work together to

## Classroom News, Continued

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**Ms. Dougherty, Mr. Rangel, Mrs. Traub, and Mrs. Adewuyi (Middle School):** The fifth graders are learning all about the history of the United States, our diverse population and shared ideals. Ask them about the Great Seal and what the Latin words, E Pluribus Unum, mean. We are watching the elections here at school and throughout the country to see how democracy works in action!

Seventh and Eighth grade students in the Study Skills/High School Prep course are continuing to learn about organization, setting priorities and goals. This month well will be connecting those priorities and goals to what students are most passionate about. This connection will motivate them to think about their future careers, and what needs to be done now and in the near future to achieve those careers.

Our eighth graders have started to look into High Schools. They are all excited and looking forward to their upcoming Shadow days. Please pray along with them that they will be selected to continue their education in a School where their individual Education needs will be met.

**Technology:** Ms. Pettigrew (aka Ms. P) would like to invite families of students in grades 3-8 to join their Google Classroom, so that they can stay involved with what the students are working on in class. To register, please send your student's name and grade, along with your e-mail address (must be a gmail account) to Ms. P at [vpettigrew@abbschool.com](mailto:vpettigrew@abbschool.com).

## Calendar Change

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Please note, school will be open on Friday, October 21st and closed Friday, November 4th. This is a change from the original calendar, based on a revision to Archdiocese of Baltimore's Professional Development Training schedule. There will be no Aftercare or STEAM on Friday, November 4th now. Thank you!

## High School Fair

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Grades 6-8 are required to attend the High School fair at Cardinal Shehan School Tuesday, October 4th at 6:30pm. 8th grade also will be scheduling and attending open houses and shadow days at area high schools during the month of October.

## Aftercare

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Reading with Purpose:

The aftercare staff has read over 15 books over our first three weeks. Our goal is to encourage reading about topics of interest such as reading about storm chasers on a rainy day, reading about sea creatures that look similar to food that we eat regularly, reinforcing safety rules while reading about an often silly police officer with a K9 dog named Gloria. In October, we will encourage our 1st and 2nd graders to read to our prek3-K students.

The Science Behind It:

The children enjoyed seeing fireworks in a jar while they learned that liquids have different weight and mixing various food coloring create unique secondary colored fireworks.

## STEAM

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There have been some changes to our STEAM program this year. We will have vendors coming in to do exciting activities with the children. The children will be building their own creations, including drones, in robotics. They are also learning a variety of the arts, starting with dance from vendor, Leaders of Tomorrow and other hands on activities with another vendor, Future Makers.

## Uniform

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Please remember that Friday, October 14th is the last day students are allowed to wear the Fall/Spring Option uniform until 2017. Please refer to the handbook if you have any questions.

## Parent Access to Powerschool

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Forms went home this week about how you can sign up for "Parent Access" to Powerschool. This will give you the opportunity to look at grades and assignments for your students. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

## After School Film Club

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Attention seventh and eighth graders! Ms. Pettigrew (Ms. P.) will be hosting an after school film club on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning October 11th and ending on December 8th. The program will run from 3:15 - 4:15 pm. The cost is \$50 per student. Sign up slips will be distributed this week and should be returned to the office with payment. Please let Ms. P know if you would be interested (vpettigrew@abbschool.com). Space is limited on a first come, first serve basis.

## Campus Ministry

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October is recognized as the Month of the Holy Rosary. Throughout the month students will be learning more about the history of the rosary and how to pray with it. We encourage families to say a decade (or two) or the rosary with their children if they are interested.

## Mass

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As always, parents and guardians are welcome to join us at Sacred Heart of Jesus for school mass. Mass begins promptly at 9:15am, so we ask that you arrive to the church by 9:00am. This month mass will be held on **Friday, October 7th**. We will also be having mass to celebrate All Saints Day. This will be held **Tuesday, November 1st** and will be at 8:00am instead of 9:15am.

## Tag Days

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In October, we will have Tag Days on Friday, October 14th and Friday, October 28th. Students are allowed to dress out of uniform those days if they bring in \$1. These funds go to different school and HSA initiatives. Please remember that students must dress appropriately. The administration reserves the right to ask parents to bring appropriate clothing if a student is not properly dressed.

## **World's Finest Chocolate Sale**

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On Tuesday, October 4th, we will kick-off our annual Chocolate Sale. Mrs. Rose will send a form home for you to order your boxes of chocolate. Money raised will go toward fundraising goals. Candy can be picked up after the assembly. All moneys from sales of chocolates must be returned to the school by Tuesday, November 1st. Last year we sold 350 boxes of chocolates - let's see if we can sell 400 boxes this year!

