



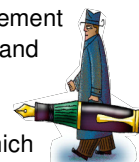
Brentwood's Bear Facts

A Monthly PTSO/School Newsletter

November 2009

Dear Brentwood Families:

Heading into the month of November means parent/teacher conferences are just around the corner. This fall a new standards-based report card will be used by all teachers in the district to report their students' progress. The new report card is designed to give you more accurate information about how your child is doing compared with state learning targets, but will also present a significant change in grading practices for our teachers. This is a significant learning task for teachers, and like anything new, presents its own set of challenges. We would ask for your patience and understanding throughout this year as we learn a different way of presenting information to our parents. On a different note, one of the highlights of this past month was our fourth annual Fun Run. I would like to extend a special thank you to Stephanie Veenstra and Ann Penfield for their leadership in planning and running this memorable event. Also this past month our Council for Learning Improvement (CLI) has been meeting regularly to shape an improvement plan for the building. I especially appreciate the involvement of our parent representatives, Tianna Abel, Kim Kolodrub, and Jennifer Frase who have given considerable amounts of their time to assist in developing the plan. Our plan will be submitted to the district office this week, and a copy of the plan will be put on our website in the near future. A copy will also be available for you to peruse here in the office if you would like. Your support and involvement is something for which we are truly thankful! Sincerely, Roger Pike, Principal



PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

November 19 - 25 has been set aside as the time for our fall parent/teacher conferences. Many of you signed up for a conference date at our Open House in September, but if you did not, you can call the office at 465-6200 to schedule a time. Notices will be coming home with all students the week of November 9th to remind you of your scheduled time. Please return this notice to your child's teacher so he/she can be sure of your attendance. These conferences are crucial to the ongoing success of your child, so we would urge you to make every effort to attend.



HONORING OUR VETERANS

On November 10th, we will be putting on a special Veterans Day program for our students and our community. The program will begin at 9:45 and will take place in the school gym. We would like to invite parents and community members to this event, but also want to extend a special invitation to all veterans. If you know a community member or a special veteran that you would like to honor in this way, please feel free to invite them.

EARLY RELEASE

This **Friday, November 6**, will be an early release day for students to allow teachers to begin preparations for fall conferences. Students will be served lunch and then will be dismissed at 12:45. Kindergarten classrooms will follow their normal schedule.



Calendar of Events

November 3

Election Day
Please Vote!

November 6

Early Release
Dismissal - 12:45 PM

November 10

PTSO - 6:30 PM

November 11

Veterans Day Observance
No School

November 16

Chuck E. Cheese Night
3:00 - 9:00 PM

November 19 - 25

Parent/Teacher Conferences
Early Dismissal - 12:45 PM

November 26, 27

Thanksgiving Break

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

Each year, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) publishes a school report card for each school in Washington State. On that website you can access a variety of information about Brentwood, including WASL score data for the past several years,

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) data, and demographics information. To access the information, just go to the OSPI website at www.k12.wa.us and click on Research/Reports in the menu bar. Go to School Report Card and then type Brentwood

Elementary in the search window and our school should come up. Take some time to maneuver around the site to find out more about our school. We appreciate your interest in how well we are doing!



PTSO News



Hey, all you "SOUPER" families. The weather is getting colder and soup is a healthy idea for those nights when you need a quick dinner. We have 56,000 points right now but we have a long way to go to reach 200,000 for that scoreboard. Help us out by sending in those soup upc coupons. If we send in 2,500 by Dec. 31st, the company will match those.

So, please send them in NOW! Thanks so much for your support of this program.

We want to recognize the parents that organized the playground cleanup and all those that volunteered their time and materials. **Judi Rodewald and Jill Smith** initiated and organized the event. **Todd and Tiffany Weller** donated the bark used in the beds. All involved did an excellent job and the playground looked great! For those of you that enjoy yard work, we are hoping to make this an annual event!



November 13th will be our first planning meeting for the upcoming carnival in March. The meeting will be held in the cafeteria right after you bring your kids to school. We hope to see you there. If you have any questions call Jill Dourte Smith at 998-6160 or 466-2456.

Directories are still available in the school office for \$3.00. Come on in or send an envelope with your child noting their name and classroom.

The new **Brentwood t-shirts** are available in the student store. They can be purchased any time by checking with the office. Selection is limited, so hurry in.



Do you buy groceries? Are you a Starbucks regular? Do you go to the movies? Do you have people on your Christmas list that you don't know what to buy? We are introducing a new way for you to help Brentwood simply by buying gift cards for the places you already shop. Be watching for the Scrip flyer to come home with your child very soon. Thanks for your continued support!

