



Shepherd Elementary School

# THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

March 17, 2014



► **Tues., Mar. 18:**

- Embassy Tunisia, cultural celebration, 2 p.m., school auditorium

► **Thurs., Mar. 20:**

- Mathletes Club, 6 p.m., cafeteria

► **Sat., Mar. 22:**

- Book Fair, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW
- Family Dinner Day, 11:30 a.m.- 5 p.m., Comet Ping Pong, 5037 Connecticut Ave. NW

► **Wed., Mar. 26:**

- Mystery Curriculum Night, 6 p.m., auditorium

► **Mon.—Thurs., Mar. 31—Apr. 3 and Apr. 7—10:**

- DCCAS testing

(Go to <http://www.shepherd-elementary.org/ses-calendar/> for a month-by-month listing of dates and events)

## From the PTA President

Hi Everyone,

Thank you to everyone that helped plan The Magic of Morocco, Shepherd's Gala fundraiser - the biggest of the year. Special thanks go to this year's Gala coordinators Katherine Woods and Susan Laudadio, and the rest of the team. It takes time, creativity and energy to plan such a nice event and we appreciate everyone's participation and involvement.

We look forward to keeping that energy going with our upcoming Book Fair at Politics and

(see PTA President , page 2)

## A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings Shepherd Families,

### Music

Mrs. Bryant, our music teacher, resigned from her position effective March 7 for medical reasons. This is an unfortunate event for Shepherd; however, I am hopeful we will be able to secure a music teacher soon. In the interim, a long-term substitute with the help of several staff members will provide music instruction to our students.



### Calling All Sleuths (Curriculum Night Has Been Rescheduled)

There Is a Mystery to Be Solved at Shepherd and your help is needed. Please join us on Wednesday, March 26, at 6 p.m. at our annual Curriculum Night. All grades are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

### Student Behavior

Please take time to remind your student of our behavior expectations. At Shepherd we expect for our students to be respectful, responsible and safe at all times. We need for our students to seek the help of an adult if they have a problem, stay away from conflict, make good choices and choose their friends wisely.

### Lost and Found/Spring Cleaning

Please take time between now and Friday, March 21, to search the Lost and Found area for any items that may belong to your student. All unclaimed items will be donated at the end of the week.

(see Miles, page 2)

PTA President \_\_\_\_\_ cont'd from page 1

Miles \_\_\_\_\_ cont'd from page 1

Prose on March 22. Please stop by and purchase a book for your household, your child's classroom, or the school library. Remember to say you're with Shepherd!

Also, please note that in lieu of our PTA meeting, Shepherd will host Curriculum Night and instead of it being held this Wednesday, it will be held next Wednesday, on March 26. However, even though it is Curriculum Night, a little bit of PTA business has to be done - we need to elect a Nominating Committee to begin the process of identifying PTA and LSAT leadership positions for next year. Can you believe it's that time of year already?

We look forward to seeing you at Shepherd and all of our upcoming activities.

All the best,

**Sherilyn Pruitt**, PTA President

[PTAPresident@shepherd-elementary.org](mailto:PTAPresident@shepherd-elementary.org)

### It Is Time to Reenroll

It is almost time to reenroll your student for the 2014-15 school year. Please be on the lookout for a white envelope coming soon to your mailbox. Upon receipt, please complete the packet (health forms may be submitted over the summer) and return it to the school your child will be attending during the 2014-2015 school year. Early registration helps us with planning and preparation for the upcoming school year.

Have a great week!

Warmest regards,

*Jamie Miles*

Principal

### Book Fair is Saturday!

The second Shepherd Book Fair at Politics and Prose is this Saturday, March 22, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Parents will be on hand to help guide you through the process. Politics



and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW, is one of the treasures of D.C.: an independent bookstore that thrives by serving its community.

Teacher wish lists will be at the ready, and you can always look for titles for your child – and yourself. **MAKE SURE** you mention Shepherd at to the checkout clerk. We get 20 percent back from every dollar we spend! Just like at Comet Ping Pong up the block the very same day! (See separate story.)

If you can help out at Politics and Prose either in the morning or the afternoon at the book fair, get in touch with our Book Fair coordinator, Bianca Bostic, at [daisybee28@gmail.com](mailto:daisybee28@gmail.com).

### School Calendar Changes

Here are some school calendar changes for March and June dictated by the many snow days declared this year by D.C. Public Schools.



Friday, March 28 is no longer a half-day. It is now a FULL day!

Parent-teacher conferences originally scheduled for June 2 have been canceled. It will now be a regular day of school for students. Thursday, June 19, will no longer be the last day of school. Instead, it will be a full day of school.

