



*A Weekly Electronic Newsletter
from The Brooks Museums Magnet Elementary PTA*

April 14, 2009

Issue: 21/08-09

WHAT'S COMING UP IN APRIL...

Thursday, April 16:	PTA Info Session (6 pm)/Meeting (6:30 pm) (See article below)
Friday, April 17:	Report Cards Go Home
Monday, April 20:	Community Reads Day
April 20-24:	PTA Spring Book Fair
Thursday, April 23:	Learn with me Night, 7-8:30 pm
Friday, April 24:	School Spirit Day: Book Character Day
Friday, April 24	Moving Museum, 3:20 pm

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Correction to Executive Committee 2009/10

The correct spelling for next year's VP of Hospitality is Jennifer Bauldree. The complete list is as follows:

President: Kim Dittmann

Secretary – Barbara Bond

Treasurer – Heather Ashe

President Elect: Lisa Moore

PTA Past President – Graham Satsky

VP of Hospitality – Jennifer Bauldree

VP of Publicity and Public Relations – Lisa McIntosh

VP of Programs – Anne Scott

VP of Volunteers – Becky Law

VP of Ways and Means – Robin Dorfman

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Lights ! Camera ! Book Fair !



COMING SOON!

April 20 – 24, 2009

Come walk the red carpet and be a reading star at the Book Fair! Stop by the media center and take an opportunity to buy your child a great book. While you're there you can look at their teacher's wish list and buy a book for the class!

We are also in need of volunteers! Please visit the book fair website for more information, <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/brooksmuseums>

Hours:

Monday – Wednesday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Thursday 8:30 am – 7 pm

Friday 8:30 am – 10 am

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PTA Info Session and Meeting

Brooks PTA invites you to come to the PTA Gallery Talk - an informational session on topics that matter to Brooks Parents. It will be this Thursday, April 16 from 6 - 6:30 pm in the Media Center and refreshments will be served.

This month's topic is "Summer Reading". When school is out learning doesn't end. Learn about summer reading programs at your local library from a library staff member. Also learn about summer library options right here at Brooks.

After the Gallery talk, the monthly PTA will begin at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. These meetings are a great way to stay informed. You will get updates from the Principal, valuable information from staff, and reports on your PTA's recent accomplishments and plans for the future.

Any questions, please contact PTA president, Graham Satsky at ksatsky@nc.rr.com

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ARTICLES FROM PAST ISSUES:

[Public Forum on Educational Excellence in Tough Times](#)

In these times of budget crisis, how can Wake County schools continue to advance educational excellence? What are our goals? How can we achieve them?

An impressive lineup of state and community leaders will present their ideas and answer your questions on Tuesday, May 12 from 7 to 9:30 pm at NCSU's McKimmon Center, 1101 Gorman St. in Raleigh. The public forum is entitled "Achieving Educational Excellence in Times of Challenge and Change: How Should Wake County Schools Plan for Growth and the Economic Crisis".

Speakers and panelists include former School Board member Tom Oxholm, who with former superintendent Bill McNeal, co-authored the recent book, "A School District's Journey to Excellence". Chair of the Wake Education Partnership, Ann Delinger, will present results of their latest study "What is a World Class Education?" Deputy County Manager Johnna Rogers will discuss county growth and budget issues. Other participants include John Dornan of the NC Public School Forum, Professor Dudley Flood, NC Representative Nelson Dollar, Jim Blackburn of the NC Association of County Commissioners, County Commissioner Stan Norwalk, and School Board member Beverley Clark. Questions from the audience will be taken at the end of the Forum.

WakeUP Wake County, a citizen's group advocating managed growth, is sponsoring the event. Other host partners include the Wake chapter of the NC Association of Educators, the League of Women Voters, Concerned Citizens for African American Children, and parents' group Bigger Picture 4 Wake.

Preregistration encouraged, but not required at <http://wakeupwakecounty.com>. Contact lindamccarley@bellsouth.net, for more information.

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[First In Fitness Update](#)

A note from Mr. Amato:

On Thursday March 12th, forty eight Brooks athletes journeyed to Southeast Raleigh High School to participate in the First in Fitness competition. These athletes represented Brooks well placing fourteen of them in the top five in their respected events. These strong finishes resulted in a 5th place showing for Brooks among the twenty six schools in attendance. Mr. Amato is very proud of the hard work and effort put forth by all of our participants. He would also like to thank all of the parents who chaperoned and/or just came out to cheer on and

encourage our athletes. Lastly, thank you to the Brooks PTA for providing the wonderful t-shirts. They were undoubtedly the best looking t-shirts at the competition!

