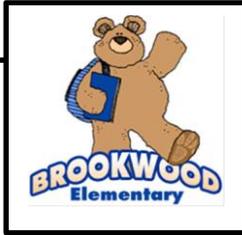


THE BROOKWOOD BEAR BULLETIN

A Brookwood PTA Publication

NOVEMBER 2011



Principal Mootz Memo:

If you are really thankful, what do you do? You share.

[W. Clement Stone](#)

With the holidays fast approaching, I want everyone to know how thankful I am to be part of the Brookwood Family!

First, we have outstanding teachers who love teaching and the students they serve. Did you know eight of our teachers, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Rotermund, Mrs. Guevara, Mrs. Carr, Mrs. Dewey, Ms. Johnson, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Garrett have all received grants from donorschoose.org website? These teachers saw a need to enhance learning and made an extra effort to get the materials for their students. Our teachers are taking extra classes, teaching students after school and are providing a positive learning environment that challenges all students.

Second, our office, custodial and lunch staff are an essential part of the school. Mrs. Carter always has a smile and helps to make our school run smoothly. We have the most beautiful school because of Shane Smith, our custodian. Mr. Smith keeps our school immaculate and even knows the names of most of the students. Our kitchen staff was ready to help when I wanted to celebrate student birthdays once a month. The kitchen staff eagerly agreed to bake the cakes and decorate the table.

Third, our students are the best. I am thankful for students who are SAFE, KIND and RESPONSIBLE. Our students demonstrate positive leadership skills and work hard in the class every day.

Finally, I am thankful for our PTA and community. Thank you to Mrs. Sperry, Mrs. Shumway, Mrs. Vyfyvinkel and all the parents who contribute many hours to our school. You help make Brookwood a real family. All of us working together make Brookwood the place to be.

Thank you!

Principal Mootz

November Dates to Remember:

October 31- November 3- Book Fair
November 2- PTA Board Meeting 12:30 pm
November 2- Reading Den 8-9 am
November 2 & 3- SEP conferences
November 4- No School
November 9- Picture Make-up Day
November 11- School Community Council Meeting 8-9 am
November 23-25 Thanksgiving Recess

PTA Board 2011 – 2012

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

News from the PTA....

WOW! October went by fast. We had a lot of great things happen. A big thank you to Laura Neilsen for her work on Reflections and Jen Wilhite and Ashley Arbon for a fabulous Red Ribbon Week. Also thanks to Misty Walker for taking care of vision testing. Looking ahead to November we can get excited about the BOOK FAIR and the READING DEN. These fun activities are some of the students favorites. Come enjoy a donut and milk before you tour the book fair. The book fair is October 31th- November 4th. The Reading Den is November 2nd, 8:00-8:55 a.m.

Parent teacher conferences will be November 2nd and 3rd. Look for the table that gives you information about the CHESS CLUB. (Another fun PTA sponsored activity.)

Ever wonder where all the PTA donations go? Come visit the "NO FUSS FUNRAISER" table at SEP conferences and we will actually show you. Our donations are low this year so if you haven't had a chance to donate, there is still time. These funds help us offer so many of our programs.

As always, Brookwood is an elite school because of all our parent volunteers. Thank you to all who give so freely of their time to our students and our school.

Have a great month!

Sincerely,
Stephanie Shumway and Ellen Sperry
PTA Co Presidents

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Help Brookwood Bears Win a *Power a Bright Future* grant from Clorox!

After a competitive nomination period, voting is now open and Brookwood needs your help to win up to \$50,000 in The Clorox Company's *Power A Bright Future* grant program! Help us secure funding for a **New iPad Learning Lab** by visiting www.PowerABrightFuture.com or texting** **clorox0153** to **44144** and voting once per day per person through Dec. 9, 2011 for Brookwood.

Share this great news with your friends and family members! Visit www.PowerABrightFuture.com for official rules.

The link to get to our proposal is

<http://www.powerabrightfuture.com/gallery/detail/?nid=261>

No Fuss Fundraiser Reminder

It's not too late to donate to the No Fuss fundraiser if you have not done so yet. We have only raised 70% of our funds for the year.

These funds go towards the following activities for your children: field trips, assemblies, Meet the Masters, Hands on Science, music, monthly newsletter, Reflections, birthday book club, field day, Fun Run, drug and Internet safety weeks, Star Reading program, and much, much more.

Thank you so much for contributing to these funds. We appreciate all the support.

