



Check Your School's Calendar of Events

First Day of School
Back to School Night
Sports Schedules
PTA Meetings

Community Events

Local Fall/Spring Fairs
Town Hall/Square Gatherings
Music in the Park
Etc.

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What's New with BKW... (www.buzzingkidsworld.com/)

- A new look for The Bulletin Buzz: We have divided the Bulletin Buzz by pages and categories to target your interests. See the Bulletin Buzz in top menu.
- Buzz Blog — new postings:
July Movies Sneak Peak — this summer's hottest flicks for kids
Getting Puppy-power — teaching kids how to pay compliments and relate with others. Buzz Blog is also in the top menu.
- More Back to School fun issues are in the Buzzletter Archives in the bottom menu:
August '08 BuzzLetter
August '09 Buzzletter
September '09 BuzzLetter

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"Back to school" chaos . . . *Not!*

Nothing calms school year chaos like a one-stop centralized site for all of the family event calendars and schedules located in a public spot near the telephone. Choose a calendar format that works for your family. Post it using magnets to attach to the refrigerator or your locker and tack it to a bulletin board. It should include:

- School programs and lunch menus
- Class assignment sheets
- Sports practice and game schedules
- Social events schedules
- Music, dance and band practice dates
- Church and volunteer programs

When asked to be a volunteer, you'll know at a glance if you're available to help.

Ease into a school year schedule

- Toward the end of summer, re-introduce a school year bedtime by waking late sleepers earlier and earlier, closer to the hour they'll need to rise when school begins.
- Plan meals and snacks to accustom little ones to rituals of the school day before the school year begins.

Plan your shopping

- Develop a wardrobe needs list for each child. Check for possible hand-me-downs from older siblings as you make your list.
- Ask the school for classroom supply lists before shopping for school supplies.

Be prepared

- Find out from the school what paperwork will be required — then find it!
- Each evening set the breakfast table as you clear the dinner dishes.
- Lay out the children's clothing the night before.

Take aim on morning madness

Plan ahead to send your schoolchildren out the door with essentials and in a happy mood:

- Books and papers
- Lunch bags or money
- Permission slips

A new school year quickens the tempo of family life. Get organized!



~ Source: www.familycrafts.about.com/

CHALK TALK

The Perseid shower: See the lights in the sky

Not many of us will be privileged to travel into space, but we can enjoy the phenomenon of a meteor shower as it crosses the nighttime sky. Meteoroids are the debris flung from comets as they orbit the sun. Meteors are not matter themselves. They are the streak of light produced by the meteoroid as it reaches incandescence.

August brings a special show that will peak during the dark hours of August 12 to 13 - the Perseids.

The Perseid meteor shower is so named because it appears to fall from the constellation Perseus that appears in the northeast sky in mid-August. This shower, which is produced by the space crumbs of the comet Swift-Tuttle, has been observed for almost 2000 years. The comet Swift-Tuttle takes about 130 years to make one trip around the sun.

The earliest recording of Perseid activity comes from the Chinese who documented the wonder in 36 AD. Some have referred to the Perseids as the "tears of St. Lawrence" since his feast day is August 10.

The best way to enjoy the Perseids is to leave the lights of the city and find a dark spot in a park or any safe area that is in the direction of the Perseus constellation. Make sure oncoming headlights will not ruin your night vision. Binoculars are not needed; your eyesight will be enough.

If you can't manage your viewing on the magical night of the most activity, up to 60 meteors an hour, most viewers will be able to see at least a few from the beginning of the month up to August 22. Happy viewing!



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Did you know *this* . . .

- The only 2 animals that can see behind itself without turning its head are the RABBIT and the PARROT.
- The OWL is the only bird which can rotate its head to 270 degrees.
- GIRAFFES can not swim.
- The posture of a CAT's tail can tell you about its present state of mind.
- Chocolate can kill DOGS. It affects a dog's heart and nervous system. A few ounces is enough to kill a small sized dog.
- The SWAN has over 25,000 feathers in its body.
- BUTTERFLIES are the second largest group of pollinators, next to bees.
- Like a BAT, DOLPHINS use echolocation to navigate and hunt, bouncing high-pitched sounds off of objects, and listening for the echoes.
- HUMMINGBIRDS are the only animal

that can also fly backwards.

- Insects do not make noises with their voices. The noise of BEES, MOSQUITOS and other BUZZING INSECTS is caused by rapidly moving their wings.
- COCATOOS are one of the most long-lived parrots.
- KIWIS are the only birds which hunt by sense of smell.
- Avocados are toxic to BIRDS!
- ELEPHANT teeth can weigh as much as 9 pounds.
- SHARKS can live up to 100 years.



 **Buzz Tip:** Get your favorite animal poster at www.123posters.com

August Project

Locker Bulletin Board



Supplies needed:

3/4" sheet of Styrofoam
Fabric (3" larger than Styrofoam)
Hot glue/glue gun or craft glue
Ribbons to wrap around board
Sharp knife, scissors, and ruler
Magnet sheet or strips

Optional:

Buttons, ribbon roses, decorative snaps, etc.

Steps:

1. Cut Styrofoam to fit your locker/space.
2. Place fabric face down on table.
3. Center Styrofoam on fabric.
4. Glue one side of fabric to Styrofoam and allow to dry before gluing the opposite side; do all sides. Wrap tightly as you go along.
5. Wrap ribbon/s diagonally around board (as shown); glue ends to back of board (pics and notes will tuck easily behind ribbons)
6. Cover back with fabric (optional) OR
7. Cover back with magnet sheet/strips for lockers and fridges
8. Decorate with buttons, etc. (glued on)

Voila! You now have a handy place for schedules, mementos, and reminders!

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Getting Technical

Tech support for computers

Best Buy's Geek Squad is the best known and only one of three services that fixes both PC and Mac computers. Prices begin at \$40 in stores. The Geeks will come to your place, or you can get online help.

Best Buy has 20,000 agents in stores and about 100 virtual agents. You can pick the agent you want by reviewing online profiles.

A service called iYogi mainly helps people having problems accessing Google. It claims that its 3,000 agents in India will give fast PC service for \$140 a year or a one-time fix starting at \$20.

Support.com charges \$199 per year to service a PC over the Internet or one-time fixes beginning at \$49. It targets business people who want fast help. They have about 600 solutions engineers, says Fast Company.

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POETRY FUN . . . and more fun!

Black Beard

By Robert Pottle



He angrily barks out his orders.
His face wears a permanent scowl.
And if you should ask him a question
his only response is to growl.

His discipline methods are ruthless.
He believes in all work and no play.
And if you should happen to step out of line
it may be with your life you will pay.

I'd rather an octopus hug me.
I'd rather have sharks bite my rear
than to walk into class on the first day of
school
to find Black Beard's my teacher this year.

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www.robertpottle.com

Dragon Quest IX:

Sentinels of the Starry Skies

In "Dragon Quest IX: Sentinels of the Starry Skies," players begin their adventure as a city guardian who is sent to retrieve a sacred tree's fruits, which have the power to grant wishes.

Players travel the world, conquer fearsome monsters and unravel an epic storyline. During their journey, players will encounter mighty opponents in fast-paced battles, and also interact with a colorful cast of characters.

"Dragon Quest IX: Sentinels of the Starry Skies" contains special modes that let players share their adventure with others, allowing up to four players to team up via a local wireless connection and experience the fun of tackling challenging monsters and dungeons cooperatively with their own characters. Buy now at www.amazon.com/

