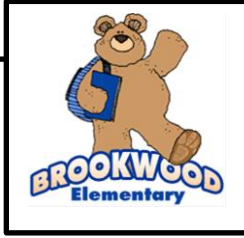


THE BROOKWOOD BEAR BULLETIN

A Brookwood PTA Publication

JANUARY 2012



Message From the Principal:

Welcome Back Brookwood Bears!

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. The New Year is a time to make goals and start fresh. Since September we have had 314 unexcused absences and 860 unexcused tardies. I would like to see us reduce both of these numbers. We all recognize that the benefits of instruction, once lost, cannot be entirely regained. The entire process of education requires a continuity of instruction, class participation, learning experience, and study.

I know that occasionally there are compelling reasons a student must miss school. Appointments and lessons should be scheduled before or after school. If your child is absent for 3 or more days, a doctor's note should accompany their return. Following an absence, a written excuse signed by the parent needs to be sent to the teacher. In the next few months, we will be rewarding both students and classes for good attendance. Please let me know if you would like to get involved☺

It is hard to believe it, but we are already beginning to look toward next year. To help us determine the number of students we will have next year there will be a school-wide registration in early August. We will let you know the exact date and details when everything is set. We are still registering kindergarten students for the coming year. Please encourage your neighbors to call the school with kindergarten student information.

We continue to ask that all visitors check in at the office and wear a badge when going beyond the office. Our students are our top priority and we want to keep them safe. Teachers, students and staff are able to identify which people have checked in at the office with just a glance. This helps to ensure no strangers have access to our students. This also helps to minimize interruptions of class time.

Thank you!

Principal Mootz

January Dates to Remember:

January 9 Utah Opera visits Brookwood 9:30-11am
January 10 Geography Bee 1:30-2:00pm
January 11-13 Kindergarten Testing; no school for kindergarten
January 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day- No School
January 20 Teacher Professional Development Day- No School
January 24 Meet the Masters Assembly by grade
January 26 Art-A-Palooza 5:30- 8pm

PTA Board 2011 – 2012

Co-Presidents:	Ellen Sperry / Stephanie Shumway
Co-Pres. Elects:	Denise Richard / Kathryn Turley
Vice President:	Derek Brown
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News from the PTA....

Happy New Year!

We hope everyone enjoyed winter recess. It's hard to believe the school year is nearly over and it's 2012.

Our second meet the masters Art project is Van Gogh. The school assembly for this project will be January 24. Projects will be scheduled by individual classes and plan to be completed within 2-3 weeks. If you would like to volunteer contact your class coordinator or Heidi Grimshaw at 801-671-6825. You do not need any art skills to volunteer and the supplies and instructions are provided. The time commitment is 1 to 1 1/2 hours in your child's classroom.

We look forward to more fun PTA sponsored activities in February - Internet safety week and Valentines activities.

Thank you Brookwood community for your volunteer hours and commitment to making Brookwood an amazing place to be.

Sincerely
Ellen Sperry and Stephanie Shumway
PTA co- presidents

THE BROOKWOOD BEAR BULLETIN – JANUARY 2012

RAFFLE BASKET DONATIONS WELCOME!

We are currently accepting items for this year's raffle baskets available at the Art-A-Palooza event on Thursday January 26th. We are seeking all types of items including but not limited to gift certificates for local restaurants, movie passes, gift certificates for family activities, sports items, board games, children's books and gifts, outdoor games, arts and crafts of all kinds, and cash. **Please turn in items to the Brookwood Office by Wednesday January 18th** and contact Abby Pohlman at abbyrog@hotmail.com or (801) 718-7818 with any questions or to discuss any item or donation you have for the event. THANK YOU in advance!!!!

Brookwood Leaders:

We have such outstanding leaders at Brookwood. In fact, eleven of our sixth grade students have been recognized by Junior National Young Leaders Conference. Students were selected based on academic performance and leadership potential. These students will have the opportunity to attend a week long Youth Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. this summer.

Congratulations to:

BLEEP

(Due to privacy reasons, the student's names cannot be displayed. Sorry!)

Help Brookwood earn cash and school supplies.

Hey Parents and Students, Not only can you cut out Box Tops and Soup Labels there are several things you can do to earn money online.

1. Smith's Food and Drug has a bar code (by the front office) that you can link to your Fresh Value Card and it donates money back to the school.
2. You can go to www.labelsforeducation.com and order your everyday things online and earn extra points for the school.
3. Not only can you cut out Box Tops you can earn them from ordering from your favorite store. Go to www.boxtops4education.com for details.
4. Get a Target Red Card (hooked to your debit card) and earn 1% back to the school from Target. See in store or online www.target.com.

