# The Dolphin Digest Ocean Breeze Elementary

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www.Ocean.BrevardSchools.org

January 2022

#### Dear OBE Families,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone was able to spend quality time with their family over the break. It's hard to believe it's already mid-January, and we're half way through the school year. As we embark on the second semester, we'll honor Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, distribute report cards, and celebrate the 100th day of school. Report cards will be distributed on *Thursday, January 13th*.

As you know, in 2022 we've seen an increase in positive Covid cases amongst members of our school community. Please continue to monitor children for symptoms daily and keep them home if they are not feeling well. We will continue to implement mitigation strategies to support the health and wellness of our school community.

Shelley A. Michaud Principal



## Science & Engineering Fair

During the first semester, 4th through 6th graders worked hard on projects that modeled using the scientific method to answer a question. Their completed projects will be judged by students selected from a science research class at Satellite High School. These students will select 15 "Best of Show" projects that will compete in our area's regional fair in March. The student judges have been taught the criteria of proper judging and have judged other beachside elementary school fairs. Completed projects from students in K- 3rd grade will be displayed, but not judged.

On Wednesday, January 19th from 2:45PM - 3:45PM in the cafeteria, parents are welcome to view the projects with their child.

On Thursday, January 20th, projects will be judged during the school day. Only students will be allowed to be present during the judging.



"Where Everybody Matters and Every Moment Counts"

The 15 "Best of Show" projects will be announced Thursday, January 20th before the end of the school day. *Letters will be sent* home *inviting parents* to a brief awards ceremony the following morning Friday, January 21st at 8:15AM.

Monday, January 17, 2022, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, is a school holiday!

**Safety Reminder:** Please do not use cell phones while driving through the car loop at arrival and/or dismissal.



### **Attendance Policy Reminder**

Students who have more than 9 absences for this school year, will receive an attendance information letter with their report card showing comparative attendance data. Regular school attendance is critical to student academic success. Please be advised of the following BPS attendance guidelines:

"A student who is absent <u>more than nine (9) unexcused</u> days within a semester...will not receive a passing grade <u>f</u>or the semester.

Kindergarten students must be in attendance for a <u>minimum of 162 days</u>, as a criteria for progression to first grade. The Principal may, in consultation with the teacher, deny promotion based on this criteria.

All students must be in attendance a <u>minimum of</u> <u>four (4) hours of instructional time</u> to be considered present each day.

Absences **not** counted in the 9 days per policy include: 1. Court Dates, 2. Religious holidays, 3. Illness with medical documentation and/or, 4. Chronic and extended illness."



#### **Important Dates**

January 12	1st, 3rd, 6th Grade Height/Weight Screening
January 13	Report Cards Issued/Posted on Focus
January 13	Texas Roadhouse (Drive Through-Order Ahead)
January 17	Holiday For All, Martin Luther King Jr., Day
January 19	4th-6th Grade Science and Engineering Fair
January 24-28	Literacy Week – Blast Off into New Worlds
January 25	Texas Roadhouse Night - Dine In



Registered volunteers are able to come in to work in the classroom. Volunteer opportunities must be pre-arranged with the teacher and be planned and purposeful. For information on becoming a BPS approved volunteer, visit: https://www.brevardschools.org/Page/11104. After completing the online application, you will have to go to the BPS Educational Services Facility, in Viera, for finger-printing. Cost of \$35/Annual Renewal Fee \$8.00 is currently waived.



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## Ocean Breeze Drive-Thru Family Packs January 13, 2022 4:30pm-6:30pm

We are going digital with our Drive-Thru Family Packs! Each pack is \$40 and the foundation profits 30% from each one sold. PRE-ORDER ONLY! Drive Thru Dinner Fundraiser • 1.5 lbs BBQ pulled pork • 1.5 lbs all white chicken breast • 2-16oz. Sides • 10 rolls • Honey cinnamon butter Each family pack will easily feed a family of 5.

Please use the following link to pre-order. <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/EHjs0sMX8p">https://forms.office.com/r/EHjs0sMX8p</a>

#### 2021-2022 COVID Protocols

When students are a contact to a case **and** are *asymptomatic*, parents have the option to have the student quarantine for up to 7 days or remain in school. Students who are positive for Covid **or** are exhibiting symptoms are required to: 1) *Have a negative test and be asymptomatic*, 2) *Quarantine for 10 days, show an improvement in symptoms and have no fever for 24 hours unmedicated, or 3) Have written permission from a healthcare provider in order to return to school.* 

We ask that you continue to monitor children for signs of illness and keep students exhibiting symptoms home. Covid symptoms include: fever greater than 100.4, sore throat, chills, cough, congestion, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, and headache.

Please notify the main office should your child become ill or test positive for COVID-19, so that we can evaluate the situation and determine if further precautions or notifications are necessary.

Brevard Public Schools has published the following recommendations:

- Facemasks are strongly encouraged for adults and students while on BPS property. We realize this is a choice and not a requirement, but masks remain a valuable tool to stop the spread of COVID-19. Early research shows a N-95 and KN-95 are the best masks to stop spread of the Omicron variant. BPS has 25,000 of these masks available for staff and visitors and they will be supplied to each school and work site. In addition, we have roughly 11,000 KN-95 masks for children. These will also be made available to our schools. More masks will be ordered as we go through our supply.
- The vaccine is readily available for people five years of age and older. Being vaccinated helps avoid COVID completely or can limit the impact of symptoms if someone does test positive. We strongly suggest people get vaccinated and get the booster shot
- Traditional mitigation still works. BPS encourages everyone to maintain social distancing when possible, use regular hand washing and hand sanitizer.
- Staying home if you are feeling sick is a vital, and responsible, step in stopping the spread. BPS has an expectation that staff and students not come to work or school if they feel ill.