



THE LEARNER WITHIN NEWSLETTER



APRIL / MAY 2026



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Shubert Jacobs
Executive Director

As we arrive at the months of May and June, we step into one of the most meaningful seasons of the school year—a time rich with reflection, accomplishment, and hope.

These final weeks are when the story of the year comes fully into view. Our students bring together months of curiosity, effort, and perseverance to show not only what they have learned, but who they are becoming. In classrooms, hallways, and shared spaces, we see growth not only in academic skill, but also in confidence, compassion, and courage—signaling an awakening of the learner within. These moments remind us why the work we do matters so deeply.

For our instructional and operational staff, May and June offer a powerful opportunity to pause and reflect—to celebrate what worked, learn from challenges, and recommit to continuous improvement. The learning that happens among adults during this time is just as important as the learning in classrooms, as it shapes the experiences our students will have in the year ahead.

This season is also one of connection and community. Through celebrations and culminating events—such as Graduation, Moving-Up Ceremonies, the Senior Trip, Fun Day, Open Houses, and the Box Car Derby—students, families, and staff come together to honor milestones both large and small. These shared moments strengthen the bonds that make our school more than a building; they make it a place of belonging.

Behind the scenes, our teams are working with care and intention to ensure a strong transition from one school year to the next. Thoughtful planning now—around programs, staffing, systems, and supports—allows us to open September with clarity, confidence, and renewed energy. The future we hope for our students begins with the decisions we make today, reminding us that every ending holds a beginning.

As we close this chapter of the year, I want to express my deepest gratitude to our Board, students, families, and partners in education. You are the heart of Bronx Better Learning. Your trust, dedication, and shared belief in our mission continue to inspire us all.

Let us move through these final weeks with pride in all that has been accomplished and optimism for all that is still to come.



UPCOMING DATES

May 2026

5/16 - BBL Carnival
5/20 - Half Day (12:30pm Dismissal)
5/25 - No School (Memorial Day)
5/27 - No School (Eid)
5/28 - Board Meeting - BBL1 campus @ 5pm

June 2026

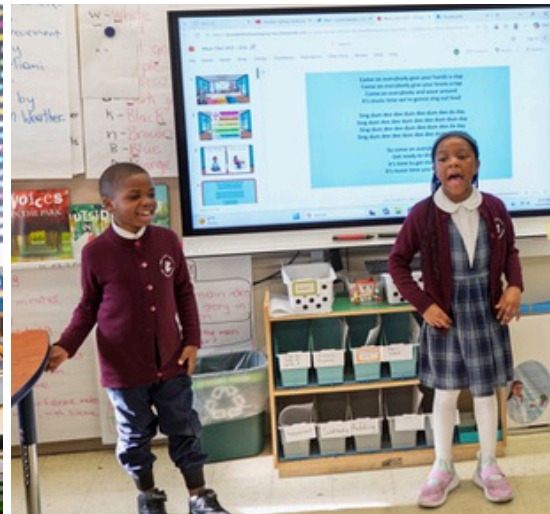
6/4 & 6/5 - PD Days (on campus)
6/12 - Fun Day
6/19 - No School (Juneteenth)
6/25 - End of Year Staff Party (12:30 Dismissal)
6/25 - Board Meeting - BBL1 campus @ 5pm
6/26 - Last Day of Classes (12:30 Dismissal)



A LOOK INTO THE CLASSROOM

MUSIC

IN 2ND GRADE, MS. ANTOINE LED STUDENTS IN SONGS
INSPIRED BY EARTH DAY





BBL2

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A LOOK INTO THE CLASSROOM

ART

IN 2ND GRADE, MR. CURTIS LED STUDENTS IN A MOSAIC ART PROJECT!





INSPIRING YOUNG READERS

LIBRARY TRIP

1st graders walked to the Eastchester Library where they learned how a library card can bring the world to you! They listened to a read aloud, organized centers for play and explored the shelves to find their own favorite books to take home!



BOOK BUDDIES FUNDRAISER

There was substantial family and student support for this fundraising effort. All grade levels received gift cards from the fundraiser participants. These funds will be allocated to each homeroom and used for class events, supplies, and extra goodies.





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APRIL PARENT INVOLVEMENT

COMMUNITY HELPERS

1ST GRADERS LEARNED ABOUT *COMMUNITY*. THEY LEARNED TO READ MAPS, IDENTIFY LOCAL LANDMARKS, AND RESEARCHED COMMUNITY HELPERS. THEIR PROJECT CULMINATED IN A PRESENTATION TO FAMILIES ON PARENT INVOLVEMENT DAY, DRESSED UP AS THEIR COMMUNITY HEROES!





BRONX BETTER THEATER & MUSIC

THE WIZ

Students from BBL1 and BBL2 are gearing up for their performances of *The Wiz*! Directed by Jonathan Carter, students have been preparing throughout the school year for the upcoming performances. Join us on June 16 and 17th to see the show!