Volunteer of The Month

Stephanie Veenstra is our volunteer of the month. Stephanie has been a great leader in organizing the Fun Run and implementing some new ideas. Thank you for all your hard work, dedication, and innovation!



Attention Parents!

Share the good news with us. We would like to hear about your child's accomplishments and achievements that occur outside of school. Did your son get the lead in the play? Has your daughter won a basketball shooting contest? Let us know so we can share the news with others at Brentwood. Simply fill in the form below and leave the rest to us.

Student's name:

Honor or achievement:

When and where the event took place:

Change is in the wind and with the wind blowing, we are thinking of winter coats. If you need assistance in getting a coat for your child contact Coats for Kids @KXLY.com or call 3241-4000 for pick up locations. Mr. Z or Mrs. Johnson may also be able to help, call 465-6200.

Fall Fun in First Grade

Our four first grade classes have been very busy this fall. We are building a community of learners in our classrooms with fun songs & poems, compliment circle, and class meetings. We are also very proud of our students building stamina and reading independently for longer periods of time for our Readers' Workshop. In addition, we have planned fun activities that incorporate learning and teamwork.

One of our exciting activities for fall is our Pumpkin Math Day. Each classroom recruits several parent volunteers and collects pumpkins. Then students spend an entire morning working with a parent and a small group of students to observe, weigh, measure, count seams, hollow out, count seeds and collaboratively design a face for the parent to carve. Students enjoy putting math skills to real life use, and learn from this "hands-on" activity. Some students enjoy the "hands-on" part more than others when it comes time to hollow out the "guts" of their pumpkin. By the end of the morning each group has a mini book from their activities and has a picture taken with their group showing the finished product. A great time is had by all!



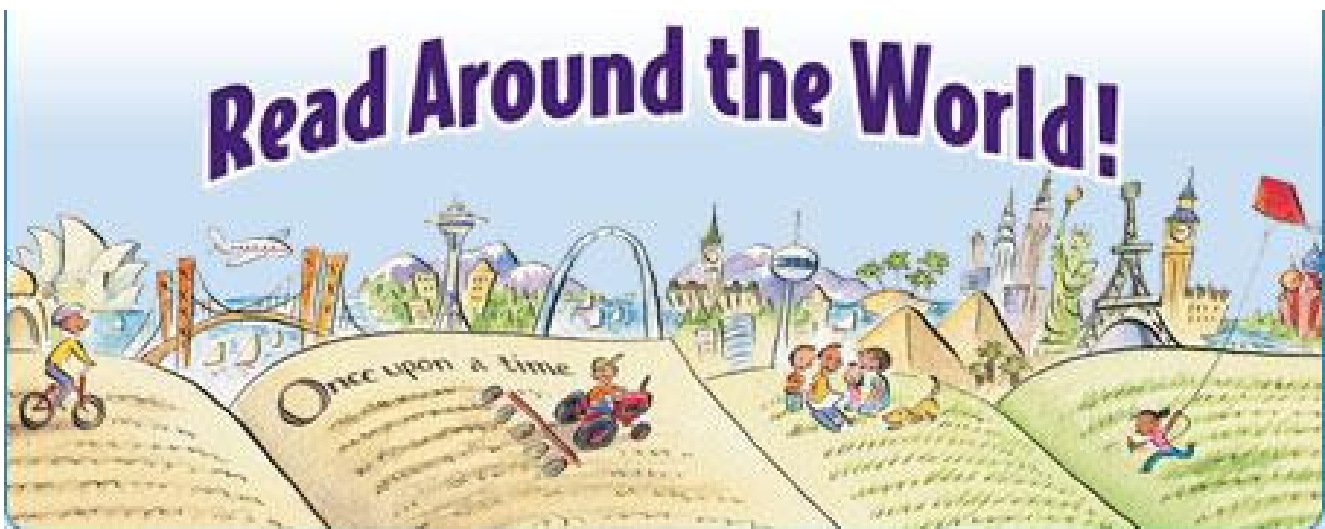
COME PLAY CHESS WITH US!



Thursday after school in the library
from October-April, from 3:20-4:30
PM. Call Robin Luciani at 466-9042.



Recess is part of the school day, be sure your child is dressed appropriately to go out in all types of weather.



Book Fair: November 19-24

Days and Times

Thurs, Nov 19 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
Fri, Nov 20 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Mon, Nov 23 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Tues, Nov 24 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Stop by the library during conference week and get a head start on your holiday shopping. At the Book Fair you will find the latest and finest titles for kids, as well as books of interest to parents. And, you can contribute books to your child's classroom library. The Book Fair is a great way to get everyone excited about reading. See you there!