

THE BROOKWOOD BEAR BULLETIN

A Brookwood PTA Publication

JANUARY 2013



Principal's Message:

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 491 absences and 300 tardies. We have seen a huge decrease in tardies since last year. Thank you! 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.

School safety is our top priority. We continue to ask that all visitors check in at the office and wear a badge when going beyond the office. 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. In the next month, we will be practicing several drills at school. We will practice a Shelter in Place drill and a Lock Down drill. The purpose of these drills is for all of our students to be safe in any emergency. We love all of our students and teachers and their safety is very important. Thank you!

Thank You to Our Wonderful Volunteers!

From July 1- December 19th, we have a total of **3,572** volunteer hours logged at Brookwood!! That is incredible and a credit to our community! Brookwood is such a great school because of all of you and all the time you donate. We have the best faculty, students and community! Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Geography Bee

██████████ is the winner of our school Geography Bee. Congratulations to ██████████ and all of the students who participated. A big thank you to Mrs. Smith for organizing and running such a fun Geography Bee.

Mrs Julie Mootz

Dates for your calendar:

Jan 15	5 th & 6 th graders register online for Albion, (during school day)
Jan 17	Parent Night 7-8pm, media center
Jan 18	Bronze medal assembly 10:45
Jan 21	NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Day
Jan 24	Parent Night 6-7pm (Common Core)
Jan 28	Spelling Bee 1:50pm
Feb 4 – 7	Internet Safety Week
Feb 6	PTA board meeting – 12:30 in the Kiva
Feb 8	NO SCHOOL – Teacher Development Day
Feb 14	Valentine's Day Activities
Feb 18	NO SCHOOL – President's Day

PTA Board 2012 - 2013

Co - Presidents	Denise Richard and Kathryn Turley
Co-Pres. Elects	Valerie Rahaniotis and Anna Roumpos
Vice President	Derek Brown
Secretary	Sara Hopkin
Treasurer	Kim Kehl
EML	Carlie Martin
Newsletter	Tracey Gass
Teacher Rep	Monica Rotermund

News from the PTA....

Happy New Year! Can you believe it's 2013? We want everyone to have a really great rest of the school year. We also want to encourage parents of Brookwood students to nominate a Brookwood teacher, staff member, or volunteer who you feel is doing an outstanding job for the Huntsman Awards!

Just a few reminders: If you are volunteering at school PLEASE remember to sign in AND OUT in the office and calculate the time you have volunteered. Also, if you have any outstanding receipts from 2012 please submit a Request for Reimbursement form with the attached receipts to Kim Kehl. There is a PTA box in the office with extra forms. And finally, a reminder that we have PTA meetings in the Kiva for anyone who would like to attend the first Wednesday of the month at 12:30.

We appreciate all that you do to make Brookwood the best Elementary School!

Denise Richard and Kathryn Turley
PTA co-presidents

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A reminder about Parking Lot Safety...

Thank you for everything you have done to help ensure our student's safety in the parking lot. Student safety is always our number one concern.

We would like to remind you about our parking lot procedures: Please pull into the drive through lane and pull forward. Your child will come to your car. Once you pick up your child, you can pull out of line and continue to exit.

Here are a few reminders and suggestions for safety.

- Please, please, please slow down!
- Please use the designated crosswalks. We are all models for the children.
- The lane closest to the school is only used as a bus lane.
- Your child will walk out to the island once your car is in the drive through lane. We do not want students walking out into the parking lot. It is safer for them to wait for you to drive up.
- *Please do not park in front of the kindergarten or second grade door and wait for your child.* Pull forward. There is a line of cars behind you.
- *Please do not double park.* Please stay in the drive through lane and be patient.
- Our safety patrol members are here to help. Please be kind and follow their instructions.



Our teachers at Brookwood have some amazing ideas for enhancing their classrooms. The projects they have proposed are waiting on the Donors Choose website to be fully funded.

We wanted to make our fantastic community aware of the opportunity to donate to our Brookwood teacher's grant proposals. Take a look and see how teachers are hoping to enhance the classrooms for your amazing Brookwood bears!

Go to the school website

www.brookwood.canyonsdistrict.org - click on the Parents tab and then the Ways to Help tab. To be directed to Donors Choose simply click on the heading written in red.

The Jon. M. Huntsman Family is proud to sponsor the 21st Annual Huntsman Awards for Excellence in Education.

- Nominate your favorite Utah public school teacher, volunteer, or administrator
- 11 Winners Will Receive \$10,000
- New Category: Special Education Teacher
- Nomination forms can be found online at www.huntsman.com/haee
- Due Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2013

We will have a nomination box in the office and would appreciate any names that you think are worthy of this award.

Save The Date for...

ART-A-PALOOZA & GALLERY WALK

Thursday April 11, 2013 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

The Brookwood School Community Council is hosting the third annual *Art-A-Palooza and Gallery Walk*. Parents and students have the opportunity to *Take Part In The Arts*. We want to show parents and the community what artistic students we have here at Brookwood by spending an evening observing and creating art!

As in the past, we will have free art activities for all to enjoy. New this year is a *Silent Auction* and back by popular demand is the Brookwood Bake Sale. All funds raised from this event will benefit all Brookwood students and will be used for technology needs and for continued art enrichment.

