



BROOKE GROVE NEWS

Seasons Greetings

Brooke Grove
Elementary School

Volume I Issue 4

December Calendar of Events

Renaissance Assembly	12/01
Family Fun Craft Night/Vendor Night, 6-8 pm	12/06
Farquhar Land Swap Meeting 7-8:30pm at Farquhar MS	12/12
Winter Choral and Instrumental Music Concert, 7 pm	12/14
Chanukah	12/20 -12/28
Christmas	12/25
Kwanzaa	12/26
No School - Winter Break	12/26 -1/02
Back To School	1/3



Message from the Principal

I hope everyone had a wonderful and warm Thanksgiving celebration with family and friends. The beautiful weather was an added treat. We are now in the 2nd quarter of the school year and are busy at work. My favorite time is visiting the classrooms and seeing the children and staff engaged in meaningful learning opportunities and experiences. The classroom ELMOS are being creatively and productively used to highlight instruction and bring technology into the classrooms. It is exciting to see. We are extremely fortunate to have such dedicated and talented staff to support and enrich our students and their learning. I want to wish you all a very Happy, healthy and enjoyable holiday season.

Renaissance Assembly

We begin each month by coming together and recognizing students and staff for their hard work, for their care and commitment to each other and to learning. This month, we are recognizing students for achieving and earning their Renaissance Cards by demonstrating positive learning skills, such as completing their class work and homework, trying their hardest, working well with others and showing respectful behavior. Students will be treated to popcorn and get to go out first to recess on Fridays.

"Go For the Gold" Reading Incentive Program

We are once again encouraging our students to read with our reading incentive program. Thank you to our Reading Specialist, Karen Atabek and her Reading Committee for helping to organize and sponsor this successful program. Students are encouraged to read, read, read each and every night. Students are keeping track of their minutes and will earn prizes as they reach certain milestones, such as the Bronze Level, the Silver Level and the Gold Level. Please continue to encourage your children to read each night and keep track of their minutes.

lecting and counting the proceeds. It feels good to know we were able to do our small part to help others during this holiday season.



Winter Choral and Instrumental Music Program

Please join us for our upcoming Winter Music Program. The afternoon concert is on Wednesday, **December 14th at 2:15 p.m.** The evening concert is on Wednesday, December 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the GYM. The 4th and 5th grade Choruses will be performing along with the Advanced Band and Advanced Strings. All performers are expected to be at BGES at 6:25 p.m. to warm up. We hope you will join us as we showcase our talented students and staff and celebrate the holiday season together.

William H. Farquhar Middle School Updates:



Meeting with Parks and Planning to show support for the Land-Swap

December 12th from 7-8:30 pm at FMS. The purpose of the meeting will be to inform Parks about the benefits of this land-swap and to show our commitment. The land-swap is not a done deal. It is important to show a large presence.

Capital Project: The FMS modernization project was scheduled for a completion date of August 2015. However, due to fiscal constraints the completion date has been proposed to be delayed by one year to August 2016.



RIGOR RELATIONSHIPS RELEVANCE ENGAGEMENT



Craft Night

We hope you'll join us for the upcoming Craft Night, Tuesday December 6, 2011. Thank you to Mrs. Karen Castle and her PTA Committee for organizing this exciting event. It is a joy to watch the children and the families thoroughly enjoying creating beautiful and special craft items to share as holiday gifts. The Vendor Sales are a nice addition to the evening.

Parking Lot and Student Safety

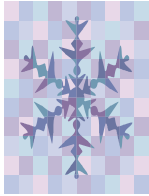
Please help us by only parking in the Visitor parking spots, and not the Staff parking spots. Please use the Kiss and Ride Loop for drop off and pick up. Please do not double park and block in other cars. It is NOT SAFE for the children to walk through the parking lot with cars and buses arriving.

SGA Food Drive

Thanks to your generosity, we collected over 857 food items to donate to families in need through the Olney Help organization. Our 5th Grade SGA representatives and Mr. Southworth did a wonderful job promoting this food drive and col-



Tips and Reminders



Cold Weather

Winter and the cold weather are here. Please send your children to school in appropriate clothing for the cold weather. We will be going

out for recess on most days. The children need hats, gloves, scarves and warm jackets and coats. Please label all items.

Saturday School

This is a wonderful opportunity for students to receive extra help and academic support and acceleration. The program is housed at Sherwood High School and it runs from October until May from 8:30—11:30 a.m. each Saturday. It is a free program, with only a registration fee. Please take advantage of this wonderful program and opportunity for your children.

Arriving on Time

Please make sure your children arrive on time. The student misses important instruction and it is very disruptive to the class. The students need to be in the classroom and ready for instruction by **8:50am**

Afternoon Dismissal

Please refrain from picking your children up early between 2:30 and 3:00 pm. unless there is an emergency. Calling into the classrooms to dismiss early is very disruptive to instruction. The children are busy learning right to the end of the day. Thank you.



Study Island

Our school has access to a great resource for preparing students in Grades 2-5 for the state standardized tests and for working on their reading and math skills. Students in Grade 5 also have

access to the science portion. The program is called Study Island. We have purchased a school building license for this web-based program. The Username for students is their computer login and the Password is the word *eagles*. Classroom teachers have been asked to provide students with this information.

Science Share

We hope all our budding scientists are busy planning their science experiments for our upcoming Science Share. Our school Science Share will be held February 29th. Mr. and Mrs. Greenberg will continue to send home information

explaining how to design a testable question and all the procedures. Please join us on Tuesday, January 3rd, for a Parent/Student information Meeting from 6:30-7:30pm in Room #7 before the PTA meeting.



Please mark your calendars to attend our next **PTA Meeting on Tuesday, January 3rd**. Our new Community Superintendent, Mrs. Beth Schiavino-Narvaez, will be our guest speaker. This is a wonderful chance to get to know her and hear her vision and ideas for how she can support us at BGES.

Science Cultural Arts

Our students are being treated to a performance from the Science Center on December 5th. They will be exploring sound, the senses, and extreme cold and heat using exciting experiments. Please be sure to ask the children about what they learned.

Congratulations to Faye Greenberg, a BGES grad, her family, and Mrs. Intoccia. Faye's art work was chosen by the Board of Education as the design for their holiday notecards.

New BGES Playground Equipment

A new piece of playground equipment should be installed in the next month. The old piece had some broken and unsafe parts. We are fortunate that MCPS will be able to replace it for us.

Montgomery County School Board Sets Calendar for 2012-2013

At its November 8th business meeting, the Board of Education adopted the calendar for the 2012–2013 school year. The school year will begin on Monday, August 27, 2012, and is scheduled to end on Friday, June 14, 2013. It includes 184 instructional days and 193 duty days for teachers. The Christmas holidays and winter break will be from Dec. 24, 2012 to Jan. 1, 2013, and spring break will be March 25, 2013 to April 1, 2013. In addition, schools and offices will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2012, for Presidential Election Day.



Wishing you
and your
family a
wonderful
holiday
season and a
very happy
New Year!

