

Brookland Elementary

November 2018



Paw Prints Newsletter

NOVEMBER DATES

Nov. 2 – Bookfair ends. You may shop online at scholastic.com/bookfairs.

Nov. 5 – 1st Grade Music Program, 7:00 pm, High School Auditorium – Weisenbach, Horton, Haire, Stone, Hearn, Grantham

Nov. 6 – 1st Grade Music Program, 7:00 pm, High School Auditorium – Bryant, Bell, Butler, Clark, McCorkle

Nov. 8 – Bearbuck Store; PTO Meeting, 6:00 pm, Computer Lab

Nov. 9 – Pioneer Games (1 Yellow), AR Session ends (2nd)

Nov. 12 – Beginning of AR Session (2nd)

Nov. 16 - Mega Party for students who sold 6 or more items for the cookie dough fundraiser. PLEASE WEAR SOCKS!

Nov. 19 – 23, Thanksgiving Holidays



Elementary News

FLU SEASON

Over 300 individuals, including students, faculty and staff, were given a flu shot or mist by professional nursing staff this season. Thank you to our Brookland School Nurses Connie Lackey and Susan Brittingham and the Health Department Nurses for another successful flu clinic! To keep everyone flu-free and healthy, try these tips:

- Wash your hands often.
- Drink plenty of fluids, especially water. Your body needs to stay hydrated during the winter too!
- Disinfect commonly touched items, like the telephone, door handles, light switches, mobile devices, and remotes to prevent the spread of disease.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow—not your hands!
- Keep your hands off your face—the easiest

doorway to your body is through your eyes, nose and mouth.

Please allow your child to be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. This helps prevent others from getting sick.



Bearcat Buddies

PTO and Brookland Elementary are continuing the program called Bearcat Buddies, which stresses anti-bullying behaviors. Anti-bullying behaviors could include: being a friend, helping others, working well within a group, listening to everyone's ideas, offering positive and

sincere comments, including everyone to play a game or have a turn, and being respectful to peers and adults. Everyone deserves a safe and supportive learning environment and we hope this program, along with our counselors' anti-bullying campaign, will promote that. As an incentive every month, one student from each class who most exhibits anti-bullying behaviors will be chosen by the classroom teacher to be a "Bearcat Buddy." They will receive a reward and recognition. We would like to thank Mrs. Pearson and BHS EAST for enhancing and 3D printing our Bearcat Buddy tags, designed by last year's second graders. They are great!



Reading Tips – Time for a Story



Build reading skills and help your child learn to love books with these simple suggestions.

Read Regularly. Try to read to your child every day. You might aim for 10-15 minutes of bedtime reading. Bring along a book and read during a sibling's sports practice. Curl up with a book when you get home from work for a few stress-free minutes.

Take Turns Choosing Books. Your child may want to hear old favorites again and again. Use your turn for new titles and variety. (nonfiction, poetry, etc.)

Let Your Child Participate. Ask your child to turn the pages while you read. Also, ask him to finish sentences that rhyme or fill in words he knows. Go slowly so he has time to understand the story and look at the illustrations. They

will enjoy read-aloud time more if they play an active role.

Be Playful. You can use different voices for different characters. Substitute your child's name for the main character's name, and use family members' names for the other characters. You don't have to be an expert reader – your child will love it when you read aloud because it is you.



Have students match upper and lower case letter sets. As they find the match, ask for words that start with the letter sound. Try starfall.com and sheppardsoftware.com for great learning games!

Learn more about special classes through our websites!

Art -

<https://www.facebook.com/elembearcartart/>

Library-

<http://bpsbooks.webly.com/>

Music –

<http://newmanmusic.weebly.com/>

Technology –

<http://mrsbrooksbearcats.weebly.com/>

The 2nd session for AR will begin on Nov.12th. Remember you can check your child's progress at <https://hosted77.renlearn.com/215474/HomeConnect/Login.aspx> Just have your child login with his/her username and password (lunch number) or contact Mrs. Brooks for the login information.

Kindergarten News — The weather will turn cooler soon. Please send a jacket for recess.

LETTERS AND SOUNDS

Ask your child the beginning sounds and letters of things around them. Letter sounds and recognition are vital reading skills. Show your child how reading and writing help you get things done every day—like cooking, shopping, and driving. Once these connections are made, your child will come to understand the importance of learning to read. Kindergarten teachers would like all students to know all letters and most

sounds by Christmas.

