

# Cardinal Chronicles!

Volume 8 Issue 2

"The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today." -H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

October 2022

## **BRE is a PBIS School**



PBIS stands for Positive Behavior Intervention Support. It is a program developed to address negative behavior and create a positive atmosphere where student's positive behavior is rewarded.

Our school uses the Cardinal Coins whole class reward program to encourage positive behavior in Special Area classes as well as the in the cafeteria and on the bus. Each class will have the opportunity to receive a Cardinal Coin every day the class displays appropriate behavior during lunch and in their Special Area classes. Once each class receives 40 coins, the classroom receives a class reward.

**Keep SOARing Cardinals with your  
great behavior!**

## **STEAM Lab**

For the past several years, BRE has been fortunate to have a paraprofessional offer STEAM Lab activities for our students. The lab was not required by the district but something that the administration wanted to provide for the students. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the paraprofessional is no longer working at our school and we have not been able to find a replacement.

STEAM lessons are an important part of our regular classroom lessons/activities. Our school has four STEAM Innovate teachers who are trained by the district and they will be modeling lessons and providing ideas for our teachers at Russell. The materials that were available to our students in the STEAM lab are now available to teachers for classroom checkout. Parents may contact the administration for questions.



## **Dates to Remember**

### **October**

<b>Oct. 6th</b>	End of 1st 9weeks
<b>Oct 7th-</b>	Planning Day for Teacher <b>NO SCHOOL for STUDENTS</b>
<b>Oct. 3-17th-</b>	Cookie Dough Fundraiser
<b>Oct. 11 &amp; 12</b>	Picture Day
<b>Oct. 18th</b>	Literacy Night- More info to come
<b>Oct. 19th</b>	Unity Day- wear orange for Anti- Bullying
<b>Oct. 21st-</b>	Report cards available in FOCUS Parent Portal
<b>Oct 24-28th</b>	Red Ribbon Week

### **Meal Applications = Funding for BRE**

All students received free meals during the 2021-2022 school year due to a grant received by Sodexo. This year our district did not receive the grant and our students are expected to pay for breakfast and lunch. **At this time, there is a \$1,367.49 balance on charged meals.** If your child has charged meals, it is the expectation for the meals to be paid for. Letters are being sent home, weekly. If your child has charged meals and you have a balance due, you are allowed to set up a pay plan to assist with paying off your child's charges.

Here is where we can help you and you can help us. When a meal application is filled out and submitted, if the application is approved, our school receives funding based on the number of free/reduced meal applications completed each year. The funding is used to help purchase supplemental materials and other items to support our students' needs. You can help our school receive this funding by going to the Santa Rosa County Schools website: [www.santarosa.k12.fl.us](http://www.santarosa.k12.fl.us) click on Free/Reduced application. Follow the steps and within 48 hours your application will be processed.

## **Breakfast in the Cardinal Café**

Students who arrive to school by car and want to eat breakfast in the cafeteria, need to arrive by **8:05**, excluding our PreK students. Students who are car riders who arrive later than 8:05 have a difficult time getting to class before the tardy bell, 8:20. Every minute in the classroom makes a difference!

## **Checking Grades and Report Cards**

This year, student grades are available in the **FOCUS Parent Portal**. Paper copies are available for parents with no digital access. A student with an IEP will receive a paper copy of their progress report.

**Parent Portal Information-** To access the parent portal you will need the following:

- \* A digital device
- \* Your Username
- \* Your Password
- \* Your child's 10-digit student ID#
- \* The parent portal pin number

**The link to the Parent/Student Portal:**  
<http://santarosa.focusschoolsoftware.com/>

## **Highly Qualified Teachers**

Bennett C. Russell is committed to providing information to you regarding your child's teacher and paraprofessional qualifications in a timely manner upon request. We are a school that strives for excellence and takes great pride in the following:

- All classroom teachers meet the state licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which they provide instruction.
- Information regarding your child's teacher or paraprofessional qualifications may be found in The School Public Accountability Report (SPAR) located on the BRE website or in the **"Parents' Right to Know"** notebook in the Parent Resource Center.

Please be assured that Bennett C. Russell Elementary is dedicated to providing the students of our county with a quality education.