

From the Head of School

No School on Friday, Sept. 16th; Birthday Book Chapel on Wed., Sept. 21st

What an exciting week! We started our first session of after-school enrichment clubs and paid activities. We have published the dates quite a bit because we changed our structure to only offer four six week blocks. Hopefully your child didn't miss out on signing up for our Session #1, but if they did, Session #2 will begin October 31st! Mark your calendars!

We celebrated our first CE/Spirit Day Chapel on Wednesday, and really enjoyed the cheerleaders and the 5th Grade presentation. It was great to see so many parents there!

REMEMBER: THERE IS NO SCHOOL TOMORROW, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th. Our faculty and staff will be participating in our annual retreat this year continuing our training with the iPads. It should be great and I know we will come out of the retreat with great ideas for students in all grade levels.

Flu shots will be available for \$25 here at school in the Parish Hall from 7:30-8:15am on Tuesday, September 20th. Plan to stick around after you get *stuck* for the PSO General Meeting in the Common Room, starting at 8:05am. The meetings are always full of great information, and this time has a guest speaker, Dr. Edward Taylor, a local child psychologist. His topic will be "Can Your Children Play Their Way to the Ivy League?" Hope to see you there!

Next Wednesday, September 21st will be a big Birthday Book Chapel celebrating July, August, and September birthdays. Each birthday celebrant will

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No School on Friday, September 16th

Please remember that there will be no school tomorrow, Sept. 16th. Faculty and staff will enjoy their annual retreat by being trained in the new iPads that will soon be enjoyed by students at BES. Please enjoy the extra long weekend with your families.

Student Directories Going Home Today

Parents, you will receive the 2011-2012 Student Directory in your child's backpack today. If you have more than one child, a directory will be placed in your oldest child's backpack. If there are any changes that need to be made, please contact Lisa Allen or Michelle Leemis in the Development Office so that we can issue a correction in the newsletter. We also thank Linda White for helping us assemble these directories.

Dr. Taylor, Child Psychologist, to Speak at First PSO Meeting

The Parent Support Organization (PSO) of Beaches Episcopal School is proud to announce that on Tuesday, September 20th, their first meeting will take place in the Common Room of Stormes Hall at 8:05 a.m. The guest speaker for this special meeting will be **Dr. Edward Taylor**, a local child psychologist. He will speak on the topic, "Can Your Children Play Their Way to the Ivy League?" His advice on children and education is always insightful, and we hope that many of our parents will choose to attend this meaningful event.

Remember, flu and pneumonia shots will be offered that same morning to adults from 7:30-8:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall, so learn some helpful information about your children and get those winter vaccinations taken care of.



IT'S FLU SEASON!

Fight back by getting a flu shot!

Date: Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2011

Time: 7:30-8:15

Cost: \$25 for flu shot

\$50 for pneumonia shot

(cash only)

Location: Parish Hall

Faculty, staff and BES parents welcome.

No students, please.

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be able to check out a specially selected book first, and then return it to our library for everyone else to enjoy.

Our first potluck dinner of the year is a week from today, and it is the 6th Grade! We will have admissions representatives from Bolles, Episcopal, and Providence to help answer questions our 6th Grade parents might have. I have prepared a *Life After BES* guide for middle school selection, and the kids of course will have something special to perform. I am always amazed how great attendance is, and the food is always spectacular.

Finally, our first Denim Day of the year will be coming up on Friday, September 30th. All proceeds will go to *Dreams Come True*, a local organization that helps dreams come true for children with life-threatening illnesses. Mark your calendars!

Thanks to all of you who make BES such a special place.

Take care,
Bill Stewart
Assistant Head of School

"We shall never know all the good that a simple smile can do." Mother Teresa

ChurchChat

News from St. Paul's by-the-Sea
Episcopal Church

MARK SEPTEMBER 18 ON YOUR CALENDAR!

That's the day the SPBTS Foundation Board & Charlie Grinstead will be serving up Charlie's delicious take-out BBQ Lunch! The cost of the lunch is \$7.50, and with each lunch purchased you will earn a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate to Dwight's Bistro on Penman Road.



Proceeds will go towards the
BES Scholarship Fund for SPBTS children.

To place your order: fill out this form, fold it and your check (or cash) together and place them in the offering plate or turn it into the parish office. Checks should be made payable to SPBTS and indicate BBQ. Orders must be received by Tuesday, September 13.

