



BAYARD RUSTIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
332 West Edmonston Drive Rockville, MD 20852

September 15, 2023

Good morning Bayard Rustin families,

Happy Friday Red Fox Family! It's been an awesome week of learning at BRES as we head into the weekend. Read on for lots of reminders and resources, always captured here in our weekly update.

Thank you to all who joined us for our September kick-off PTA and NAACP Parents Council joint meeting this week. In case you missed it, check out the slides linked [here](#). As well, please help us plan for future meetings by completing the feedback form [here](#).

We are excited to kick off our first round of field trips in the coming weeks. Please note that we are asking all families to pay for field trips online using School Cash Online. If you have not already done so, you must set up an account ASAP. Here is the link to begin the process: <https://mcpsmd.schoolcashonline.com/> Need more assistance? Click [here](#) to view the parent guide in English, and [here](#) for Spanish. Watch a video on registering for an account [here](#), and a video on adding a child [here](#). All payments for field trips, yearbooks and activity fees will be posted on School Cash Online, so be sure you're set up today! Call the office for additional support.

Anticipation is building for next week's Back to School Picnic! Meet us at school next Thursday from 4:30-6:30pm for a night of fun! This beloved annual tradition brings families together to the BRES blacktop and field for an evening of fun. There will be multiple inflatables, face painting, food trucks and good times. Come with the whole family and bring your lawn chairs or blankets to stretch out and enjoy your dinner picnic style. For more information on this awesome night, or to volunteer to help, click [here](#).

Next Friday will mark our first half day of the 2023-2024 school year as teachers engage in interim grading and quarterly planning. On half days breakfast and lunch are served on an adjusted schedule, and there is no recess. Lunch blocks are shorter than usual on half days, so we encourage students to pack lunch to allow extra eating time if possible. Lunch block for Friday's half day are as follows:

- 1st Grade- 10:45-11:15
- Kindergarten - 11:00-11:30
- 3rd Gd - 11:20-11:50
- 2nd Grade - 11:35-12:05
- 4th Gd - 11:55-12:25
- 5th Gd. - 12:30-1:00

On half days we begin dismissal at 1:20pm, and ask that parents are ready and waiting at dismissal locations (ie., car loop, walker area, bus stop) to pick up their child promptly at 1:20pm.

Have you signed up for after school activities yet? If not, it's not too late! Check out all of the offerings on the PTA website [here](#). BRES is lucky to have a robust slate of after school offerings to choose from, and clubs kicked off this week. For first time clubbers, a few helpful tips and tricks:

1. Teachers are provided rosters to each club, but it's always helpful to send a dojo message to the teacher to remind them when your child has a club to attend.
2. At dismissal time students are dismissed directly to the club location—no need to come to school to drop them off at their club.
3. Once students are dismissed they are in the care of the club provider. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the club directors.

Thanks for helping to make this club session a successful one! If you have any club-related questions for the PTA, you can contact programs@brespta.org.

Please take some time to review this newsletter in its entirety, and let me know if you have any questions. Have a wonderful long weekend, filled with extra rest and relaxation after an awesome first week! We'll see you back to BRES soon for another week of fun and learning!

With gratitude,

Mrs. West

Kathryn_C_West@mcpsmd.org

School Calendar, Events and Updates

Click [HERE](#) to access the MCPS School Year Calendar.

Click [HERE](#) to access the BRES website

Click [HERE](#) to access the Lunch Menu

Date	Description
Sept 18	4th Grade MAP-M Assessment, 9:35am
Sept 19	No school wide events on the calendar at this time
Sept 20	No school wide events on the calendar at this time
Sept 21	PTA Back to School Picnic, 4:30-6:30pm, BRES Blacktop & Field
Sept 22	Early Release Day for Students, Students Dismissed at 1:20pm

September

Mon 25 No School for Students
Tues 26 Dine out with BRES Staff at Wintergreen Chipotle 4:00-8:00pm
Fri 29 Hispanic Heritage Month Assemblies