Friday, June 20, is now slated to be the last day of school, with dismissal at 12:15 p.m.

### It's Yearbook Time!

Shepherd Elementary School's Yearbook is coming! Preorder and customize your yearbook

Price: \$15

Order Deadline:

Wednesday, April 23

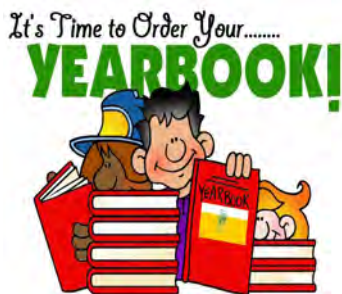
Go to: [www.treering.com/validate](http://www.treering.com/validate)

Enter our school's passcode:

1013930010262632

You can customize two pages in your yearbook with your own photos by using your computer, Flickr and Facebook.

Please note: Yearbooks will only be available to be purchased online. If you need assistance, see Ms. Tiffany in the library.



### Family Dinner Day at Comet Ping Pong

In conjunction with our Politics and Prose book fair, we love going up the block to Comet Ping Pong for brunch, lunch or dinner. Eat before shopping, or eat after shopping; the choice is yours. On the menu are all sorts of inventive toppings for pizzas, plus a number of choice salads and lots of craft beers from the the city, the region and the Midwest. While you wait for your food, or after you've eaten, you can go to the back of the restaurant and play a little ping pong. Better yet, the PTA gets 20 percent back from what you spend when you're with your family at Comet Ping Pong. And that goes for both the dine-in and carry-out options.

Just like the book fair, the Family Dinner Day is Saturday, March 22. Hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. To phone in an order, call 202-364-0404.



### Traffic Safety Tip

With warmer weather (really!) and Daylight Savings Time, our children's activity patterns are already showing signs of change. Drivers' habits, though, may not change.

Think about all the parents – yourself, maybe – swerving past a double-parked car on 14<sup>th</sup> Street!

For the drivers: Please practice patience.

If you're dropping off: Have your children exit the car on the CURB side, no matter what street you're on. Also, if you're stuck somewhere in a place where you cannot simply leave even after your child has exited, use your four-way flashers to let those behind you know you won't or can't be moving anytime soon. Safety first!



### Toiletries Drive Taking Place Now!

In honor of Women's History Month, let's take a moment to donate to those in need. We are requesting donations such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, Q-tips, shampoo, and conditioner for Shepherd's annual toiletries drive. Travel size items are welcome. Please bring all items to Room 120, Ms. McIntyre's class.



Thank you for your support!



## Star Achievers News

Hello Shepherd Star Achievers!

We have our schedule for March and April 2014 and it has been emailed to all families. Mr. Burgess is teaching health/personal fitness and Ms. Couilbaly has added an arts class. If you did not receive an emailed copy please email Claire Riley at [sesstarachievers@gail.com](mailto:sesstarachievers@gail.com) and one will be sent to you.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Career Day is Tuesday, March 25, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., with parents sharing with us what they do all day. If you are interested in signing up please email [sesstarachievers@gmail.com](mailto:sesstarachievers@gmail.com)!

We are having a talent show in late March - please watch your child's backpack for a flyer with details.

We are also getting ready for gardening season. In late March we will plant vegetable seeds under grow lights and transplant them outside when the weather warms up.

We will have a Dance Yoga and Martial Arts exhibition at the end of May, as well as special events on Fridays.

The Chess Challenge class for third grade is back in business and the students will be participating in a few more chess tournaments. Fourth- and fifth-graders are also sharpening their chess skills and will showcase their talents at the end of May.

In June we will expand our outside activities and have our end-of-the year theme parties with each class.

Can't wait for spring!

--Ms. Claire Riley, program director

## Foreign Language Breakfast Friday

Come and learn about all the online resources that are available for foreign language acquisition!



Madame Gadie and Senora Mulligan would like to host an informative session on recommended language websites to help develop student language skills.

This session will be held in the new "French Room" that's part of the new "ground floor" just beyond the end of where the basement used to end. The session will be held next Friday, March 21, from 8:05 to 8:35 a.m. Light breakfast snacks will be provided.

## Box Tops News

Congratulations to our fourth graders in Ms. Arrington's class for collecting over 400 box tops!

This is the new record for Box Tops collected amongst the grade levels. FANTASTIC!!! Thank you to the classes and families that continue to support our Box Tops fundraising. As a school, we've collected over \$450 worth of Box Tops. If you decide to drop them off in the front office consider recording your child's name and teacher on the collection sheet or bag of Box Tops so that the class gets credit for donation.

