



COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Welcome to the start of the 2024-2025 school year—what an exciting beginning it has been! We are delighted to welcome so many new faces to our Ben Bronz Academy community, both among our students and staff.

This is the inaugural issue of Volume 3 of *Community Connections*, our BBA newsletter, where you'll find vibrant photos, essential information, and key family updates. We're committed to keeping it as engaging and informative as you've come to expect over the past two years.

If there are specific topics you'd like us to cover, please don't hesitate to reach out to Cyndi or Christina. We can't express enough how thrilled we are with the positive energy filling our halls—the joy and excitement are truly palpable.



Fantastic First Days

As students walked in, they were greeted with warm welcomes and a team of supportive mediators eager to help them kick off their 2024-2025 school year journey. They received their schedules, freshly printed from PowerSchool—a tool we're excited to integrate into our daily routines and share with families. Stay tuned for upcoming parent workshops that will guide you through its features.

After a busy day of checking in with all their teachers, collaborating on respect agreements for their classroom communities, and getting to know their peers, we're pretty sure students went home and slept soundly. During these first weeks, teachers have been dedicated to building strong, supportive classroom communities and ensuring students have a clear understanding of expectations. By now, families have likely seen syllabi coming home and have been asked for a signature or two. Well done—your homework is complete!





BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Ben Bronz is signed up to participate in Box Tops for Education this school year. It's a chance to raise money for student activities while purchasing products you most likely use already.

We ask that you download the Box Top for Education app to your phone, register and select Ben Bronz Academy and then just open the app and scan your receipts when you go shopping.

Email Jim -- jimw@benbronzacademy.org -- with any questions or technical issues.



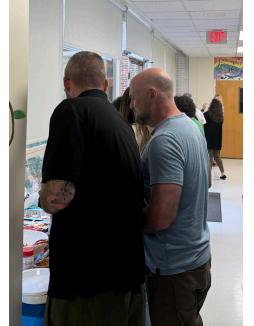
Family Potluck: A Memorable Evening of Connection and Culinary Delight

Our recent Family Potluck was a heartwarming and delicious affair, bringing together our community in a way that truly nourished both body and soul. This year's event was extra special as it marked the first time our students joined in the festivities, adding a vibrant and youthful energy to the evening.

Families had the wonderful opportunity to bond over a delightful array of dishes, each plate a testament to the diverse and rich culinary traditions that make our community so unique. Laughter and conversation flowed as new friendships were forged and existing ones deepened, with everyone savoring not just the food but the moments shared together.



We are deeply grateful to everyone who contributed to the evening's success, from the delectable dishes to the warm camaraderie. Your participation made this potluck not just a meal, but a celebration of our growing community. **Thank you for making it a night to remember!**

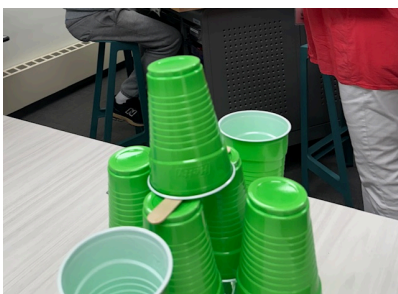


Nothing Beats That New Car Smell

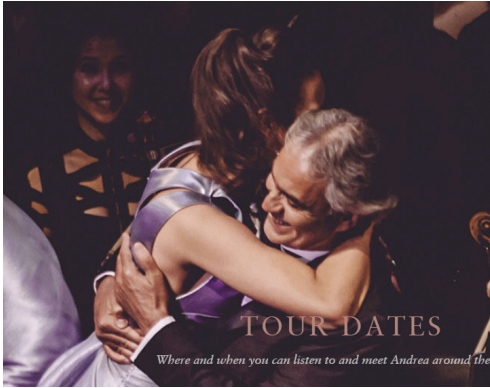
We're excited to share some great news with you—our new van has arrived! Isn't there something irresistible about that fresh, new car scent? Just take a look at how stunning it looks, shining brightly in the sunlight!