Thanks for all your help.

November Food Drive:

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our November Food Drive. It is official we collected 2,610 pounds of food. We can say that we collected a "TON" of food. All of the food went the Utah Food Bank.



Brookwood Celebrates 'Month of the Arts' with Meet the Masters and ART-A-PALOOZA!

Canyons School District has declared January 'Month of the Arts'. Brookwood will recognize the ARTS this month through a variety of programs, including: the introduction of the artist Picasso as part of our **Meet the Masters** program; and the SCC sponsored **ART-A-PALOOZA!**

ART-A-PALOOZA, an Evening of the Arts with Gallery Walk and Art Market Fun, will be held on **Thursday, January 26, 2012, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** We will show parents and the community what artistic students we have here at Brookwood and will spend the evening observing and creating art. Bring the entire family and come take part in the arts!

We are seeking parents to 'teach' art classes at the event. We need your skills in jewelry, printmaking, ceramics, and more. Contact Channa Vyfvinkel at vyfvinkel@comcast.net for more info. Additional information about this exciting event will be forthcoming!

THE BROOKWOOD BEAR BULLETIN – JANUARY 2012

Bake Sale Returns for Art-A-Palooza

Last years Bake Sale was such a big hit, we have decided to bring it back this year for the Art-A-Palooza & Gallery Walk. Denise Richard is getting donations from local bakeries, but we also need Brookwood families to donate homemade or purchased goods to make this a successful bake sale. We need as many people as possible to bake or buy two dozen of their favorite treats (cookies, bars, cupcakes, brownies, crispy treats, fudge, caramel popcorn, etc.) and deliver them to Brookwood's gym or office on Wednesday, January 25th or Thursday January 26th. Please have your goodies pre-packaged if possible but we will welcome all donations. They will be selling in \$1 increments. Example: one large cookie for \$1, two medium cookies for \$1 or three small cookies for \$1.

If you have any questions, contact Denise at

denise@vipinbox.com (801.943.4711).



ART-A-PALOOZA & GALLERY WALK

Thursday January 26, 2012 – 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

In celebration of the Canyons School District Month of the Arts, the Brookwood School Community Council would like to invite you to the second annual *Art-A-Palooza and Gallery Walk*. Parents and students have the opportunity to *Take Part In The Arts* and all the classes and art activities are FREE! Stroll through the school and browse the Gallery Walk of visual arts created by each student. You will be amazed at our student's skills and imagination. Enjoy this evening observing and creating art with your child at a variety of activities and classes throughout the school. Back by popular demand is the Brookwood Bake Sale, a chance to sign-up for your child's grade DVD and buy tickets to win one of our amazing raffle basket. Any funds raised from this event will benefit all Brookwood students and be used for continued art enrichment.

Emergency Preparedness Kits

Parents: Brookwood PTA has put together a plan in case of any emergencies.

We are asking that each parent send an Emergency Bag to school with their student(s).

The bag needs to include a few snack items (granola bars, fruit snacks, crackers).

If you would like you may also include a comforting note in the event your student(s) is stuck at the school for a long period of time. The school will provide water. Please label the bag with your student's name, grade and teacher.

Bags need to be turned in to the school by Friday, January 13, 2012.



New Program at Brookwood!

I'm excited to let you know about a wonderful new program coming to Brookwood Elementary in January 2012.

Called "Bears Books", it is a book cart filled with wonderful donated books that your child can purchase for \$1! Yes ALL books will only be just \$1. So I encourage you to start looking through your children's books and select those that are in good shape and age appropriate (kindergarten thru sixth) for donation. Let's reduce, reuse and recycle all those wonderful books.

The money collected from the book sales will be used for new athletic equipment at Brookwood Elementary to help keep our Brookwood Bears healthy and happy. You'll find a bin located in the front foyer over by the office to drop off your book donations. We'll be unveiling "Bears Books" at Art-A-Palooza on Thursday, January 26th. Let's help promote reading and get the word out to family and friends that "Bears Books" is in need of donated books! If you have any questions I can be reached at shanghaidragon@yahoo.com

Thank You, Linda Kogan

THE BROOKWOOD BEAR BULLETIN – JANUARY 2012

Grade Level Updates

Kindergarten

We are so excited for January in Kindergarten! We get to start learning about Geometry! We are also excited to start learning how to read now that we know all of our letters and sounds. During the month of January, Kindergarten also gets to start going to Tanner Dance, which is always so much fun! We look forward to sharing the things we learn with our parents and our friends here at Brookwood! Kindergarten has also started going to the computer lab on Mondays. We are having fun playing games that apply what we have been learning in class! Kindergarten is just the best!