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[Pieces of Gold](#)

A hard working group of 4th and 5th grade students performed a piece from Ghana called "Sansa Kroma" in this year's annual Pieces of Gold production at Memorial Auditorium. Though 5 performers were out sick, the students did a wonderful job working as a team and putting together a fabulous performance. In addition to their super on-stage work, they received high praise from the technical crew for their behavior off stage. Mrs. Myers and Ms. Huges are so proud of the students for all they accomplished and the way they represented our school. Way to go!

For photos of the performance, go to:

<http://blogs.newsobserver.com/multi/pieces-of-gold-expanded-photo-gallery>

(Brooks photos are # 29 and 54-58)

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[Ms. Hughes Finalist for Teacher of the Year](#)

The Wake County Public School System has named our very own Ms. Ann Holland Hughes (Music) as one of the 24 semifinalists for the districts's 2009 Teacher of the Year Program. It is an honor for Ms. Hughes and for our school. Congratulations, Ms. Hughes! Thank you for all your hard work with our children You deserve this and so much more. You are already Teacher of the Year in our hearts.

Best of luck to you in April when the finalists are announced, followed by the Teacher of the Year Announcement at the May banquet.

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[Fifth Graders Need Your Help](#)

5th grade is collecting old cell phones as part of their 4th quarter technology unit. Used cell phones will be donated to the military. If you have a phone to donate, please send in with your child with a note saying it needs to go to a 5th grade classroom.

Also fifth graders are in need of CLEAR 2 liter soda bottles. Again if you can donate, please send in with your child with a note saying it needs to go to a fifth grade classroom.

Thanks for your help. Working together helps Brooks stay so great!

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[Winter Carnival a Huge Success](#)

Many thanks to all the sponsors, Brooks parents, grandparents, staff and friends who made this year's Winter Carnival a HUGE success. Although it is a fun filled night for the entire family, it is also a very important fundraiser for the Brooks PTA. Your generosity - whether it be of time or money or both- is greatly appreciated.

We will have a special section in the upcoming newsletter with all the highlights. Take a close look at all of our kind sponsors listed in the newsletter, so you can be sure to thank them with your patronage.

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[Brooks is a Magnet School of Distinction](#)

Brooks Museums Magnet Elementary School has been named a **Magnet School of Distinction** by the national organization Magnet Schools of America. A representative of our school will receive this award at the 27th Magnet Schools of America Conference hosted in Charlotte, NC in April 2009. This representative will receive a plaque during an awards ceremony for our selection as a national Magnet School of Distinction winner.

Thanks so much to Kim Padron, our magnet coordinator, for taking the time to complete this application process for our school.

Congratulations to the wonderful staff and teachers at Brooks. All of your hard work and dedication to our school has paid off!

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[Don't Throw it Away! Our Art Teacher Might Need it.](#)

Our art teacher, Ms, Moschberger, is in need of newspaper, toilet paper rolls and old towels. If you are able to help, please send these items with your child to school.

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[Needed: Mousepads & Used Printer Cartridges](#)

Our new technology Specialist, Ms. Shehdan, is asking Brooks parents to please send in any extra mousepads they have lying around their home or workplace. She needs some

in the lab and many classrooms need some too. She also would like any empty printer cartridges. The cartridge recycle store she uses will give Brooks credit for these on laser cartridges for the lab printers.

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[Chapter & Non Fiction Books Needed](#)

The Bookstop is in need of CHAPTER and NON-FICTION BOOKS! Do you have any chapter books on the shelves gathering dust? What about non-fiction books about sports or animals? If so, please consider donating them to the Brooks Bookstop. Students earn bookbucks from their teachers and can redeem them weekly in the Bookstop, located on the 4th grade hall. There is a donation drop box located in the library for your convenience.

Thanks! Heather Ashe (hashe@rlulaw.com) and Anne Scott (thescotts@nc.rr.com)

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[Wake County Multi-Year Reassignment Plan](#)

Check the Wake County School System's website to see your child's proposed school assignment for the next three years. You can access the plan at www.wcpss.net

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[Brooks Staff Updates](#)

Dan Kerwin, formerly technology head (50%) and Magnet Coordinator (50%) at Brooks, was promoted to Assistant Principal at Wiley Elementary school. While we are sad to see him leave the Brooks campus, we could not be more proud of him.

Sharon Shehdan is the new Technology Specialist at Brooks. Please make her feel welcome to our school.

Kim Padron will be taking over as the 100% Magnet Coordinator at Brooks beginning November 5th. Please congratulate her on her new position.

Olivia Kerstetter-Moschberger will be taking over as the 100% Art Teacher beginning November 5th. Please make her welcome to our school.

Pat Tolley is our new 50% Literacy teacher. Please welcome her BACK to Brooks. Ms. Tolley was Assistant Principal at Brooks a few years ago!