Maker Space Classes Have Started

I had the pleasure of dropping by the maker space and witnessing the spark of innovation and problem-solving in action. Students were challenged to build the tallest tower possible using only a limited supply of cups and 10 popsicle sticks, with the added twist that the cups couldn't touch each other. The results were nothing short of impressive—take a look at some of these fantastic creations!



Singing with the Stars: a Celebrity in our Midst!



Rachel Watson, Music Mediator, along with one of the choirs she sings with, Voce, has been invited to perform alongside Andrea Bocelli in two of his upcoming December concerts. Details on the dates, times, and a link to ticket information are provided below:

Saturday, December 14, 2024 @ 8:00 pm TD Garden in Boston, MA

Sunday, December 15, 2024 @ 7:30 pm Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, CT

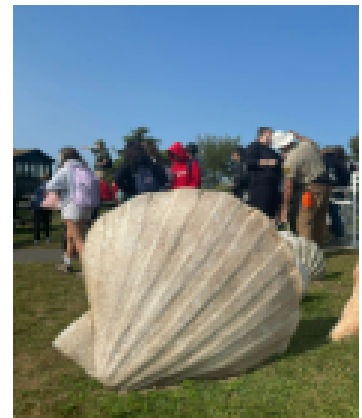
Ticket info - https://www.andreabocelli.com/?post_type=tour

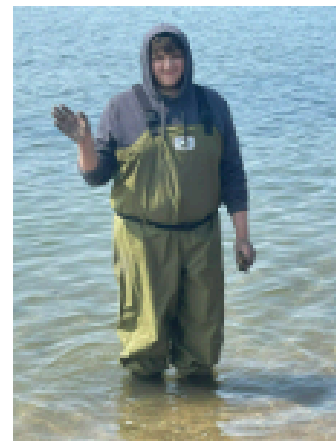
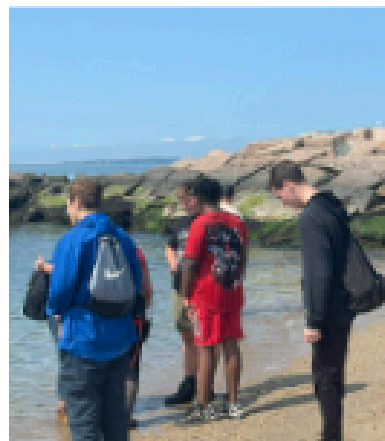
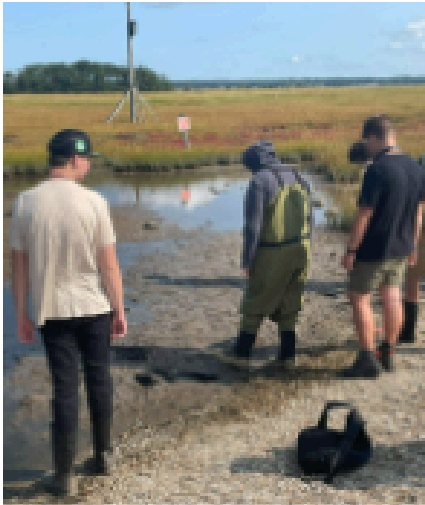
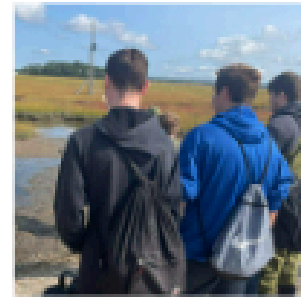
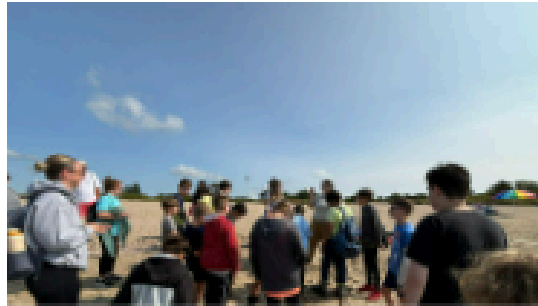
We are proud of Rachel and want to share her talent and accomplishments with others.