## **Hispanic Heritage Month Closing Assembly**

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Families are invited to join us in the gym on Friday, October 14th from 1:30-2:30 for our Hispanic Heritage Month Closing Assembly. Come learn about Hispanic Heritage through stories and performances. We would like to thank all the parents and teachers involved in organizing this event, along with our previous assembly on Friday, September 16th.

## **Fall Open House**

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Archbishop Borders School will be hosting an Open House on Sunday, October 30th from 9:00-11:00am. This is a change from the original calendar. Anyone interested in enrolling their child for the 2017-2018 school year are welcome to attend. We will also be talking about our new Free Transfer Look Program that will open the second trimester of the 2016-2017 school year for 6th graders. Registration is not required, but is appreciated. For more information, please contact Advancement Director, Anna Danz, at [adan@abbschool.com](mailto:adan@abbschool.com). Remember, if families you refer complete the registration process you will receive a \$100 credit towards your fundraising goal for next year; \$200 if they are enrolling a middle school student!

## **Halloween**

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Archbishop Borders School is excited that Halloween falls on a Monday this year. We encourage students in grades Pre-K 3 through 4th to celebrate by wearing costumes to school on Monday, October 31st. Costumes that may scare small children, such as witches, ghosts, or monsters and costumes that have weapons and/or encourage violent behavior will not be permitted. Just like the Tag Days, the administrations reserves the right to ask parents to bring appropriate clothing if a student is not properly dressed. More information will come home this month.

We are also seeking donations of candy to give to our students. We greatly appreciate any way that you can help. We ask that you avoid candy with nuts and also hard candy for the safety of all our students. Please have them into your classes by Wednesday, October 26th.

## **Bring Your Buddy to School Day**

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We are hosting a "Bring Your Buddy to School" day for students entering 1st – 8th grade on Tuesday, November 8th (Election Day). This is a day for students to come experience Archbishop Borders School for a school day and meet the students, teachers and staff. If they have a friend at the school we will pair them up for the day, otherwise we will connect them with a buddy in their current grade.

Current students are encouraged to invite a friend from a sports team, church, or neighborhood to spend a day at school. To have your child participate in this special "Bring Your Buddy To School Day", please contact Ms. Anna ([adan@abbschool.com](mailto:adan@abbschool.com)) with the name of the visiting child, their grade, and their emergency contact information.. If you have additional questions please email Ms. Anna as well.

## Scholarship Information

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The application window for the Children's Scholarship Fund opened September 1st. Applications are processed on a first-come, first served basis beginning in April each year. The earlier you apply, the better your chances of receiving a scholarship!

Participating families are required to contribute to their children's education and are therefore responsible for costs not covered by the scholarship. Each family agrees to pay a minimum of \$500 per school year towards their children's education. The maximum award provided per student per school year is \$2,000. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Rose in the office (rlopez@abbschool.com)

We are also looking for candidates for the GB Charities Awards. We will be sending home interest sheets later this month with students requesting information and detailing what you would need to apply. Stay tuned!

## Health and Wellness

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Nurse Dillon would like families to know that a number of our health forms are now available on the website. These include forms concerning medical release information, medications, and dental consent. If you do not have access to the internet, the forms are also available in the School Office or can be sent home with students.

## Photos

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We are working this year to update our community with more and more photos of our students in actions. These photos will be available on our website, Facebook, and more. If you have any images you would like to share, please send them to Ms. Anna. We would love to see our students in their uniforms exploring and serving their communities!

## HSA

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Join us for the first General Meeting of the year on Wednesday, October 5th from 6:00-6:30pm at Archbishop Borders School. We will be introducing our Executive Board Members, our committees, and our idea. Registration is not required, but appreciated. Please email hsa@abbschool.com if you have any questions.

We are still looking for classroom parents for 2nd grade and up! Please talk to your child's teacher if you are interested in being a liaison for your child's class or email us at hsa@abbschool.com. Help us build more community between students and families. We hope to hear from you soon!

Also, if you are available, we are looking for parent volunteers to help with Halloween celebrations on Monday, October 31st. If you are interested, please let us know!

# Calendar

October	3	School Closed- Professional Development
	4	Chocolate Sale Begins
	5	General HSA Meeting 6:00-6:30pm Chat w/ Principal 6:30-7:00pm
	7	Mass 9:15am
	14	Tag Day \$1 Last day to wear Fall/Spring op- tion uniform Hispanic Heritage Month Closing Assembly—Parents and guardians are welcome!
	20	Early Dismissal, 12:00pm No STEAM/No Aftercare Parent Teacher Conferences
	21	School OPEN—change from original calendar
	28	HSA Tag Day \$1
	30	Open House 9:00-11:00am
November	1	Chocolate Sale Ends All Saints Day Mass 9:15am FACTS Grant & Aid Application Opens
	4	No School-Professional Development