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Brooks School Store Open

*******Store Hours*******

Kindergarten– 2nd Grade— —Tuesday’s 8:45-9:10

3rd Grade—5th Grade— — —Friday’s 8:45-9:10

Brooks Spirit Items such as: Pencils, Zipper Pulls, and Folders will be for sale. As well as other school supplies such as: Rulers, Crayons, Markers, Notebooks and Paper.

The School Store shares space
with the Book Stop
4th Grade Hall
(*Next to Room #237*)

Any questions contact: Donna Dennis at DENNISCLAN99@aol.com

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BOX TOPS FUNDRAISER



START SAVING THOSE BOX TOPS!

Ask your Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Friends and Neighbors to save them for you too!

General Mills Box Tops for Education is an easy way to earn money for our school.

Find Box Tops on hundreds of your favorite General Mills products. Each Box top is worth 10¢ to our school. Clip the box tops and send them in with you child. There will be prizes and surprises along the way for participating students. Be sure to include your child’s name and Teacher’s name so that they are eligible for the awards and prizes! Click on <http://www.boxtops4education.com/Promotions/> for monthly opportunities to earn even MORE Box Tops for our school!

Questions? Contact Karen Harlow at karen_harlow1@yahoo.com or at 845 - 9133.

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[Items Needed for the Brooks Wardrobe Closet](#)

Brooks is trying to create a school wardrobe closet to be used in various center activities and coached projects. Items needed are: Any clothing looking slightly colonial or old fashioned in nature such as aprons, hats, bow ties, neck ties, knee high socks, white blouses and white boys shirts. Also any kind of "props" you can think of. Please bring them to the school office to the Attention of Kim Padron.

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[RELINK YOUR HARRIS TEETER VIC CARD](#)



Starting August 1, 2008 it is time to RELINK

Brooks MMES Code = 3771

Re-linking is easy with one of the following methods:

- Call Customer Service at 1-800-432-6111
- The register at checkout
- Visit harristeeter.com, click on [Together in Education](#)
- Coordinators can Mass Link customers for your school

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[FOOD LION SHOP AND SAVE - RELINK YOUR MVP CARD](#)



Each time you shop at Food Lion and use your MVP card, a portion of your total grocery purchase will be donated to our school. You can participate by linking your MVP card and shopping at Food Lion. You may link your MVP card online at [Lion Shop & Share](#). Unfortunately they can not link your card at the store. This program does not interfere with the MVP discounts and no MVP product has to be purchased to participate. Remember to shop Food Lion and link your MVP card.

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[REGISTER TO BE A BROOKS VOLUNTEER](#)

You must register with Wake County Public School System in order to volunteer at Brooks. It is simple and quick. Go to any available computer in the Brooks Library during school hours and follow the directions that lead you through the process. The Brooks Media Specialist, Ms. Jordan, or her assistant, Ms. Taylor, should be able to help you - if needed. (Make sure you bring your driver's license #.) **Approval may take up to a few weeks, so REGISTER SOON.**

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[JOIN THE BROOKS PTA](#)



The goal is to have one PTA member per child at Brooks.

How much does it cost? \$5.00 per person (\$10 for a couple)

How do I join? *There will be opportunities for you to join at "Meet the Teacher", info in your child's Monday folder, Open House, the Kindergarten picnic and other school events...OR contact our PTA Membership Chairman [Barbara Bond](#) - 510-8335*

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[2008-2009 BROOKS MME PTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE](#)

PTA President – Graham Satsky

Secretary – Susan Dubach

Treasurer – Michelle Weiland

President Elect – Kim Dittmann

PTA Past Presidents – Jennifer Moran/ Hunter Rogers

VP of Hospitality – Elizabeth Hope

VP of Publicity and Public Relations – Lisa McIntosh

VP of Programs – Lisa Moore

VP of Volunteers – Becky Law

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STAFF BIRTHDAYS

APRIL...

11 – Sandy Goldberg
11 – Kathee Myers
12 – Jennifer O’Conner Miske
14 – Ann Taylor
19 – Ann Holland Hughes
19 – Jan O’Neal
22 – Leah Bailey

In keeping with our school-wide birthday celebration guidelines to keep birthday celebrations equal (i.e. each classroom is celebrating all birthdays for each month, on one day, at the end of that month), please remember to also include your teacher’s birthday in your monthly birthday celebration.

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**Do you have a question about YooHoo ?? [Click here](#)
[Click here](#) to Provide Feedback about YOOHOO!**

PTA President – email Graham Satisfsky at ksatisfsky@nc.rr.com or call her at 781-1165.

VP of Publicity and Public Relations (and editor of YooHoo!) – email Lisa McIntosh at lmcintosh@gmail.com or call her at 326-1753.

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