

Art-i-Facts

Nov/Dec 2009
Volume 7, Issue 2

News from the Brooks Museums Magnet Elementary PTA

Thurs, Nov. 5

Report cards go home

Sat, Nov. 7

10:00 am–1:00 pm
Magnet Fair, Southeast
Raleigh High School

Mon, Nov. 9

4:00-8:00 pm (North Hills)
Chick-fil-A night

Wed, Nov. 11

No School: Veteran's Day

Thurs, Nov. 12

10:00 am & 1:00 pm
Magnet Tours, Open House

Fri, Nov. 13

Fall picture make-ups

Tues, Nov. 17

7:00 pm
A Night at Our Museum
Students share Q1 projects

Thurs, Nov. 19

6:30-8:00 pm
PTA General Membership
meeting

Fri, Nov. 20

3:20 pm Moving Museum
School Spirit Day

Wed-Fri, Nov. 25-7

No school: Thanksgiving
Break

Tues, Dec. 1

6:00 pm—Principal's Chat

Weds, Dec. 2

1:15 pm—Early Release

Thurs, Dec. 10

9:30 am—PTA meeting (Kim
Dittmann's house)
7:00 pm—Chorus concert

Mon-Fri, Dec. 21-Jan 1

No School: Winter Break

PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Dear Parents:

By the time you get this newsletter we will have completed our first Student Led Conference Night at Brooks Museums Magnet Elementary School. I hope you enjoyed having dialogue with your child about their academic performance, magnet experiences, behavior reflections and goals. As "architects of our own learning," we want to make sure our students have the opportunity to take ownership of that learning. We are already looking forward to having our second Student Led Conference Night in March!

As you know, each Wednesday our school dismisses at 2:45 p.m. in order for our staff to have time to collaborate and plan instruction based on best practices, data, and research. During these Wednesday afternoons, our teachers are focused on aligning math instruction with student needs. If you are interested in seeing what our staff is doing, you can access our PLT (Professional Learning Team) minutes from our school web page: <http://brookses.wcpss.net>. About the middle of the page, to the right, will be a selection of Brooks Profes-

sional Learning Team (PLT) Minutes. You will be able to select a grade level and an area to review (literacy, math or magnet). You will see that our staff is really working hard together!

Thanks for a wonderful first quarter of the year. I look forward to riding this ship with you for three more exciting and educational quarters!

Felecia Locklear
School Principal



Many thanks to all the families and friends at Brooks for making our NO FUSS Fundraiser a huge success. We raised over \$11,000 to support our wonderful school.

Thanks to Mrs. Locklear, Ms. Morgan (left) and Ms. Taylor (left and below) for being such good sports for showing their dance moves at the Fall picnic!



FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENT



Kim Dittmann
PTA President
kimdittmann@yahoo.com

Hi Brooks parents,
This has been a busy time with our No Fuss fundraiser coming to a close. A hearty thanks goes to you, your friends and families for contributing so generously and helping us meet and exceed our goal of \$11,000!

With this year's deep budget cuts across the state, you cannot imagine how important these donations are. Thank

you on behalf of all the staff and students at Brooks.

We wasted no time in getting started with educational field trips, many of them paid for in part or in full by the Brooks PTA (another example of your donations going to work). Be sure to check out a cute picture of some Kindergarteners on the back page, along with a photo of students arriving at school during "Walk to School" day last month.

If you find yourself in need of any school supplies or items for use in projects, be sure to check out our School Store (details below). It is cash only, and we stock just about anything your child could need!

There's lots to pack in before we rest for Thanksgiving and then Winter Break...be sure to check out the list of upcoming events on the front page!

Kim Dittmann

RESERVE YOUR YEARBOOK NOW BEFORE THEY RUN OUT!

Capture your child's memories of Brooks each year with a yearbook. They will cherish it for years to come.

We ran out of yearbooks last year—preordering is the ONLY way to guarantee your child will receive a yearbook!! Order forms (in today's Monday folder) are due FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13!

REMEMBER—UPLOAD YOUR PHOTOS FOR THE YEARBOOK!!!

Do you take pictures when you attend an event at Brooks

or chaperone field trips? We really need YOUR pictures for the yearbook. Field trips, moving museums, class projects, you name it!! Don't wait for someone else to share their pictures—upload them today! It's easy and takes only a few minutes.

Visit the PTA page of the Brooks web site at <http://brookses.wcpss.net/pta> and click on the "Upload

Pictures Here" link (scroll down for link). If you don't know student names, just enter "unknown" and we'll figure it out for you. Pictures are only accessible by the yearbook staff, and they are not published publicly on the Internet.

Questions? Contact me (Kelly Bloom) at kjbloom@gmail.com or 518-1678.

BROOKS SCHOOL STORE

**** Store Hours ****

Kindergarten—2nd grade: Wednesdays, 8:45-9:05 a.m.

3rd grade—5th grade: Fridays, 8:45-9:05 a.m.

Brooks Spirit Items Include:
pencils, zipper pulls, folders and more!

School Supplies Include:
rulers, protractors, markers, notebooks, paper and more!

BROOKS BOOKSTOP

**** Store Hours ****

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 8:45-9:05 a.m.

Students can earn "Bookbucks" for good behavior or extra deeds in their classrooms and spend them at the Bookstop. We have chapter books, early readers, non-fiction, picture books & activity books. Each Bookbuck earns one free book!

