



# Behrman Buzz

Volume 1, Issue 4

April 2006

## Calendar of Events

**Wednesday, April 12**

Father/Son Brunch, 8:30

School Cafeteria

Early Dismissal, 12:45

**Thurs., Apr. 13-Tue., Apr. 18**

Spring Break, **NO SCHOOL**

**Wednesday, April 26**

Early Dismissal, 11:45

**Wednesday, May 3**

Early Dismissal 12:45

**Wednesday, May 17**

Early dismissal, 11:45

**Friday, June 2**

Final Day for Students

## Behrman Charter School Information

715 Opelousas Street

New Orleans, LA 70114

504.324.7030

504.309.8174 Facsimile

Mrs. Rene Lewis-Carter

Principal

Mr. Novel Estrella

Ass't. Principal

Ms. Gwen Sonnier

Secretary

Mr. Raymond Bailey

Counselor

Mr. Ken Mitchell

Social Worker

Mrs. Rosalind Brown, R.N.

Nurse

## Hair Today Gone Tomorrow!

Mr. Estrella was visiting Ms. Kaschalk's Talented in the Arts class and told them a tale about how he lost his hair while driving a convertible and it never returned. He challenged the students in the art class to draw a picture of him evacuating New Orleans in the Hurricane and losing his hair. If they accepted the challenge he would wear a wig in front of the whole school. They accepted and their art work can be seen in hall 2 near Mrs. Martin's class. The artists' names are: **Bobby Johnson, Tevin Clark, Demontrius Tolliver, Jeremy Videau, Myron Parker, Leslie Cannan, Delvonte Smith and Calvin Dyer.** Mr. Estrella is a great sport!



## Mayor's Visit

### 4th Grade Visit

By Clayshod Johnson

I was so happy when

**Mayor Ray Nagin**

came to Mrs. Videau's classroom because I had never seen him in person. He spoke to us about the changes in the city and then asked us if we had any questions. The students who had evacuated to the Super Dome asked if there would be different shelters for people to use because they saw so many bad things happening at the dome. Mr. Nagin said that the city is working on new shelters now. When asked how does one become mayor, Mr. Nagin replied that a person had to be 18 years old to be mayor of New Orleans. The class asked him about his family and learned that he had a wife and three children. One student asked how old he was. Mr. Nagin told us the year he was born and we figured out that he is 49 years old.

### 8th Grade Visit

by Rene Taylor, Tayshaun Vaughn and Brittany Herrera

The eighth grade looked forward to the visit by **Mayor Ray Nagin** to Behrman Charter School. They thought it would be a great time to ask him all of their questions. Most were excited, nervous and interested in what he might say. He walked in the door of Mrs. Gray's class and said, "Hello, I'm Mayor Ray Nagin and I've come to speak to you." He asked the class about their living conditions and wanted to know who was still living in their original homes. He spoke of the re-building of New Orleans and the re-opening of schools. He said that he hoped that all New Orleanians would be able to return home and take part in the rebuilding of the city. He said that the city will be better than before. Then he was asked a lot of questions by civic-minded 8<sup>th</sup> graders. They wanted to know, among other things, how he felt his re-election was going; when more theme parks were going to open; and what did he mean by "chocolate city." A picture was taken with the mayor and all of the students signed a card thanking him for coming.

## LEAP AND ILEAP

Everyone got a good night's sleep Sunday night, ate a good breakfast and were at school bright and early on Monday, March 20 ready to begin a week of LEAP and ILEAP testing. With sharp minds and sharp pencils, the students took a series of tests that were given each day during that week. Mrs. Goins and Mrs. Jones had done a fabulous job preparing teachers for administering the test so everything went smoothly. Test results will be sent to the schools at the end of May.



## Springtime Story time

One Pre-K or Kindergarten class walks to the **Hubbell branch of the New Orleans Public Library** every Monday morning for Story Hour. The library is located at 725 Pelican. They take a nice stroll through our neighborhood, enjoying the spring weather, listen to several stories and then return to school in time for lunch. It is a very nice way to begin the week.

## Johnny Applesseed

By Tyrone Rivers, room 203



Mrs. Mason's Second Grade reading group put on a play called *Johnny Applesseed*. Mrs. Lewis' reading group watched the play. Mrs. Mason put up apple trees to make our classroom look like an apple orchard. The children in the reading group were the characters in the story. We love to act out stories and we had a lot of fun.

## WELL PREPARED

By Antanica Dawns

The 4<sup>th</sup> graders reviewed a lot of things to prepare for the LEAP test. In Math we did problem solving, using a lot of manipulatives. In Language Arts we wrote essays and practiced skills in the LEAP Coach workbook. We studied plants in Science and landforms in Social Studies. We tried so hard. Our teachers said that we were ready for the LEAP, so we are confident that we did well.



## Helping Hand

**Sheriff Marlon Gusman** came to the aid of the Behrman School when he sent men and trucks to remove the old shelving in the library. The sheriff's department is also scheduled to paint the library and repair the termite damaged areas. The library will then be ready for the new shelving scheduled to be installed in April. The Sheriff's department is also going to repair and paint several classrooms.

## Counseling Dept.

Presently, **Mr. Bailey**, **Mr. Mitchell** and **Mr. Estrella** are developing a student mentoring program. The mission of this program is to foster a positive educational experience for all participants. The objective of this pilot program is to inspire, motivate, and support students through a trusting, caring relationship with a qualified team. The counseling department is in the process of planning a Career Day program for the month of May. The Counseling Department would also like to highlight **Disente Jones**, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader for the most improved behavior of the month of February.

## Book Club

Bibliophiles should know that Behrman Charter School has a book club that meets in the library at lunch time to read and enjoy good books. The purpose of the club is to foster recreational reading among the students. No tests, no reports, just great reading. Eighth graders **Brianna Sanders** and **Chrischelle Lombard**, and Seventh Graders **Alicia Martinez** and **Anethia Levy** are enjoying *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton. They plan on reading many more good books just for the pleasure of reading. Other 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> students are invited to join the book club. Just ask **Mrs. Jeansonne** in the library for more information.

## Green Thumbs

By Milan Johnson, room 203

In science, **Mrs. Mason's** class has been learning all about plants and now we help them grow. Friday we went to the community garden around the corner from our school. We learned about the garden rules and how to take care of plants. We dug in the soil and everyone was able to hold an earthworm. Some students picked vegetables, such as greens, lettuce and turnips. Five students planted cucumber seeds and everyone pulled up weeds. We all ate a broccoli flower and some peas. We are going back every Friday so we can watch the plants grow. We had a lot of fun and can't wait to go back.



## A Truckload of Books

An 18 wheeler pulled up to Behrman Charter and had a Mardi Gras surprise for the school. **Eight thousand books!** That's right 8,000. The truck came from the **Fleming-Neon Elementary School** in Neon, Kentucky. These good people, led by **Michael Webb**, donated, collected and packed 8000 books, along with cases of water and apple juice. They loaded them into the big truck and volunteers drove it to New Orleans. Teachers and students were allowed to take any books they wanted. Of course the library took quite a few, too. The caring and generosity of people from all over the country is quite amazing. Everyone is very grateful at Behrman Charter School.