



# Attendance News

Monthly reminders, incentives, and resources from your school social worker, Ms. Melanie Rosler  
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## Happy Holidays, BSE Families!

Dear parents/guardians,

Every year, school absences spike in the weeks before and after winter break, as families squeeze a few more days of vacation out of the holiday season. Let's break that cycle. Make sure your child is in school every day because the best gift you can give them is a good education. I wish everyone a happy holiday season and a fun and restful break. Let's make 2024 an unforgettable year! School is back in session on 1/8, **and remember bobcats, if you miss school, you miss out!**

- Ms. Rosler

## Upcoming Events

### December 18

School Ends at 1:55 pm  
(Hurricane Make-Up Day)

### December 19

PBIS Winterfest

### December 21

Class Parties

### December 22

Bobcat of the Month

### December 23

Winter Break Begins  
(Students Return on 1/8)



## Bobcat Corner

Thank you to all the amazing bobcats who shared how they show kindness to others! Here are some of those great responses:

- "Helping others by listening to what they have to say." - Abbie, 4<sup>th</sup> grade
- "Asking if someone is okay if they look sad." - Alayna, Kindergarten
- "Helping my classmate pack up for dismissal." - Ethan, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- "Helping a friend when they're hurt." - Naja, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

## November's Best Class Attendance

Congratulations to these three classes of amazing bobcats who had the best attendance this month! Keep up the great work!



**1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Howe's kindergarten (97%)**  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rados' 5<sup>th</sup> grade (96.88%)  
 3<sup>rd</sup>: Ms. Emerson's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade (96.56%)



Way to go, bobcats!!!

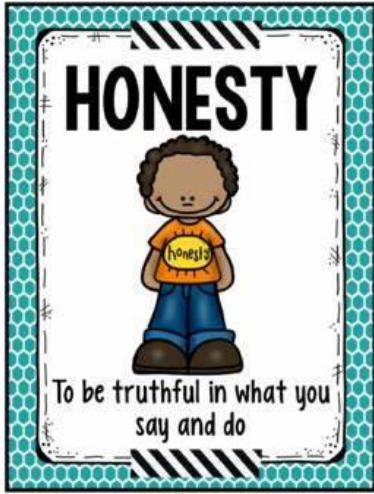


## McKinney-Vento Spotlight

According to the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, a child is eligible for services if they lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Services include immediate school enrollment and attendance at their school of origin or the neighborhood school, transportation to

and from school, free breakfast and lunch for the school year, tutoring, clothing, and toiletries, as needed. To determine eligibility, contact the school social worker.

### Character Trait of the Month



This month's character trait is **honesty**, which is being truthful in what you say and do. In other words, it means saying how something really is or how it really happened. It is never too early to teach your child about **honesty**. One of the best ways to encourage **honesty** is to lead by example. Be honest about your thoughts and feelings and help your child understand why **honesty** is important in relationships and to our wellbeing. By taking advantage of teachable moments, encouraging

open communication, and praising instances of **honesty**, we can help children learn this essential character trait!

### Clothes to Kids Spotlight

**Clothes to Kids** is a community organization that provides free wardrobes to students. To qualify, students must live and attend school in Pinellas or Hillsborough County, receive free or reduced-price lunch, or be in crisis. Families can shop in person by appointment only or pick up their orders curbside. To learn more, call the Hillsborough store at (813) 616-6430 or visit their website where you can schedule an appointment: <https://clothestokids.org/>.



### What is Truancy?

Florida law defines "habitual truant" as a student of compulsory school age who has 15 or more unexcused absences within 90 calendar days. Once this occurs, an attendance remediation plan may be created to assist the family in getting the child to school regularly. If attendance does not improve, the family may be referred to the Attendance Review Board/Truancy Court for further remediation.

### Bonus Bobcat Fun

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Try your best at unscrambling the letters below (or ask a parent to help!) to reveal the real words and write about your favorite part of school this year. Then, cut along the dotted line and turn it in to your teacher for **a chance to win a prize** at the end of the month!

1. DTRYA \_\_\_\_\_
2. EGALULRRY \_\_\_\_\_
3. LSOOHC \_\_\_\_\_
4. ONTHESY \_\_\_\_\_
5. CERBMDEE \_\_\_\_\_
6. AUNTRT \_\_\_\_\_
7. CTAOBB \_\_\_\_\_
8. TOBEETY PSGRNSI \_\_\_\_\_
9. DYIHSALO \_\_\_\_\_
10. TACAEDENNT \_\_\_\_\_

My **favorite part** of school this year has been...

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