Donations for the Bookstop are accepted all year!

CULTURAL ARTS UPDATE

The Cultural Arts program started off with a bang (on the djembe and djun-djun drums) when the African American Dance Ensemble visited Brooks in September.

Dr. Chuck Davis hosted a memorable program filled with drumming, dancing, and chanting.

Ask your children what they responded when Dr. Davis called out Agoo.

The students were filled with rhythm as the drums and sekeres (SHEY-kah-REH, hollow gourds with a shell or bead skirt around the outside) reverberated throughout the gym. Everyone participated through movement and voice as African traditions were brought to Brooks.

In November, we will host the Enloe High School Drama Troupe and they will retell two stories for the students.

In December, our own Fourth and Fifth Grade Chorus will perform selections from their Winter Concert.

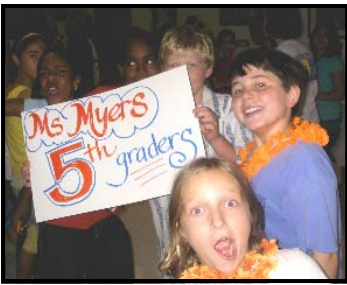
We hope your students enjoy these wonderful programs!

Jennifer Dudeck
Cultural Arts
jdudeck@cisco.com



Response answer: Anee

CATCH OUR MOVING MUSEUMS!



Students from Ms. Myers' 5th grade class celebrate being honored at a recent Moving Museum.

Our "Moving Museums" are held once a month to celebrate accomplishments throughout the school.

Similar to a parade, honorees walk in an organized procession through the halls of our school and are cheered on by our school community.

Families are welcome to join

us for these wonderful events. They begin at 3:20pm.

Our next Moving Museum will be Friday, November 20th at 3:20pm.

Simply sign in at the office, then wait in the lobby for the Moving Museum to begin!

PLAN AHEAD FOR THE WINTER CARNIVAL

The Brooks Winter Carnival is the PTA's biggest fundraiser of the year. The carnival includes games, face painting, inflatables, a silent auction, Cash and "Basket Bundle" drawings, and much more.

The "Baskets" are created by grade level donations. Each grade's theme is listed here:

K—Outdoor Adventure

(camping or tailgate items)

1st—Fun in the Sun (beach & pool items)

2nd—Family Fun (games, movies, books or entertainment items)

3rd—Creative Adventures (arts and craft items)

4th—All About Science (any science related items or kits)

5th—All About Sports (sports items, equipment, outdoor games)

FUN FACTS

What's with the tie dyed t-shirts?

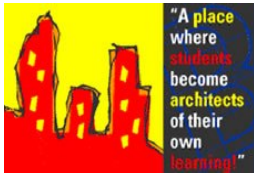
The shirts are used on field trips, and the colors have a special meaning. Each class has a unique color scheme, and each grade has a certain color in their shirts that no other grade has. That way, it's easy to tell which class AND which grade a student is in.



SAVE THE DATE!

Brooks Winter Carnival
Friday, March 5, 2010

Want to help? We need lots of volunteers! Contact Lisa Moore, Winter Carnival Chair, at lisamoore@nc.rr.com



NEWS FROM KIM PADRON, YOUR MAGNET COORDINATOR

700 Northbrook Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27609
919-881-1350

Felecia Locklear
- Principal

Mary Taylor
- Assistant Principal

Terri Green
- Receptionist

Kim Dittmann
- PTA President

Our 5th grade is traveling to Moore's Creek National Battlefield and Wilmington to tour the Battleship to further their studies on the impact of the civil rights movement and different wars on the nation.

4th grade will be traveling to Winston Salem to learn more about colonial North Carolina.

Both grades will be hosting a lecture/chat with Alexander Haimann, a Collections Specialist for the Smithsonian National Postal Museum in Washington, DC on November 5th.

3rd grade is wrapping up their studies on change which includes a visit to Mordecai Historic District to see how things were in the past. Students participated in a collage activity after the field trip to demonstrate what objects used in the past look like in the present.

2nd grade has wrapped up their sound unit and should have brought home their ocarinas by now. Sometime in the future the instruments that were made in their classrooms will be returning as well.

1st grade took a first time ever trip to the Ackland Museum to study relationships and responsibilities. The Ackland museum hosts Paideia strategies when looking at art work. It was a fantastic experience and we look forward to working with them in the future. 1st grade also had a visit from Ronald McDonald from Ronald McDonald House to learn about how to be a good friend...as well as how to help support this charity. 1st grade has decided that they will be adopting this charity for the remainder of the school year, so look for lots of opportunities to help!

Kindergarten is diligently beginning their community centers. Students have been all over Raleigh learning about what kinds of businesses are in their neighborhood, and now they are preparing to share what they've learned. Students will also be visiting Raleigh Rescue Mission to learn about friends in our community that are not as fortunate as us and how we can help.

The county-wide Magnet Fair is coming up on November 7th at Southeast Raleigh High School. Also, Brooks has an Open House on November 12th at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Contact me at 571-6952 if you would like to help out. We would love to have you!

Kim Padron
Museums Magnet Coordinator



Kim Padron



Ms. Hudson's Kindergarten class learns about being a chef (aka, community helper) during a field trip to North Hills.



Students arrive at Brooks on "Walk to School" day.