

BOBCAT COUNTRY NEWS



GO BOBCATS!!

A Letter From the Principal

Dear Parents,

We are off to a rockin' start to the 14-15 school year at Bagdad! Teachers have spent much of their summer learning! The state of Texas has changed the math curriculum, so teachers are learning the new skills and how to best teach them. We also look forward to a wider variety of technology in each classroom to use as tools for learning. Teachers are learning how to optimize their instruction with the use of this new technology.

Our Open House and PTA BBQ was a huge success! Thanks to all parents who worked hard to serve BBQ and all the fixins' to parents and students. Please let the office know if you can help out at any of our upcoming PTA events like Fall Fest on October 3. Help is needed and appreciated! Once we get the ball rolling for the year, teachers will hold ori-

entation meetings to help you understand the classroom procedures and curriculum at each grade level. Also, on the evening of your child's orientation, we will hold a Family Math/Literacy Event in the library at 6:00. Join us for fun reading and math activities that you can do together!

Many of you have asked how you can help your child at home to ensure their success at school. Reading daily with your child is one of the best, easiest ways to help them at home. Research shows that additional at-home reading increases students' language and literacy skills, with interactive reading having the greatest impact. Interactive reading consists of parents explaining vocabulary, helping their child make connections to their world, and discussing the motivation of the char-

acters. It is great to read to your child, have your child read to you, or read together. Math facts practice is another great at-home activity. Students at Bagdad can earn their "driver's license" in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division by passing timed math facts tests at school. The development of math fluency can help students considerably as they get to higher grade levels where math problems are multi-step. Fast recall of the basic facts will help them solve these difficult problems.

We look forward to another great year of partnering with you to help our children succeed!

Sincerely,

Cathy White

Want to Be a Bagdad Insider?

Join our Site-Based Decision Making Committee! The SBDMC meets four times a year to review the academic goals and plans of the Leadership Team at Bagdad. Meetings will be held throughout the year after school.

If you would like to participate, you will need to attend the first meeting on September 4 at 3:10 at Bagdad. Elections will be held following that meeting if necessary.

Join and learn about Bagdad's academic goals and action plans!

Become a Bagdad PTA member today! Just send \$8.00 per member to the front office or to your child's teacher and label it with your name, your child's name and PTA. We appreciate your commitment to your child's education!

Grade Level	Orientation Dates
Kinder	Sept. 11 5:00
First Grade	Sept. 11 6:30
Second Grade	Sept. 9 5:00
Third Grade	Sept. 9 6:30
Fourth Grade	Sept. 16 5:00
Fifth Grade	Sept. 16 6:30

>Welcome new Bobcat Faculty and Staff:
 Lisa Tatum, counselor; Robin Smith, 1st grade; Deandra Wright-Hall, 4th grade; Karla Laurence, 4th grade; Lisa Tyson, 3rd grade; Sharee DeFriesse, 3rd grade; Suzette Davison, 2nd grade; Lis Shanks and Gaylann Speegle, SRP; Dawn Minton, interventionist; Monica Burton and Christopher Lynch, special education;



Did you know?

Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch automatically qualify for free or reduced breakfast! Breakfast is served daily starting at 7:20. Be sure your child has plenty of time to eat before heading to class by 7:45.



BOBCAT COUNTRY NEWS

SEPTEMBER

“Our vision for Bagdad is the creation of a collaborative community with a positive, loving environment that empowers our students to rise to high standards, achieve exemplary status, become happy, productive citizens and life-long learners.”

Lunch Times:

ELE– 12:00
Pre-K– 12:15
K– 11:00
1st-11:35
2nd-12:10
3rd-11:20
4th-11:55

Grandparents’ Lunch

We invite all grandparents to join their grandchild(ren) for lunch on September 5 during regular lunch times (see box above). We will be serving a special lunch of chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy! (The adult lunch price is \$3.00.) Come join us!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 SBDM Committee Meeting 3:10, room 307	5 Grandparents’ Lunch– during lunch times	6
7	8	9 Orientations 2nd 5:00 Math/Lit Activities 6:00 3rd grade 6:30	10	11 Orientations Kinder 5:00 Math/Lit Activities 6:00 1st grade 6:30	12	13
14	15	16 Orientations 4th grade 5:00 Math/Lit Activities 6:00 5th grade 6:30	17 Early release 12:00 pm	18 PTA Meeting (“Pancakes & Pajamas”) 6:00 pm	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	Oct 1	Oct 2	Oct 3 Fall Fest 6:00-8:00 pm	Oct 4

Bagdad 6th Annual Fall Fest – October 3rd

The Fall Fest is a great time for family fun, but we also need parents to help run booths, prepare ahead of time, clean up after and serve as WATCH DOGS during this event. We have a wonderful PTA board each year that runs this event, but without additional parent

help we will have to scale things back. Please email Angie Schmisser, Bagdad Volunteer Coordinator, at amschmisser@gmail.com if you can help in any way. We need you!



Transportation Reminders

Parents, once again we will have two morning drop off locations – at the front of the building and on the north side of the building (off Waterfall Drive). You may drop off children as early as 7:10 am at the front of the building. We have teachers on duty that will watch them and get them to the cafeteria at 7:20 when we

begin serving breakfast. Teachers will be on duty at the north side of the building at 7:25. Our tardy bell rings at 7:45, so be sure to drop them off in time to make it to class before the bell rings. Also, be sure to allow at least 20 minutes if your child needs to eat breakfast.

We also remind you that if you need to make a change to your child’s after school transportation, please send a note or call the office before 2:00 at 512-570-5900.