First Grade

In 1st grade we are busy with our new PALS reading program. Ask your student about it, they should be able to explain it to you. We are feeling good about this addition to our curriculum. We are settling back into our daily routines and working hard on reading and math. Parents please remember to practice the math flashcards and the sight word flashcards weekly. Your interest in these things will help your child greatly.

We are learning about winter weather and Snowflake Bentley. Hopefully we get some snow soon so we can examine snowflakes with our magnifying glasses. The students love this. We will also begin learning about the different types of penguins and where they live.

This month all first grade students will start Tanner Dance, this is on Thursdays of each week, so send your child in comfortable clothes on this day. We will have a dance performance later on in the spring, which we know you will enjoy.

We will be ending our Music with Mrs. Beckstrand this month, we have all enjoyed our time with her and want to give her a big THANK YOU for her volunteering to teach us.

Please, please read 20 minutes a night 5 times a week with your child. Research has proven that this alone can help your child be a better student in all areas. Thanks for all your help in and out of our classrooms!!

Second Grade

Happy New Year 2012 and welcome back to school. We hope your holidays were great! January will find us back in the routine of learning. Winter weather gives us lots of topics to explore as we fine tune our reading, writing and math skills. Though we have had an unseasonably warm winter so far it is still pretty chilly in the mornings so make sure your child has a warm coat. When the snow does come boots and gloves are a necessity.

We are working on mental math right now. This can be a challenging topic. Completing daily math homework will boost your child's understanding and math fluency. Keep reading baggy books with your child and remind them to fill out the response paper with complete sentences. Please remember to sign their reading calendars. We look forward to Meet the Masters and Hands on Science this month. Thanks so much for all your support. You make a huge difference in your child's education. We appreciate all you do.

Third Grade

Math for January is Topic 7 Division Meaning. Your student should have already brought home the Explanation sheet to Parents. The students will learn basic division as "sharing", by using objects, and it's relationship to multiplication. It will also focus on understanding remainders, repeated subtraction, and writing division stories. We want parents to know we are purposely not teaching the algorithm, or standard division process, so the students will get a good understanding of the process of division. In Topic 8, Division Facts, students will continue to study Division/Multiplication Fact Families with a focus on speed and proficiency. Many third graders are still working to become proficient at their multiplication facts and may need more help at home by utilizing flashcards, practice drills, math games, and computer games. Students should practice about 10 to 15 minutes per night, 5 nights a week studying basic facts.

Our Language Arts Unit of study, Biographies, will continue through January as students' complete projects at home and school. Your student will have the directions page for the home projects. Parents will be invited to come see the student's final displays, so watch for your student to bring home your invitation.

Be sure to look for your student to bring home their weekly ticket each Friday so you can sign it and they can return it on time at the beginning of the week.

THE BROOKWOOD BEAR BULLETIN – JANUARY 2012

Fourth Grade

Thank you to our parent volunteers from Mrs. Smith's classroom who provided us with a fun holiday party before the Winter break. The students had a blast playing winter-themed "Are You Smarter than a Fourth Grader", putting together cookbooks, and jammin' out with karaoke. Great job to many students who used the break to work on their math facts. It is becoming more and more important to have all addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts memorized.

Students are back in their homebase classrooms for the new science unit. We are looking forward to our visit from the Living Planet Aquarium's "Water Van" to further our learning of the water cycle.

We continue to appreciate all of parent support we have, both at school, and at home. We hope to see you call at the Art-a-Palooza later this month!

Fifth Grade

This January is off to a great start. We are beginning our study of the United States Constitution, the branches of government, and the powers they hold. In preparation for the DWA state writing test, we are practicing our persuasive writing, so don't be surprised if your students become more convincing when they ask you for things or privileges.

We are also studying fractions and how to convert, add, subtract, and simplify them. In music we are starting to learn the songs that we will sing in this year's program in May.

We've written our New Year's Resolutions and have pledged to do all we can to be even better Brookwood Bears in 2012!

Sixth Grade

Sixth grade welcomed the New Year and is excited to make the most of 2012. Teachers are encouraging students to be motivated, active listeners, use their planner to keep current with assignments and to read daily.

We kicked off our official NOVA program on January 11th. Officer McGrath brought with her fresh ideas and a new approach to the teaching experience. We appreciate her enthusiasm and concern for all Brookwood students.

For the sixth grade December club, students submerged themselves in dance instruction, with the gentle guidance of Mrs. Karen Allen. Mrs. Allen beautifully taught the Cha Cha, Waltz, and the Swing. We are so thankful to her for her time and look forward to the culminating activity on Friday, February 14th. Visit <http://mrsr6th.blogspot.com/> for images of our spectacular event.