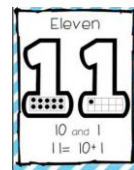
MATH

Practice speaking and writing numbers 1-100, focusing on the teens, as children often confuse these. Place toys in a pile and ask your child to count the number. Try counting by 1's, 5's, and 10's, a good foundation for comparing numbers.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Please make sure your child dresses for outdoor weather.

Students will be going outside if at all possible. Your child will need a coat, mittens or gloves, and a hat. Please make sure names are on all clothing tags. Help your child learn to fasten his/her own coat, mittens, and shoes. These are important life skills and should be completed independently.



First Grade News — Practice your phonics rules as you read!

READING

Continue to read at home. Read to and with your child everyday. Try to read 10-15 minutes a day. This is the most important thing you can do to promote a love of reading. Try using the weekly spelling and phonics rules as you read to your child, showing how they help decode words and improve fluency.



MATH

Students are working with different strategies to add / subtract up to 20. Strategies might be using a number line, making a ten, counting on or back, and working with doubles. Check out this helpful site: <https://luckylittlelearners.com/2016/10/kid-friendly-videos-teach-addition.html> Work math problems together, showing your child how you solved a problem and then asking which strategy he used. Walk through your solution step by step and learn from each other!

WRITING

Your first grader writes many times a day for different purposes. First graders write to express thoughts and feelings in journals, write stories, and make lists of facts about topics of interest. Your first grader might use words and pictures to describe what she sees in a science experiment or to explain a solution for a math challenge. Encourage your child to use pronouns to add variety. At this age, many children choose to write stories, lists, cards, and other kinds of messages at home. Keep materials handy for their creativity!

Second Grade News — Check your AR goal for 85% correct and 100% of your points. The first session ends November 9th!

MATH

Second grade students are working on regrouping strategies. Try <https://luckylittlelearners.com/2016/01/addition-with-regrouping-strategies.html> for great hints! Remember you may not feel comfortable with math but showing your enthusiasm works. Let your child explain the concepts and you can follow up with questions. Check the papers sent home in your child's folder for directions and strategies.

Math can be fun!

$$29 + 51$$

ISTATION

Although Istation is used throughout the week in the classroom, please stress to your child the importance of the beginning of the month. Students are tested on the first of every month to determine progress. It is timed so it is important that

students pay attention and focus on answering the questions quickly and efficiently. To access the Istation Parent Portal for resources, go to secure.istation.com and login with our school information.

PARKIN ARCHEOLOGICAL TRIP

Due to a scheduling error, the Parkin Archeological Field Trip has been moved to the spring. Thank you for your patience!

Stories Online

There are many fun and interactive websites for literacy. Here are a few free resources to try:

Starfall - <http://www.starfall.com>

Story Online - <http://www.storylineonline.net/>

Ready to Read - <http://www.indypl.org/readytoread/?p=6150>

Just Books Read Aloud - <http://www.justbooksreadaloud.com/>

Reading/Sight Words Fluency Practice –

<http://interactivesites.weebly.com/readingsight-words.html>

The Jonesboro Library also has a wonderful ebook collection called TumbleBooks Library. Check it out!



Conversations about School

(Adapted from Home & School Connection)

When you think about parent involvement, do you picture moms and dads volunteering in the classrooms? That's one way to help, and we do appreciate our PTO and WATCH Dogs immensely. You can also support your child's education from home. Here are some conversation starters that will help you stay involved.

“Let's see what you brought home.”

Look at completed work to find out what your child is learning and how well she is doing. You could comment on her writing or discuss the math problems, for instance. (Look how many you answered correctly. Can you tell me more about how you solved them?)



“Show me what you have for homework.”

It's your child's job to do his homework, but you play a role, too. Make sure he knows what he is supposed to do by having him explain the assignments to you. After he finishes, glance over the work to see that it's complete.

“Describe a book you enjoyed today.”

This gives you an idea of what your child prefers to read. Then, build a daily reading habit by asking what she would like to read tonight. Encourage her reading by and listening skills by reading aloud to her and letting her read to you.





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Building the Habit of Good Attendance

(Adapted from attendanceworks.org)

Did You Know?

- Starting in Kindergarten, too many absences can cause students to fall behind.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school – and themselves.
- Students are not just missing academic opportunities, but enrichment as well (art, music, life skills, etc.)

What You Can Do...

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Don't let your child stay home unless he is truly sick.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid extended trips when school is in session.

Students like school for many reasons. Brookland Elementary students created the following posters to explain why they enjoy school.