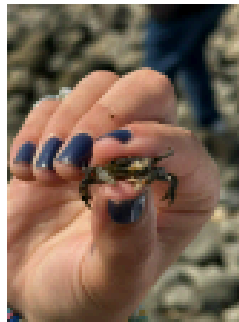
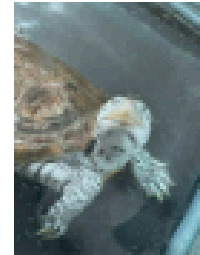
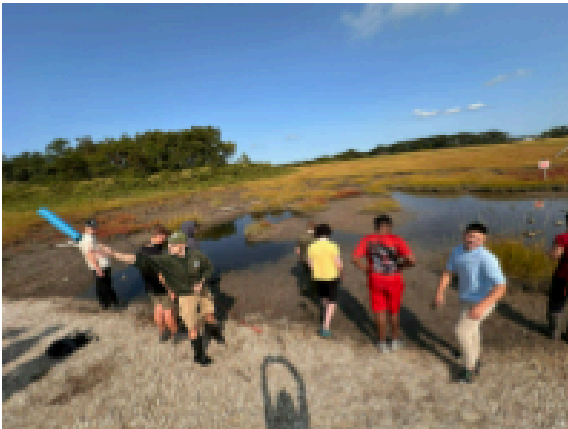
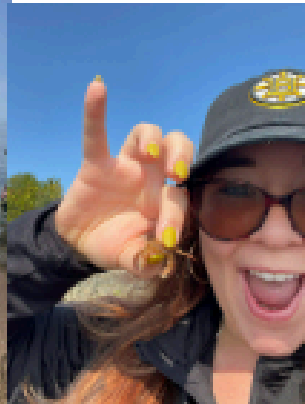
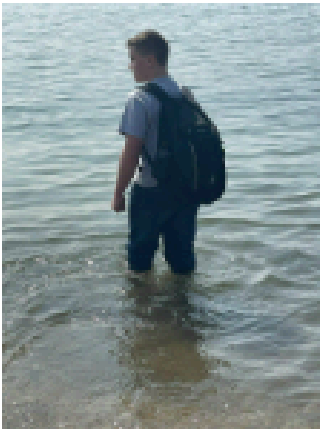
We had a “sand-sational” day at Meigs Point.

