WELCOME TO FALCON FOOTBALL 2026

Program Head Coach: Dan Wilder | Assistant Coaches: Dan Hicks, Evan Hagen, Evan Keen
Volunteers: Eric Mock, Aaron Quintana, Zach Boede, Croft Bracken

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Falcon Football Families,

We're looking forward to getting back on the Bush MS football field and are excited to work with all the student-athletes and see their continued growth over the season. **Bush's 1st football practice will be WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19. Players should arrive by 5:15 PM so they are ready to go before attendance is taken at the team meeting.** Our team meeting will start at 5:30 PM, followed by practice until 7:30 PM. A weekly communication will be sent Sunday night through FinalForms indicating important program information for the following week. When school starts practices will occur Monday - Wednesday immediately after school ending at 5:00 PM.

Important dates to note:

- Monday, August 17 - BMS Gear Checkout (10:00-12:00, 1:00-2:00)
- Wednesday, August 19 - First Practice - Helmets only (5:30-7:30)
- Thursday, August 20 - Practice at Tumwater High School
- Tuesday, August 25 - Parent Meeting - Room A34 (6:30-7:45)
- Monday, September 7 - Labor Day, No Bush Practice

Our Athletic Director is currently working with other league and area ADs as student participation at each school is determined so they can work together to get a season full of games for both teams. We will release our game schedule as soon as possible. Updates can be found at www.arbiterlive.com

HELPFUL NOTES BEFORE THE 2025 FALCON FOOTBALL SEASON STARTS:

1. Please verify ALL physical and sports clearance forms are completed in FinalForms. Create/update your account at: https://tumwater-wa.finalforms.com/. Please make sure both the parent and the athlete have signed all necessary forms.
2. Attend gear checkout for helmet, shoulder pads, practice jersey and mouthguard (if needed). Checkout is Monday, August 17th, 10-12 and 1-2. Please drive around and enter at the back of the school. **Players are responsible for providing their own football cleats, socks, girdle (5 pad integrated) and knee pads.** Girdles, knee pads, and cleats are available if athletes need them. We are committed to Team Unity. This is not only about how we practice and treat each other on and off the field, but also the way we dress at practices and on gameday. We want praise and attention to be earned for our team by our shared successes on the field, not by players dressing differently from one another. **While players provide their own cleats, it is preferred that they are black.** Additionally, if players plan on wearing a mouthguard separate from the one provided by BMS, it should be **BLACK, WHITE, GRAY, BLUE, OR CLEAR. No "binky" mouthguards.** The same color requirements go for other optional practice/gameday wear such as gloves, sleeves and towels. Any player that can't attend gear checkout will receive their gear after one of the first 3 practices.
3. Football players may provide their own combination lock for use on a locker, or they may request a school-provided loaner lock. Loaner locks must be returned at the end of the season. A $7 fee will be charged for any loaner lock that is not returned. To help protect personal belongings, athletes are strongly encouraged to keep all valuables and personal items secured in a locker whenever they are not in the locker room. Athletes who use a personal lock are responsible for remembering their combination. If a player is unable to open their lock when access is needed, the lock may need to be cut off the locker. If they have a phone, take a picture of the combo so a coach can assist if needed.
4. **Players MUST bring a water bottle** marked with their name to ALL practices and games. It should be 20oz or more, enough water to keep them hydrated on the field.