We only have three months left in this school year and we are officially over the halfway mark in meeting our goal of \$820. Don't forget to ask your friends and family to save their box tops so that your class can earn the largest number next month.

Keep up the great work, Shepherd!

--Kurshanna Johnson, Box Tops coordinator





March is Women's History Month. It is an opportunity to recognize the victories, the struggles, and the stories of many powerful women who have contributed to making our lives easier. The theme for this year is courage, character and commitment.

In support of Women's History Month, we are having a toiletries drive. Please help us by sending in items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, combs, hair brushes, soap, toilet paper, shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, etc. We plan to donate the items to a women's shelter here in D.C.

#### Women's History Trivia

This month's trivia focuses on famous women who have demonstrated courage, character and commitment. The first class to submit all the correct answers to Mrs. Hart by Friday, March 21, will win an ice cream party. Please read all the questions carefully and select one answer from the choices given. Answers can be submitted in the basket located in the main office.

1. Who is known for her work to ban land mines? James Addams, Helen Keller, Eleanor Roosevelt, or Princess Diana
2. Which pioneer nurse is known as the founder of modern nursing? Mary Eliza Mahoney, Mary Anne Ball Bickerdye, Mary Jane Safford, or Florence Nightingale
3. Who dedicated her life to the study of chimpanzees? Jane Goodall, Isadora Duncan, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, or Margaret Mead
4. Who was the slave that became a conductor on the Underground Railroad? Wilma Rudolph, Elizabeth Johnson Harris, Harriett Tubman, or Hannah Valentine
5. Who was the first modern woman to graduate from medical school? Clara Barton, Emily Blackwell, Elizabeth Blackwell, or Mary Ewing Outerbridge
6. Who was the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean and fly solo over the Pacific Ocean? Clara Burton, Amelia Earhart, Emily Dickinson, or Amy Johnson

#### IB Program of Inquiry

All classes are well into the fourth Unit of Inquiry, which began the week of Feb. 17 and will end on March 28.

The Theme for each grade level is as follows:

### **A Thank-You From Jazz Night's Founder**

The 25th annual Shepherd Jazz Night, with the largest turnout ever, was great again!

Not surprisingly, the 25th Annual Shepherd Jazz Night was greatly attended by many students, parents, school staff members and community supporters! This historic event always



aims to impart knowledge about and to promote America's classical music form, which is also referred to as jazz. It features local youth players as well as more experienced professional musicians. The Calvin Coolidge Senior High School Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Mr. Benjamin Sands, performed and was awarded a very fitting plaque by the Shepherd PTA for their years of support and partnership. In accepting the award, Mr. Sands reminded the audience of the importance of these types of supportive experiences for his young students and those of Shepherd Elementary as they progress in pursuit of their arts.

An outstanding musician and longtime musical and cultural educator, Mr. Robert Northern aka Brother Ah, provided words of wisdom and some historical perspective to the audience, citing Duke Ellington and relating some of his own experiences. He also stressed respect for the artists in addressing the audience development aspect of the evening. He was also awarded with a fitting certificate for his many years of contribution to the local, national and international communities. He also has his own radio program on WPFW (89.3 FM) on Mondays from 7 to 10 p.m.

The pros were, well, the pros. The Jackie Hairston Trio, composed of Jackie Hairston on keyboards, Tommy Crosby on guitar, and Percy Smith on drums, literally "rocked the house" with many beautiful jazz standards and memorable rhythm and blues selections, including those of George Benson and even James Brown. The youngsters had an opportunity to participate with the band and to form a New Orleans-style Second Line Parade, wearing masks and other wearables that they created at the event. They seemingly had a lot of fun with these activities. Many thanks and kudos go out to all of the partners, too numerous to name completely, that worked to produce another wonderful evening of great music and fellowship.

IB PYP CORNER \_\_\_\_\_ *cont'd from page 5*Jazz Night \_\_\_\_\_ *cont'd from page 5*

Pre-Kindergarten: How We Express Ourselves – Our Environment

Kindergarten: Where We Are in Place and Time – Tales From the Past

First Grade: How the World Works – Wings of Change

Second Grade: How We Express Ourselves – Fairytales

Third Grade: Sharing the Planet – The Living World

Fourth Grade: Where We Are in Place and Time – Explorations

Fifth Grade: Sharing the Planet – War and Peace

Parents, if you are able to support your child's Unit by coming it to tell a story, doing an experiment, making something with the class, bringing in something to show, share and discuss, please do. Contact your child's teacher to offer your help or resources.