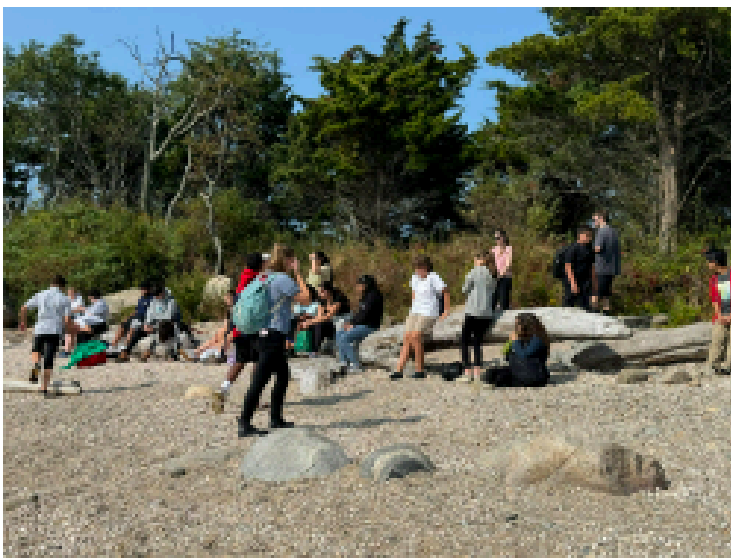
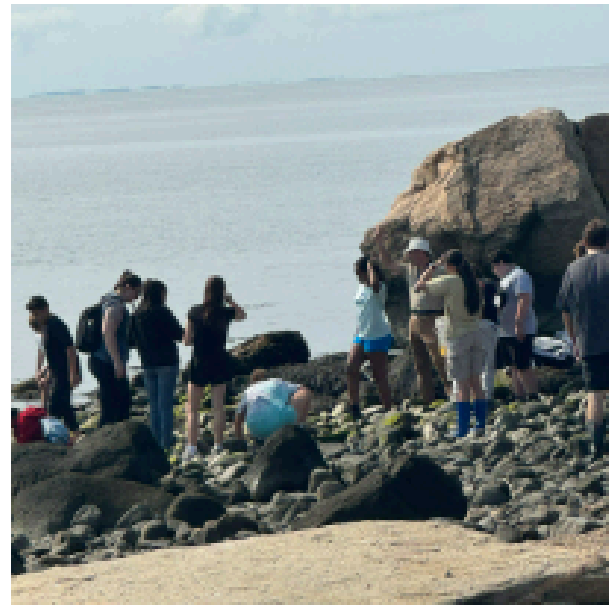
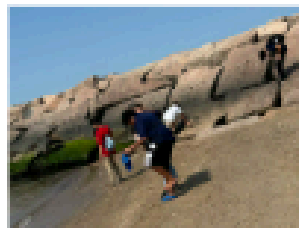
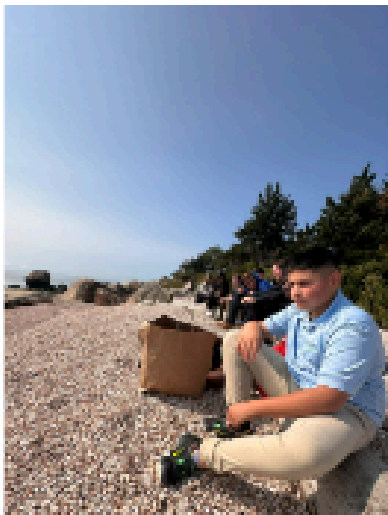
We were greeted with a “sun-believable day.” The weather was perfect for visiting the tidal pools, shoreline, and salt marsh. We saw crabs, a pod of dolphins, and so many smiles. Sure, our feet may have gotten a bit wet, but we learned all about the delicate ecosystems of the salt marsh and the tidal pools, which are home to a variety of plants and animals, such as fish, crabs, invertebrates, wading birds, and mammals. Pollution and water flow modifications often threaten these delicate ecosystems.

Students learned about the soil, plant colors, & of course, everyone’s favorite, the rotten egg odor due to low oxygen levels in the peat, a water-logged, spongy material made from decomposing plant matter.













2024-2025 Calendar

Upcoming events:

September 24, 2024	Curriculum night 6:30- In Person
October 3, 2024	Thursday, No School- Rosh Hashanah
October 8, 2024	HSA 7:30 pm Virtual Meeting link
October 14, 2024	Monday No School - Indigenous Peoples' Day
October 22, 2024	Picture Retake Date
October 25, 2024	12:30 dismissal- Mediator Professional Learning
October 29, 2024	Parent Engagement 7:30 v "PowerSchool How To"
November 2, 2024	Trunk or Treat- Set up @ 6:00
November 12, 2024	HSA 7:30 pm Virtual Meeting link
November 18-22, 2024	Research Week
November 22, 2024	Research Week Presentations & 12: 30 dismissal for students
	Professional Learning for Staff
November 25, 2024	12:30 Dismissal- Parent conferences 1-6
November 26, 2024	12:30 Dismissal- Parent conferences 1-4
November 27-29, 2024	Thanksgiving break

Next issue: 9/27/24