SEP CONFERENCE TIME!

November 2nd and 3rd are important days at Brookwood Elementary. Student Education Plans (SEPs) take the place of the traditional parent/teacher conferences. Students are encouraged to attend these conferences. The key to a successful conference is two-way communication. Here are some things that may help foster communication before, during and after SEPs.

Before the SEP:

- ❖ Ask your child what he/she would like to about with the teacher.
- ❖ Ask what he/she thinks the teacher will say.
- ❖ Ask about the subjects he/she likes and doesn't like, his/her problems and successes.
- ❖ Help your child formulate some goals for the next grading period.
- ❖ Make a list of things to ask your child's teacher. You might ask about grades, homework, attitude, behavior, strengths, weaknesses, or test scores.



During the SEP:

- ❖ Keep an open mind. Remember that both you and the teacher want to help you child succeed. Even if the teacher says something you disagree with, try to listen to what he/she has to say.
- ❖ Start the conference on a positive note. Both you and your child's teacher are trying to do what's best for your child.
- ❖ Use the list you prepared of things you wanted to discuss with the teacher.
- ❖ Listen carefully and make notes as the teacher talks about your child's progress.
- ❖ Ask the teacher to explain anything you don't understand. Every profession has its own jargon. If you don't understand what's being said, ask.
- ❖ Discuss the goals you and your child have formulated.
- ❖ Sum up what has been said. This will make sure you, your child and the teacher understand what has been said and decisions that have been made.



After the SEP:

- ❖ Follow up and stay in touch.
- ❖ Talk over the results of the conference with your child.
- ❖ Stress the positive things the teacher said.
- ❖ Talk about the suggestions the teacher made for improvement and how you plan to carry these out.
- ❖ Post goals from the SEP somewhere visible in your home. This will serve as a daily reminder to both you and your child.

Think of the SEP as a team meeting. The ultimate goal of this meeting is to help your child succeed. Working together we can provide the best education for your child.

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Last Chance for T-shirts!!

Time is running out to purchase Brookwood T-shirts and sweatshirts. All orders are due in the office by Thursday, Nov. 3.

Traditional T-shirts: \$6

Fitted-cut T-Shirts: \$8

Sweatshirts: \$16

Discount --

Traditional T-shirts/Sweatshirt: \$20

Fitted-cut T-shirts/Sweatshirt: \$22

Check payable to "Brookwood PTA"

Questions: Call Sarah Weaver, 801-733-4003

CHESS: THE GAME FOR YOUR BRAIN!

Chess Club is right around the corner. Our first meeting is Friday, November 11th at 8 a.m. Students from 4th to 6th grades are invited to experience the fun and challenge of chess. Beginners welcome! Meetings will include practice matches as well as instruction on rules and strategy. Certificates are awarded as new skills are mastered. WE STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS! A volunteer orientation will be held Thursday, November 10th from 8:30 a.m. to 8:50 a.m. Please contact Jan Thomson with any questions. 801.520.6055, BrookwoodChess@gmail.com, www.BrookwoodChess.blogspot.com. LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

Grade Level Updates

Kindergarten

November will be an exciting month in Kindergarten. We are excited to start talking about the numbers 6-10, and start building on our strong foundation we have made for number sense. We are also looking forward to some fun activities for Thanksgiving. We have been working really hard on our letters and sounds, and are excited to finish learning them by Christmas so that we can start putting it all together and begin reading some words!

First Grade

How time is flying! Report card week is upon us and the first grade team is looking forward to meeting you all. Together as partners we can make this a wonderful year for your child. Beside our strong reading and math program, we will be discussing healthy life styles and nutrition. Of course it is once again time for the Pilgrims, Native Americans and Thanksgiving review. With this unit we will expose them to rich vocabulary words, art projects and more writing.

Keep in mind that we all are encouraging our students to study during the week for their spelling tests. If the studying is spread out over the week, the children perform better on their Friday exam. Also, many students are still having difficulty remembering to return their homework folders on the last day of the school week. Because we fill them on Friday, each child is insured that he or she will receive all the necessary papers and homework. Our objective is for each student to have what he/she needs for the up-and-coming week ahead. Remember to continue keeping track of the current reading, as we are always focusing on the Read for the Gold medals. This is an exciting time for them all, and they all would like to receive the gold medals.

Thank you for all that you do, plus thank you mother helpers. We can always use more, so if you have time, we can definitely use more extra hands. We work your child very hard, but we can guarantee they will reap the rewards!