We are looking for volunteers to help with this event and will be holding a planning meeting in January (date to be determined) contact Channa

Vyfvinkel vyfvinkel@comcast.net with any questions.

We Need Pictures!

We have begun work on the 2012-2013 grade DVDs and are looking for more pictures. If you have **photos of events from this school year**, please drop them off at the school office on a CD or they can be emailed to Channa at vyfvinkel@comcast.net. Please include the name and grade of each student in the photo.

If you have any questions feel free to give me a call at (801) 209-1527 or via email at vyfvinkel@comcast.net

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Grade Level Updates

Kindergarten

We are excited to start a new year. Students are continuing hard to become a part of the letter club. The students are learning about shapes and noticing they are surrounded by a variety of shapes. Keep bringing baggy books back.

We have our testing coming up in January. Testing is done by appointment January 16-18th. We won't have school those days.

Don't forget to send your students with their backpacks and jackets. Thanks for everything you do to help the students succeed.

First Grade

In first grade we are busy learning about Snowflake Bentley, snowflakes and winter weather. We will make snowmen and snowflakes this month. Our snowflakes go with our math unit studying geometrical shapes, (plane shapes and solid shapes). We will also look at snowflakes under a magnifying glass. This is a fun time in 1st grade.

In Reading Street we are learning about changes in our world, long vowel sounds of y and many other interesting things. Parents we hope you talk about the things we are working on with your student. Read the notes that come home every Friday telling you about Reading Street. We hope you are reading 20 minutes every school night with your child and recording the books in their Homework Folder. We want every student to receive the Gold Medal for home reading.

Our doors are always open for parents, we so appreciate all the hours you spend in our classrooms to make them a better place. We truly count on your help to make everything better for your children.

Second Grade

Second graders are busy and happy as we continue our journey down Reading Street. We are learning about creative ways to work together, communicate, and solve problems. The children continue to love the small group practice stations. We really appreciate your help with small groups and the children love having a parent in the classroom. We have had fun practicing our letter writing skills by writing our classmates and writing thank you letters.

In math we are doing double digit addition and subtraction with regrouping. It is challenging and fun. Working to learn all the basic addition and subtraction facts is the key to success in math. A few minutes of practice each day can make a big difference.

We are all looking forward to Valentine's Day. We will be making our Valentine's bags at school. Each child should bring a valentine for each child in his/her class with just a signature. We will be addressing their cards to each classmate at school as part of our activities that day.

Just a reminder that with the very chilly weather children need to dress warmly and be prepared to be outside for recess. Gloves and boots are essential to keep their hands and feet warm and dry.

Thanks in advance to all of you who will help with the Valentine Party! You are helping to make special memories for our terrific second graders!

Third Grade

MATH Topics 7 and 8 are about Division Meanings and Division Facts respectively, and will last for the first few weeks of January. The last week starts Topic 9 called Patterns and Relationships. We will study repeating patterns, equality and inequality. Each new topic has a parent information sheet your student is assigned to bring home and share with you at the beginning of the topic.

In all classes we are studying Biographies. Your student should have chosen one biography book to use for all their home and school projects. They should also have already brought home the information packet so they can begin work on their home projects. Parents are invited to visit 3rd Grade and see all our displays on Friday February 15th from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m.

Parents need to check their student's ticket each Friday. Look for any "infractions", sign the ticket, and help your student get it returned by Monday. It's the student's responsibility to work off all their infractions! We encourage them to do so within a day. A reminder to students and parents, lost tickets CANNOT BE REPLACED and may prevent a student from attending a special activity.

January 18th will be our next activity. It's going to be Game Day and it's FUN so get all your tickets cleaned up!!!

Our next set of tickets will be teacher signature tickets.

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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 rotating through the different activities! 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 home base classrooms for the new science unit. We are looking forward to our visit at the end of the month to the Utah Capitol building where we have the unique opportunity to sing for the Governor and other dignitaries at the Governor's reception.

We continue to appreciate all of parent support we have, both at school, and at home.

Fifth Grade

We hope everyone had a great winter break. We are happy to see everyone back and safe in January. We will be busier than ever in January and February with learning, growing, and having fun. For social studies, we will be focusing on the constitution and government. We will be learning about fractions in math. This is typically a tough unit for students so please help your child study. We have begun our science rotations once again so each class is studying a different topic. Writing essays will be a big part of our month. We will be working hard to prepare students for the writing tests.

Congratulations to all of our fifth graders who participated in the grade-wide and school-wide Geography Bee. **We are very excited to have [REDACTED] as the school-wide winner who will represent our school in the next level. We are also very proud of the other two students who represented the fifth grade in the Geography Bee: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. They all did a fantastic job. It was quite the competition.** We are also looking forward to our grade-wide and school-wide Spelling Bee competitions this month.

Sixth Grade

Sixth grade welcomed the New Year and is excited to make the most of 2013. 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 17th. We appreciate Officer Martin's efforts in making this a positive and productive experience for our students.

Upcoming Dates:

- 1/21 Martin Luther King Day - no school
- 1/31 January Club
- 2/8 Data / Teacher Professional Development Day - no school for students
- 2/14 Valentine's Dance
- 2/18 President's Day - no school
- 2/28 February Club