October

October

Mon 2-Fri 6 No Place for Hate/Bullying Prevention Campaign Week
Fri 6 ELD Family Workshop and Breakfast, 8:45-10:00am
Scholastic Book Fair Kick-Off Day
Mon 9 No School for Students, Professional Day for Staff
Tues 10-Fri 13 Scholastic Book Fair Shopping, BRES Media Center, during
Wed 11 Culture & Heritage Night, 6:00-7:30pm
Evening Book Fair Shopping, BRES Media Center, 6:00-7:30pm
Wed 18 Individual Fall Student Portraits by Classic Photography
Thur 19 Principal Coffee 8:15-9:00am, Media Center
Tues 31 Halloween/Fall Festival 2:00-3:30 pm

[Full Semester 1 Calendar Linked Here](#)

BRES Bricks Campaign

Looking for a great way to contribute to BRES while commemorating your child's experience at our awesome school?! Buy a brick and etch your school pride in stone! Check out our flyer [here](#), and then place your order online at <https://www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/bayardrustines>

Back to School Night Resource Bank

Thank you to the many families who joined us for our annual back to school night events held last week and this week! In case you missed it, you can access all of the asynchronous content shared here:

- Zoom Recording of Our Presentation [click here](#), Passcode: BRES1234!
- Slide Deck, [click here](#)
- Welcome Back Staff Video, [click here](#)
- Welcome from the PTA Video, [click here](#)

As well, teachers will be sharing their slide decks in their Friday Class Dojo update this evening so stay tuned for those! As always, if you have any questions please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher or the main office for guidance.

MP1 Town Hall Meetings & Expectations

Last week students in all grades attended our quarter one student town hall meetings. These meetings are a great opportunity to connect and develop connections with peers, but we also took time to establish a shared understanding of expectations for the year. We reviewed our 3 R Agreements—Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Ready to Learn in all areas of the building, and discussed what that looks like in action. We also discussed our No Place for Hate designation, which Mrs. Eig is reviewing during counseling lessons this month, and students signed our [No Place for Hate Pledge](#). Each grade level was also assigned a color for the year to create unity on color games spirit days. Grade-level colors are as follows:

- Kindergarten: Red
- 1st Grade: Orange
- 2nd Grade: Yellow
- 3rd Grade: Green
- 4th Grade: Blue
- 5th Grade: Purple

As a follow-up to the town hall meetings, students will be coming home with a copy of the [Student Expectations document](#) for you to review as a family and sign. This document serves as an agreement on positive behavior choices, and outlines expectations for student conduct in various locations throughout the school. Please sign this with your child and return it in your child's backpack.

Fall Testing Info

Fall testing is already underway at BRES, with 3rd grade and 5th grade set to take MAP-R today! To view the full fall testing calendar, click [here](#). Fall assessments are a great time to collect baseline data and assist with student grouping and intervention/support groups. Help your child to do their best on the test by encouraging them to take their time, eat a good breakfast on test day, and to just do their best—don't stress! You can learn more about the MAP assessments by clicking [here](#).

Apply Online Now for Free and Reduced-Price Meals Benefits

Families of students who may qualify for free or reduced-price meals can now apply for assistance for school meals. Eligibility is based on family size and gross income. Students in Maryland who qualify for reduced-price meals will receive free breakfast and lunch meals.

[Apply here.](#)

[Learn more about the program.](#)

Join the PTA!

If you have not already done so, please visit the BRES PTA website: www.brespta.org

Here, you will find opportunities to get connected and support our school and your child's class. If you haven't already done so, join the PTA today by clicking [here](#).

By joining the PTA, you can...

- Get and stay connected—find out what's going on at our school and receive a printed directory of family contact information.
- Advocate —speak up on behalf of our children and the school and have your voice heard.
- Enhance education — help fund school assemblies, field trips, and other educational opportunities.
- Make connections—support school-wide and family events.
- Partner—support the teachers and staff to enhance experiences and strengthen the school.

We hope you'll join today to support our school and your child!