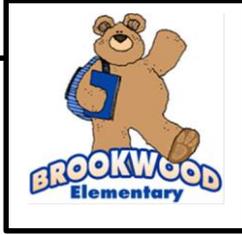


# THE BROOKWOOD BEAR BULLETIN

A Brookwood PTA Publication

## DECEMBER 2011



### **Principal Mootz Message:**

As we approach the holiday season, I want to take the time to thank all of our volunteers. We have so many parents, grandparents and community members who give freely of their time to Brookwood. We are so fortunate to have so many volunteers at our school. We had 887 hours of volunteer service for the month of October and 680 hours for the month of November. This is incredible! Our volunteers provide a music program for Brookwood, assist teachers and work with students. All of this helps Brookwood maintain a high level of academic excellence and reinforces the true meaning of community.

**If you have not volunteered, we would love to have you at Brookwood. Here are few guidelines to help you:**

- Please get a background check through the district. Go to [www.canyonsdistrict.org](http://www.canyonsdistrict.org) and click on the Community tab. This check needs to be completed yearly and is free of charge.
- When you arrive at the school, please sign in at the office and when you leave, please sign out. It is important that we have an accurate count of who is in the building.

When volunteering, please keep your children with you at all times. Children are not permitted in the classrooms during instruction time.

Happy Holidays!

Mrs. Mootz



### **December Dates to Remember:**

December 5: Sandy Rotary visits 3<sup>rd</sup> grade  
December 7: 4<sup>th</sup> grade fieldtrip to Hillcrest High- Utah Symphony  
December 7: PTA Board Meeting 12:30 pm  
December 9: Utah Grizzly Assembly  
December 10: Orchestra Performance  
December 14: School Orchestra Performance  
December 19-30 Winter Holiday

### **PTA Board 2011 – 2012**

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Co-Presidents:   | Ellen Sperry / Stephanie Shumway |
| Co-Pres. Elects: | Denise Richard / Kathryn Turley  |
| Vice President:  | Derek Brown                      |
| Secretary:       | Sara Hopkin                      |
| Treasure:        | Kim Kehl                         |
| ELM:             | Kristi Reardon                   |
| Newsletter:      | Lindsay Dean                     |

### **News from the PTA....**

December is here and the holidays are fast approaching! It is such a fun but busy time of the year. We wanted to make sure we thanked and acknowledged those who have volunteered so much of their time to us in November.

We want to thank Mandi Moore, Lisa Anderson and all their volunteers for doing a great job on the book fair. It was a great success. Erin Harris out did herself again on the book fair decorations. (They were so good we had a hard time seeing them get taken down.) Kristi Doty and Sylvia Cannon also did a fabulous job on our donut breakfast. We had a great turnout!

We heard wonderful things about the SEP dinners provided to the teachers by Marilee Garff and her team of helpers. The teachers were so appreciative.

Chess Club is going STRONG! It is the place to be on Friday mornings. The kids are having a great time and are really learning to play this strategic game well. Thank you Jan Thomson and all your parent volunteers!

WAY TO GO on the food drive! The amount of food we collected for the Utah food bank was overwhelming! Such a wonderful way to show our support for those in need! Thank you to Karen Allen for heading up the food drive and to all those who contributed! (GO BYU! GO UTES!)

We hope you all have a safe and wonderful holiday!

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Shumway and Ellen Sperry  
Co-PTA Presidents

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## Common Core State Standards: Tips for Parents

Have questions on the new Common Core State Standards? Want to know how to help your child become career- and college-ready? Canyons School District has posted resources for parents at [www.canyonsdistrict.org](http://www.canyonsdistrict.org), under the "Parents & Students" tab. There, you can learn more about the standards designed to help students get ready for college and career, see what your child will be learning in each grade, and access National PTA's tips for helping your child learn at home. The Web site complements the Common Core brochures made available at recent parent-teacher conferences. If you have further questions, or desire hard copies of the brochures, please contact [communications@canyonsdistrict.org](mailto:communications@canyonsdistrict.org).

Thank you!  
Susan Edwards

Canyon School District

Public Engagement Coordinator



## Chess Club is off to a Great Start!

We have exceeded all of our projections with 58 students participating in Chess Club so far. It has been a great success and the kids really enjoy it. They are learning new skills and strategies every week. So far, 21 students have earned their PAWN certificates. Congratulations to.....

# BLEEP!!

(Students names have been removed for privacy reasons.)

It isn't too late to sign up. All fourth to sixth graders are welcome to join us at any time, even if you have never played chess before. Just pick up a registration form in the office, at Chess Club, or register online at

[www.BrookwoodChess.blogspot.com](http://www.BrookwoodChess.blogspot.com)

A big thank you to the volunteers who have helped so far and an invitation for any others that would like to join us. With this many kids we really need more adults! :) Please contact Jan Thomson at 801.520.6055 or [BrookwoodChess@gmail.com](mailto:BrookwoodChess@gmail.com).

Chess Trivia question of the month: Why does white always move first in chess? (Find out in December's Chess Club!)

## 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, 2011, 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 Vyvinkel at [vyvinkel@comcast.net](mailto:vyvinkel@comcast.net) for more info. Additional information about this exciting event will be forthcoming!

\*Note: This is the same article that was done last year with just a few updates!!