#### Cultural Celebration

On Tuesday, March 18, as part of the Francophonie Festival which takes place in March, our school has invited the Embassy of Tunisia to host an event. The celebration includes Tunisian live music, a workshop with Tunisian instruments, and some delicious Tunisian food. The event will begin at 2 p.m. in the auditorium and everyone is welcome to attend.

#### Math-A-Thon

The St. Jude's Math-A-Thon kicked off last week on March 12, and will run until April 2, 2014. Parents, please sign the permission form enabling your child to participate; encourage them to secure sponsors, and to complete their Math workbook. Our goal this year is to raise \$4,000 for the St. Jude Hospital in aid of those children battling cancer and other catastrophic childhood diseases. All participants collecting donations will receive a certificate of appreciation regardless of how much money they raise. Participants have the opportunity to earn prizes starting at the \$35 level with the opportunity to earn more prizes as they raise more money.

Good luck everyone and let's make this year more successful than last.

Have a warm week!

--Ms. Sandra Hart, IB coordinator

However, we should particularly recognize the years of support from the many principals and staff members, beginning with Mrs. Edith Smith and Mrs. June Confer (in 1989) and most recently Mrs. Miles and Ms. Brooks; the teachers who promote attendance and attend themselves; the PTA leaders, parent members and volunteers, most recently the PTA president, Sherilyn Pruitt, and event co-coordinators, Eve Lotter and Folami Jenkins. Special thanks go to Mr. Velez for always sharing his technical expertise, equipment and overall support. Special thanks are also due Mark Pattison, former PTA president and wearer of many hats at Shepherd, for his support in myriad ways, including publicizing in particular and volunteering for whatever. And thanks to the students, parents and community supporters who show up each year, sharing their dinner items and great company, making it the success that it always is.

As the founder and artistic coordinator of Shepherd Jazz Night, I would like to say that the first quarter of a century of our doing this has been a great, exciting and gratifying experience for me and I am sure for most, if not all, of the participants. Most of the intended goals have been and are met each year, to promote the art form, to provide historical awareness and knowledge, to supplement music instruction, and very importantly to provide an opportunity for families and the school community to enjoy time together.

It is great to know, too, that some of the former students who were in the audience at some time -- including my own daughters who are grown now -- picked up instruments and continue to play at various levels, and hopefully to enjoy America's classical music among many forms. Let's all look forward to next year's Shepherd Jazz Night! Parents, please note that the Millennium Stage at Kennedy Center has free music performances, including jazz, most evenings at 6 p.m. Also, an excellent and affordable music program is the D.C. Youth Orchestra Program if your young ones are interested in learning to play.

-- Michael B. Wallace, Jazz Night founder and artistic coordinator



# THE MUSTANG

FAMILY DINNER DAY

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**Comet Ping Pong, 5037 Connecticut Ave. NW**

**Saturday, March 22**

**11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.**

## SAY "I'M WITH SHEPHERD"

The PTA gets 20% of your pre-tax tab!

**Stop by for lunch or an early dinner after the Shepherd Book Fair at Politics and Prose !**



**Dine-In & Take Away (PH: 202-364-0404) [www.cometpingpong.com](http://www.cometpingpong.com)**

Deadline for  
Next Mustang Issue

Fri, Mar. 28 at 5 p.m.  
Send all contributions to:

[sesmustang@gmail.com](mailto:sesmustang@gmail.com)

## Shepherd School Pledge

Today is a new day!

I will respect the rights of others.

I will treat all property with respect.

I will take responsibility for my learning.

I will take responsibility for my actions.

I will act in a safe and healthy way.

Today I will be the best me I can be!



## Shepherd Elementary School Mission:

At Shepherd, we are committed to the advancement of students' academic, emotional, social and physical well being. We, as a community, will provide students with a safe, supportive, creative, and flexible environment in which children think and

## *Shepherd Elementary School*

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Send your submissions for the next issue of *The Mustang* to: [SESmustang@gmail.com](mailto:SESmustang@gmail.com)

**TAKE A LOOK SO MANY GREAT THINGS CAN  
BE FOUND IN A BOOK!!!**



**JOIN US FOR THE  
SHEPHERD ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL BOOK FAIR  
AT**

**POLITICS AND PROSE  
5015 CONNECTICUT AVE NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20008  
*PLENTY OF PARKING IN THE BACK***