Name _____

Number of barbecue lunches _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Thank you for supporting the
BES Scholarship Fund
for St. Paul's by-the-Sea kids!

PSO CORNER

DR. EDWARD TAYLOR will be our guest speaker on Tuesday, September 20th: As mentioned on page 1 of this newsletter, the PSO is excited to have Dr. Edward Taylor, a local child psychologist, join us for the first PSO meeting of the year on Tuesday, Sept. 20 at 8:05 a.m. in the Common Room. Dr. Taylor will speak on the topic of "*Can Your Children Play Their Way to the Ivy League?*" We hope all of you will join us for this insightful learning and meaningful discussion.

Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day: Ann Campbell-Hays and Amy Alex are excited to Chair *Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day*. The special day, for both the children and visitors, will take place on Monday, October 10th. If you are interested in making a difference and getting involved, they will be having their first meeting on Tuesday, September 20th at 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Come join the fun! If you can't make the meeting, but would like to be a part of this day, please contact either Ann Campbell-Hays at annchays@gmail.com or Amy Alex at aalex_ca@yahoo.com.

LED Board

"Buy Three Get One Free" offer on the LED message board ends September 30! If you have not heard, the children love seeing their name in lights during lunch time! Your special message can run any week of the school year and will be displayed for the whole week. The LED form must be turned in no later than the Tuesday before the week you want your message run. Let your children send messages to their friends or siblings too! Please turn in your form today!

Fall Fundraiser Information/Update

Some people have inquired about gift wrap. Yes, you and anyone else can order **Sally Foster** gift wrap online and the school, along with the student, will get credit. The really nice part is that the order will be shipped directly to the person ordering. Go to www.sellersselection.entertainment.com to register your child and get a Student #. Then go to www.Sallyfoster.com and you may begin shopping! It will prompt you for the student's # and group #308708. If any family members or friends want to order, just give them the group # and student #. It is that easy!

The fundraiser **cookie dough** can't be ordered online. The delicious cookie dough is shipped directly to the school for pick-up. You can order the Entertainment Book online with the same group number and student number as the gift wrap. They will get the book appropriate for their area delivered right to their door. Thank you for your part in making this fundraiser a success! We can't wait to write a big check to the Capital Campaign! **See you Tuesday morning!**

N OBODY'S PERFECT

What a lot of mistakes we humans make in the course of a lifetime—shoot, in the course of a day. We make mistakes in our relationships with the people around us, we make mistakes in our work at home and beyond, and we make mistakes in our thinking, our behavior, and our reactions.

Show me someone who claims not to make mistakes, and I'll show you a sadly mistaken individual.

So why are we surprised and frustrated when our children turn out to make so many mistakes when they are young, and as they grow? After all, they have even less experience in this complicated world that they are trying so hard to figure out.

In many cases, young children do not have the ability to foresee the results of their actions. Let me give you an example. When your toddler grabs her glass of milk with a casual grip, predictably (to us) it spills.

Such a mistake offers her some fundamental learning. We just don't get it right until first we get it wrong first. The next time she will likely be more careful about her grasp.

Spilt milk is a mistake that we usually find fairly easy to accept—at least for the first half dozen times. But other behavior that is also a mistake is sometimes not so readily forgiven.

When your youngster helps himself to your best scarf in order to complete his Superhero costume, he is focused on his needs, not on the basic

premise of respect for others and their property rights.

Your horrified response certainly gives him that lesson quickly, but the perspective should be that it was a mistake, not a major crime.

And what about the school-aged child who experiments with slipping into her pockets some coveted item from the store? Rather than assuming that this portends a life of crime, let's take it for what it is—a mistake in the growing up process.

A leading early childhood expert reminds us that our basic approach to children's mistaken behavior should be "What can I be teaching here?" rather than "How can I punish him so that this doesn't happen again?" Mistakes are about learning how to get it right, not about wallowing in error.

And, by the way, this same philosophy should apply to parents and grandparents. Along the way, we all will make errors in judgment and actions, mistakes in our parenting roles. Reflection will help us find better paths for the next time.

Linda Budd, in her book, *The Journey of Parenting*, says that both children and adults get four mistakes a day, and until these are used up, we shouldn't have to feel bad! The point is to recognize that mistakes give us fundamental opportunities to learn, as we take responsibilities for the errors, and make amends for them as well. Let's recognize mistakes as part of our children's lives, and our own.

Nobody's perfect.