## Brighton Area Community Forum with Canyons District Leaders

Thursday, December 1, 6-8:00 pm

Brighton High Media Center

Members of the community are invited to attend and provide input to Canyons District Leadership

**6:00-7:15 pm Student Academic Achievement and Activities**

Common Core State Standards, Online High School, Magnet Programs, Grade Reconfiguration

**Patron comments 7:15- 8:00 pm Facility Projects in the Brighton Area**

Butler Middle School Rebuild, Albion Renovation, proposed upgrades to Brighton

**Patron comments**

Ms Kim Horiuchi  
District 2

Mr Kevin Cromar  
District 3

Mr Steve Wrigley  
District 5

Dr David Doty  
Superintendent

Written Comment form available at [www.bit.ly/bhscomments](http://www.bit.ly/bhscomments)

Sponsored by Brighton High School Community Council - [brightonscc@gmail.com](mailto:brightonscc@gmail.com)

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## Grade Level Updates

### Kindergarten

November was a great month in Kindergarten! We learned about the Pilgrims and Native American's, and even had a Thanksgiving feast wearing our costumes we made in class. Thank you to all of the parents that helped us with our costumes and our feasts! In math, we have finished up learning the numbers to 10. Now we are going to start comparing them to see which is bigger, and putting them in order.

December is also full of fun activities to prepare for the holidays. We will even be reading the story of the Gingerbread man, and making a real gingerbread man to eat. Hopefully he won't run away! Happy Holidays!!

### First Grade

First graders surely feel the holiday excitement in the air. In December, we will learn about Holiday Traditions from around the world. We will have presentations focusing on Sweden, Holland, Greece, England, Italy, Samoa, Germany, Russia, Chinese New Year, Japanese New Year and Persian New Year. We are thrilled that so many signed up to share with our first grade in December. Thanks for the support!

We've started training students in a new program to support reading, phonics, fluency, and comprehension. It comes from the FCRR (Florida Center for Reading Research) and is entitled PALS (Peer-Assisted Literacy Strategies). This research-based program has outstanding results—we are excited about this addition to our curriculum!

Remember to send coats, hats, gloves, and boots for wintery days. We go out for recess unless the conditions are too extreme. An extra pair of shoes for inside helps keep feet dry and safer for PE activities.

Please continue home reading (20 minutes for 20 nights), the math calendar and flashers throughout the December holiday. Folders will be due January 2, 2012. Be sure to have a terrific holiday season and a great new year.

### Second Grade

As the sights, sounds, and smells of the holidays surround us, second grade will be busy anticipating the events of the season. Reading, writing, and the visual arts will fill much of our time during the month of December. We will be enjoying the wonderful literature written about this special time of year. There will many chances to write about the season as well. Letters and thank you notes are perfect anytime, but especially significant this month.

Our Tanner Dance performance is coming up on December 15th. Be looking for a note telling you the exact time. The children will be creating dazzling stain glass windows which we will proudly display. We will be learning some songs to present to the other classes at our annual holiday sing along. Our math topic this month will be money. Please give your child lots of opportunities to count your change. Coming up on January 4th will be our annual Toy Share Day. Each child will bring a favorite present that day to "show and tell" with the class.

Continue to encourage your child to wear a warm coat and tuck gloves in their pockets. Remind them to leave toys at home. Please remember to listen to your child read out loud at least 20 minutes each night and remind them to write complete sentences on the baggy book form.

Thanks for your continued support. Happy Holidays to you all.

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## Third Grade

December's Math finishes Topic 5, the meaning of multiplication, and moves into Topic 6, which delves further into the concept. The students will be learning all their facts through the 12's as well as more advanced skills like multiplication of three factors, the associative property of multiplication, and multiplication in "easy tens", etc. Parents could help their children at home by utilizing flashcards, math games, computer games, and practice drills, about 5 minutes per night, 5 nights a week.

The December ticket is focused on our next Language Arts Unit of study, which is Biographies. Students will earn "autographs" on the good side of their ticket. Tickets need to be signed and returned by Monday mornings. Remember that lost tickets cannot be replaced so please encourage your child to be responsible for returning them on time. The students really enjoy it when they make it to the fun activities.

There will be a Third Grade Tanner Dance "Informance", parents should watch for information to be sent home. Ms. Kidd's class will be working on their annual play "A Christmas Carol". Parents of Kidd's students are invited to see the final performance on Thursday December 15th at 2:30 p.m. The students will bring home an invitation.

## Fourth Grade

Thank you for your support at SEP's! We couldn't do it all without the amazing parental support we receive. Work on the goals that were set at conference to help your child be the best they can.

We were absolutely amazed at the Native American dwellings brought in by our students! We can tell a ton of time and effort was put into them. We have a very creative group of 4<sup>th</sup> graders! Hopefully your child has a better understanding of the various types of dwellings found in Utah and what the climate and surroundings would be like.

Please continue to encourage your child in being responsible by getting their planner signed EVERY night and recording their reading minutes. We are beginning to see an improvement with this fourth grade in showing better responsibility.

Please continue to read 20 minutes a day during the winter break. These minutes will still count towards their independent reading grade. We would also like to remind and encourage you to continue using the IXL math website and to practice math skills over the break. Have a great holiday season and we'll see you bright and fresh for the New Year!

## Fifth Grade

5th grade is gearing up for a strong finish for 2011! We are studying the Christmas traditions of countries across the world. The students will be researching a diverse array of winter celebrations of many different peoples.

In math we will be exploring multiplication and division of decimals. The students will be continuing to practice using the valuable [ixl.com](http://ixl.com) website as a reinforcement tool. Students will be working to improve and enrich their understanding of important mathematical concepts. Be sure and ask your child how to log on!

We are also studying the early events that led to American independence. The founding fathers and those brave patriots who stood up for their rights. We will also be looking at the perspectives of both sides of the Revolutionary War.

## Sixth Grade

Sixth grade will continue to work on a variety of exciting projects in December as the students anxiously wait for Christmas break to begin!

The sixth grade team wants to remind all students to read for at least 20 minutes each day, have planner signed and continue to be prepared in each class!

Please remember to dress your child appropriately during the winter months!

We hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mark your calendars:

12/16-December Club

12/19-12/30-Christmas Break