MEET THE DIRECTOR



Jonathan Carter is an actor, director, and dynamic arts educator with a deep passion for bringing stories to life on stage. Having previously directed *Annie Jr.* with creativity and heart, he is committed to building vibrant, empowering theatre experiences for young performers. Jonathan firmly believes that the arts are just as essential as any academic subject, shaping confidence, discipline, and identity in every student. He is incredibly honored to direct *The Wiz Jr.* alongside a brilliantly talented cast and the best creative team he could ever ask for, and is excited to share this powerful, joyful production with the community.

Jonathan Carter
Theater Director



BRONX BETTER THEATER & MUSIC

THE WIZ

Mrs. Meagan Linzer-Metzger will be directing the BBL Band in a rendition of *Somewhere Over the Rainbow* on performance day.

MEET THE BAND DIRECTOR



Meagan Linzer-Metzger is a dedicated musician and music educator, currently celebrating her 11th year teaching music and 10th year directing the Band at The Bronx Charter Schools for Better Learning. Under her direction, the Band has been featured in productions of *The Lion King Kids*, *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, and *Annie Jr.* She is thrilled to once again lead the band for this year's production of *The Wiz Jr.* This year marks a particularly exciting milestone, as it will be the first time the BBL1 and BBL2 Bands perform together on stage. Meagan is honored to work alongside such talented young musicians and a deeply supportive Band staff, and she looks forward to celebrating this special moment in the Band program's history.

Meagan Linzer-Metzger
Band Director



BRONX BETTER THEATER & MUSIC

MEET THE CAST



**Dorothy
Peyton W.**
BBL1



**The Wiz
Imari W.**
BBL1



**Scarecrow
Pearly A.**
BBL2



**Tinman
Danielle A.**
BBL2



**Lion
Braxton C.**
BBL1



**Evillene
Jeremiah O.**
BBL1



**Addaperle
Precious A.**
BBL2



**Glinda
Aria R.**
BBL1



**Aunt Em
Chloe G.**
BBL1



**Uncle Henry
Elisha A.**
BBL1



**Lord High Underling
Zaire**
BBL2



**Royal Gatekeeper
Cody G.**
BBL2



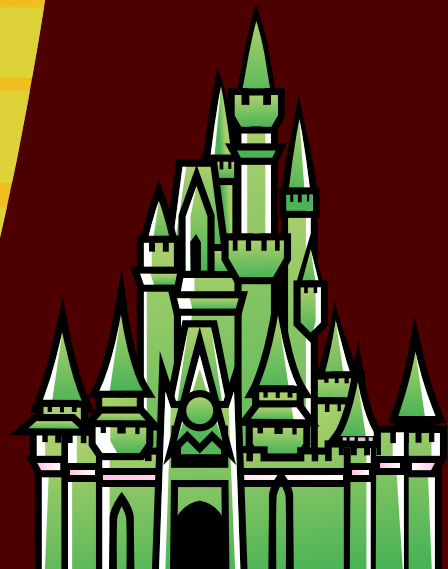
**Leader of Winged Monkeys
Paige**
BBL2



**Messenger
Jay-Ann D.**
BBL1



**Leader of Winged Monkeys
Seiko S.**
BBL1





BBL2

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APRIL-MAY

EVENTS & UPDATES



PARENT NEWS & UPDATES



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Bronx Charter Schools for Better Learning Presents

BBL FAMILY CARNIVAL DAY

**Saturday, May 16
10 AM - 2 PM**

Join us for a day where you can learn about BBL, apply for the 2026-2027 school year, and enjoy time with family and community

3740 Baychester Ave, Bronx NY 10466

FREE FOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST	LOCAL VENDORS
TREATS LIKE COTTON CANDY AND ICE CREAM	STUDENT PERFORMANCES
CARNIVAL GAMES AND ACTIVITIES	RAFFLE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A \$150 GIFT CARD

MAY

- 5/12 - Science Test (5th grade)
- 5/20 - Parent Involvement @ 10:45am
- 5/20 - Half Day - Dismissal @ 12:30pm
- 5/22 - Talent Show @ 10:40am
- 5/25 - No School (Memorial Day)
- 5/27 - No School (Eid)
- 5/28 - Board Meeting - BBL1 @ 5PM

JUNE

- 6/4- No School (Chancellor's Day)
- 6/5 - No School (Clerical Day)
- 6/9 - 5th Grade Trip
- 6/12 - Fun Day
- 6/16 - The Wiz Jr. @ 5:30
- 6/18 - 5th Grade Graduation
- 6/19 - No School (Juneteenth)
- 6/22 - Kinder End of Year Ceremony
- 6/25 - 12:30 Dismissal
- 6/25 - Board Meeting - BBL1 @ 5PM
- 6/26 - 12:30 Dismissal Last Day!



REMINDERS

NWEA TESTING CONTINUES THROUGH JUNE.

JUNE 2 (MATH) & 3 (ELA)

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR STUDENT GETS A GOOD NIGHT'S REST, HAS A FILLING BREAKFAST, AND ARRIVES TO SCHOOL ON TIME ON TESTING DAYS.