



Brooke Grove News

Brooke Grove
Elementary School

Volume 1 Issue 5

January 2012

January 2012 Calendar of Events



Welcome Back To School. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year. The New Year gives us an opportunity to refresh and renew our goals and commitments for continued growth and learning. As we begin the second half of the school year, we will continue to work together to ensure quality instruction for each and every child here at Brooke Grove. We are thankful for the wonderful Brooke Grove Staff and their dedication and talents, along with the support and involvement of our parents and families. We are blessed to have such hard working and caring students.

Renaissance Assembly

We welcomed everyone back and began the New Year together at our monthly Renaissance Assembly. We were able to recognize students showing responsible behavior, for working hard, and trying their best.

Park and Planning Meeting regarding the Modernization of Farquhar Middle School

Thank you to everyone who attended the January 3rd meeting with Park and Planning at Farquhar Middle School regarding the modernization of the middle School. Thank you to Troy Kimmel and his wonderful and dedicated committee for all their hard work, professionalism, and tenacity in staying focused on ensuring that Farquhar be modernized and that our students have the option of remaining on site during the construction.

SGA Coat, Hat and Gloves Drive



Donate your coats and

hats between January 9th and January 31st.



Tardy and Attendance Policy

As you know, the safety of our children is our greatest priority. As we move into the winter season with more inclement weather, I wanted to remind everyone of our arrival and attendance policy. Students are to arrive at school between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m. so they can be in their classrooms and ready for instruction when the bell rings at 8:50 a.m. Any students arriving after 8:50 a.m. are considered tardy and need to report to the office to get a late slip. STUDENTS NEED TO BE ACCOMPANIED INTO THE OFFICE BY AN ADULT WHEN THEY ARE LATE. Please help us with this procedure. Each morning, our patrols and staff are outside to greet the children. Patrols stay on duty until 8:45 a.m. and are then dismissed to go to class. Staff members stay outside and on duty until 8:50 a.m. They too then need to get to their classrooms to begin the day. Please DO NOT drop off your child in the Kiss and Ride Loop after 8:50 a.m. when no one is on duty. This creates a safety issue. It is extremely important that children arrive to school on time so that they have time for the morning routines and are ready and available for the instruction each morning. Please help us by getting your children here on time each morning. We will be notifying parents of students who are habitually late. Thank you as always for your continued support.

Parking Lot Etiquette and Safety

We want our children to be SAFE. Please use the Kiss and Ride for drop off and pick up. If you do park the



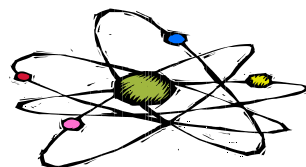
car, then please escort the children through the parking lot. We do not want any children hurt with moving cars and busses. Please **DO NOT** block cars in the parking lot and only park in the designated visitor spots. We need to make sure our staff who work different hours still have parking when they arrive. Thank you for your help in ensuring the safety of our children and staff.

New Security Sign In System

To enhance the safety and security of our students and staff, a visitor system was installed that requires visitors to present their **driver's license** upon entering the office. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Science Share

We are once again planning our upcoming Science Share Event. Our Brooke Grove Science Share will be held on Wednesday, February 29. The students share their Science Projects during the day so that all the students can learn and see the experiments. In the evening, students will "present" their projects to a Science Advisor—a member of the community with a Science background. The purpose of the event is to stimulate an interest in science and the scientific inquiry process. Students are encouraged to base their projects on a testable question and design an experiment to test their question, collect data, and draw conclusions. Students will receive feedback and recognition for their hard work and accomplishments. Thank you to Mr. Lowe and Mrs. Greenberg for visiting the classes and explaining the process.

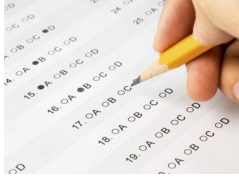


Renaissance Assembly	1/3
Farquhar Meeting-7 Parks and Planning	1/3
7:00-8:30pm at FMS	
MOCK-MSA for 3,4 and 5th Grade	1/4 & 1/5
Variety Show Audition Distributed	1/04
SGA Coat, Scarf, Hat, Gloves Drive	1/9-1/31
Holiday—No School Martin Luther King Birth-	1/16
PTA sponsored lunch 4th and 5th grade	1/18
No School—Professional Day for Teachers	1/23
3rd Marking Period Begins	1/24
Variety Show Auditions Forms due	1/25-26
Report Cards Distributed	2/1



**RIGOR
RELATIONSHIPS
RELEVANCE
ENGAGEMENT**

Tips and Reminders



Upcoming State Testing

The Maryland State Assessments (MSA) are scheduled for March 12-21, 2012 for this year for students in grades 3-5. Make-up tests go from March 17-21. These assessments serve as an important tool for measuring the academic proficiency of our students and school. Please note that these assessments occur prior to spring break. It is very important that students are in school and that we have good attendance for these assessments. Please mark your calendars and do not schedule appointments during this time period. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Grade 3 and 4 MSA Reading— March 12 and 13th
Grade 5 MSA Reading—March 14th and 15th
Grade 3 and 4 MSA Math—March 16th and 19th
Grade 5 MSA Math—March 20 and 21st
Grade 2 Terra Nova 2 (TN2) April 16-18th



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.

Winter 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.



International Night



Please mark your calendars for **March 23 7:00-9:00 pm!** Come join us and celebrate our rich and wonderful diversity at Brooke Grove. Students and families come and share food, artifacts, cultural dance and music from their cultures and backgrounds. We are very fortunate to have children and families from so many different backgrounds. Learning about other people's backgrounds and cultures helps us appreciate our own culture and helps us learn to respect, understand, and appreciate people from different backgrounds.



Go For the Gold Reading Incentive Program

Please continue to encourage your children to read each night and challenge themselves to reach each level of the reading incentive program. Good readers read and re-read. We hope the children will find material they enjoy and will experience the joys of reading and learning about new characters, new places, and new experiences. Remember to write down their daily minutes and send in the calendars each month. Mrs. Atabek and Mrs. Carroll announce the students each month and celebrate their accomplishments.



Food Allergies and Birthday Celebrations

Our goal is to have happy and healthy children and staff. We have many children with food allergies. Please help us by making sure that the foods you bring in to share for the birthday celebrations are **peanut free and store bought. No home baked goods.** The ingredients of the food items need to be clearly labeled. Giant has a section in the bakery that sells peanut free foods. Please bring enough for extra children in the class.

If your child has food allergies, please remind them about their food choices and options. Our Paraeducators do a wonderful job trying to manage which children have allergies and who can eat what foods. However, there are days when there are 5 Birthday celebrations together and it is hard to keep track of everyone. The children need to be aware of their food restrictions. We can and do provide alternative snacks for children with allergies. Please work with the school nurse regarding these important safety issues. Thank you.

Recess:

We know how important it is for the children to go out for recess and have some physical activity and fresh air. There are times, however, when children make poor choices and the natural consequence is to lose recess for that period. We use this time to problem solve, reflect, and understand the consequence of their behavior. There are also times, when the recess time is used by the teachers to give extra help and reinforce skills. We try to minimize the time inside and try to give the children some part of the recess to get healthy exercise. We will continue to work together to reinforce good habits and choices.



The BGES web team has established a Twitter account with the name BrookeGroveES. Go to our website and click on the tweet button at the bottom of the front page. We will attempt to integrate this newer technology to keep Twitter users updated with timely information.