**10:00<sup>AM</sup> — 3:30<sup>PM</sup>**

**THE CLASS THAT PURCHASES THE MOST BOOKS  
WILL WIN A “NO UNIFORM DAY”**

**\*\*\*SPECIAL EVENT\*\*\***

**11:30 & 1:00 STORY TIMES**



Calling all Sleuths and Private  
Eyes there is mystery to be  
solved at Shepherd Elementary  
School and it will all  
start with a kidnapping



## Mystery Literacy Night

Time: 6:00 pm

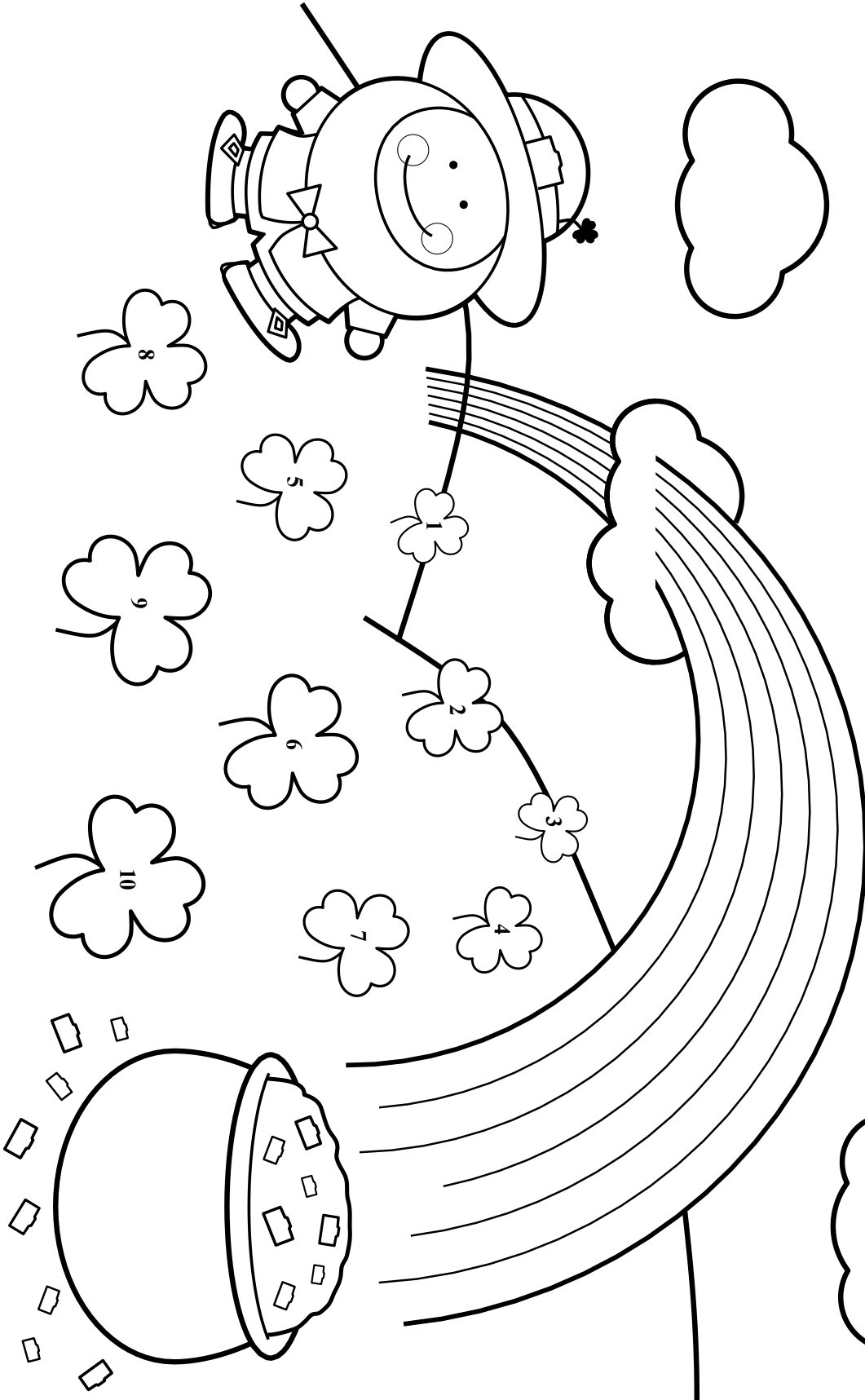
Where: Shepherd ES Auditorium

When: Mar. 26, 2014

Please come out and join us for a fun night of  
reading with your child. Light refreshments will be  
served.



**BOX TOPS ARE AS GOLD  
FOR YOUR SCHOOL!**



Thank you for helping! Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school.  
To see more ways to earn cash for your school, go to [btfc.com](http://btfc.com)!