Learning Center 1

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Second Grade

The second grade teachers thoroughly enjoyed meeting with parents and students at Parent/Teachers Conferences recently. We appreciate all the support we receive from each of you. We are looking forward to lots of learning opportunities as the cold weather and holiday season quickly approach. We will be reading and writing about the first Thanksgiving. In Math we will be starting a unit on place value. Doing daily math homework helps your child practice the skills taught in class that very day. Remember to spend a few minutes each day practicing math facts, too. The children are all enjoying Tanner Dance and weekly rotations. Lots of baggy books are going home. We really appreciate your help listening to your child read, discussing their book, and helping them write complete sentences on the baggy book report form. Learning to write well is an essential skill for success in school and helps your child be college ready.

With temperatures dropping make sure your child has warm clothes so they can enjoy recess. Please put names on all personal belongings. We hope to keep lost items to a minimum.

Lastly, we have a new school motto at Brookwood. It is "Brookwood Bears are always safe, kind, and responsible." Ask your child to tell you the motto and ask him/her what it "looks like and sounds like". We love your little Brookwood Bears. Thanks for sharing each of them with us.

Third Grade

November's Math topic is "Multiplication as Repeated Addition". The students will learn about factors, arrays, multiples, and commutative property of multiplication. Parents can definitely help at home with flashcards, math games, computer games, and practice drills.

Current tickets are aligned with curriculum and the students are earning "stickers" like trees and butterflies on the good side. Parents need to sign and return the tickets by Monday mornings. Look for your student to have at least five "stickers" on the good side of their ticket.

We are still working on Language Arts Unit Two titled "Inspired by the Sea". Students are reading stories, poetry, and informational texts that are inspired by a love of or curiosity with the sea. The classes are especially enjoying "Sarah Plain and Tall".

Fourth Grade

We can't believe we're already to the second term! Halloween was such a blast and we had some very creative costumes! We'd like to thank Ms. Johnson's room parents for planning and putting on such a fantastic party!

We look forward to meeting with you and your students at SEP conferences. The parent support is truly great and we appreciate the part you take in supporting your child's education. We look forward to another great term as we all think about our accomplishments and make goals to improve.

We will be starting our third rotation of our science units, and will continue our studies of art and Utah studies. We are excited to see the fantastic Native American dwellings our students have been working on so hard at home! We have been so impressed by all the independent reading our students are doing, and would like to give another reminder that 20 minutes of reading each day is our goal.

Thanks again for all of your support!

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Fifth Grade

We are really getting into science and social studies this month. We are focusing on the Colonial Period in America this November. Our study of Colonial times will culminate in a very special day of Colonial games, dress, and crafts on November 18.

We are also delving into division in math. We are learning about two-digit division and how to logically check our answers. Be sure to have the students do their practice on www.ixl.com where there skills activities that tie perfectly into what we are learning in math class. The students will have their login information in their planners. Be sure and ask about it!

We are so happy to have such supportive families, thanks for all you do!

Sixth Grade

October was a “spook-tacular” month for Sixth Grade. Our first club was a huge success; learning about Egypt has never been so much fun! Mrs. Rotermund guided us through the process of mummification, from stuffing a chicken with “natron” to correctly wrapping each other with toilet paper! A big THANK YOU to all of the parents who donated items and funding; this experience would not be possible without your support! Thanks! Check out the images and student written articles on the Sixth Grade Blog at <http://mrsr6th.blogspot.com/>

November is the month for our first SEP conferences (Wednesday, November 2nd and Thursday, November 3rd). This will be a time for parents, students and teachers to get together and celebrate hard work, focus on areas for improvement, and set realistic goals. We look forward to this time and encourage you to clear your calendars for this important meeting.

We are very excited to offer Pearson SuccessNet to our educational curriculum at Brookwood Elementary School. Pearson SuccessNet offers you the opportunity to look inside your child's day-to-day learning. Success at school can be a shared learning experience! It all begins with a simple login at the web site. Visit <http://www.pearsonsuccessnet.com> to explore and learn!

Please take time to look over your child's work each day, discussing missed items to better understand the concepts taught. Encourage them to use their planner, writing assignments daily, to keep current with coursework. Students must have their planners signed by a parent each day.

Note the important dates below:

- SEP Conferences 11/2 and 11/3
- Compensatory Day – No School 11/4
- November Club 11/30
- Thanksgiving Recess 11/23-11/27

