



Bonnie Brae Star

Volume IV, Issue IX

June 2, 2009

We dare, dream see and do.

5420 Sideburn Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22032

703-321-3900 Office
703-321-3910 Clinic
703-321-3939 Attendance

You count on us; we count on you!

Bonnie Brae Summer Office
Hours:

Monday-Friday

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Registration:

9 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

In case of an emergency, you may
call the Cluster VI office at:

571-423-1160

We want you !



Bonnie Brae Community,

Please let your friends &
neighbors know that Bonnie
Brae is currently taking
registrations.

Please call 703-321-3900 for more
information.

Dear BBES Families,

On behalf of the Bonnie Brae staff and myself, please accept our thanks for your support throughout the school year. I would like to extend a special thanks to all of you who have given of your time to volunteer in our school. It is so wonderful to see parents in the building every day of the week. Your presence and support makes a difference!

I would also like to thank our PTO President, Andrew Flagel, and all the members of our PTO Executive Board, committee chairs, and the many volunteers who have dedicated hundreds of hours supporting our students and staff. It is through the joint efforts of teachers and parents working together that we reap the day-to-day joy of working with such wonderful children!

We asked our teachers to help us highlight some of the memorable moments from the 2008-09 school year:

The Three Piggy Opera came to BBES this year and our kindergarten students were the stars. The Opera highlighted the best of the best in all our students. There was a part for everyone, even the audience!

After two weeks of rain and very little outdoor recess, the first graders had wishes come true on May 8th when we were greeted by sunshine and blue skies as we boarded the bus for our field trip to take in the monuments in Washington, DC. We shared the "most wonderfulest" day of the year together walking the monuments and eating a picnic lunch on the lawn just beyond the Vietnam Memorial.

We will always remember the second grade play, "Who Wants to be a Geographer" After months of rehearsing we gave three great performances. After the last show. We were surprised with a cast party. We got to walk the red carpet lined by our fans and there were stars with our pictures on our doors. It was a lot of fun!

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The third grade teachers decided to have two math days this year. Each teacher picked a math concept and planned an activity to reinforce that skill. They rotated the classes through each activity. One morning in the fall and one in the spring were dedicated to doing their math-a-thon. The children went to five different activities dealing with math. Every teacher got to spend half an hour with each third grade group. This was a chance for teachers to work with every child in third grade. Teachers had a great experience sharing ideas with the fabulous Bonnie Brae Third Grade Class of '08 - '09.

The Fourth grade memorable event the staff would like to mention is Jamestown. "Jamestown was an amazing field trip that made history come alive. "

The Fifth graders experienced a "New" field trip this year. The Newseum was great and everyone loved the 4-D movie! Can you just picture the fifth graders participating in the Greek Olympic Games? What a sight that was?

Sixth Grade's favorite memory of this school year was their trip to Camp Hemlock. At Camp Hemlock students participated in creative problem solving activities and learned to work cooperatively as a team. The day ended with a trip down the zip line!

I want to wish all of our families a fun-filled summer, continue to make wonderful memories. When you are planning your days and weeks, please remember to make time to read each day. The following are some fun ways to make reading a part of your summer.

- Visit the library.
- Read aloud to your child.
- Ask your child to read aloud to you or younger children.
- Encourage your child to write stories or keep a summer journal.
- Pack books for your summer vacation.
- Set a good example; spend time reading each day yourself.
- Limit the amount of TV watching.
- Play word games when riding in the car.

Write letters to friends or family members.

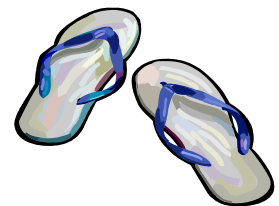
Have an enjoyable and safe summer! I'll see you in September.

Fondly,

Kathy Bruce

Flip Flops

For safety reasons we ask that children do NOT wear flip flops to



News to Note

JUNE IS NATIONAL SAFETY MONTH

- June 2nd, Strings Assembly 10am
- June 5th, Wacky Tacky Day
- June 11th, 5th Grade Musical 7pm
- June 15th, 6th Grade Awards
- June 18th, Last Day of School

Early Dismissal

**June 18-September 7th,
Summer Vacation**



Coming Attractions

- September 3rd, Open House
- September 8th, **First of School**
- September 15th, Community Night
 - September 15th, Int'l Children's Festival– 5th Grade
- September 17th, Back-To-School Night for kindergarten and grade 6
- September 22nd, Back-To-School Night for grades 1, 3 & 5.
- September 24th, Back-To-School Night for grades 2 & 4

GOLD STARS SHINE!

Congratulations to our Gold Star students for April's Character Trait: Respect!

These students were excellent examples of **The Big Three**. Our winners are:

Kindergarten: Ty, Samara, Reyna, Victoria, Victoria, Hawaa, Giovanni, Madino, Katie

First Grade: Harry, Alana, Lacey, Parham, Jack, Marilyn, Ivan and Rayvean

Second Grade: Cecila, Sevgi, Vishali, Jason, Saraih, Valerie, DJ, Jack, Maddie



Third Grade: Frankie, Bikalp, Eliane, Christian, Jack, Taylor, Miracle and David

Fourth Grade: Victoria, Noah, Brooke, Ramir, Natalie, Gustavo

Fifth Grade: Leah, Navjot, Mohanad, Michael, Monica, Gogi and Nat

Sixth Grade: Sarah Anne, Dainela, Chris, Irina, Stephany, Jane, Ann, Ajari, Kelly, Eric, Audrey

As part of its adoption of the FY 2010 final budget, the Fairfax County School Board will adjust some school start times to gain \$4.6 million in efficiencies in the transportation system. These adjustments are separate and apart from the proposal to change school start times that the Fairfax County School Board considered and voted to reject in March 2009. The adjustments focus on achieving efficiencies within the current bell structure, which the Fairfax County School Board voted to retain. The following bell schedule changes will be implemented in the 2009-10 school year.

Bonnie Brae ES Current bell schedule 9:00-3:40

Changed bell time Monday 8:30-12:40

Tuesday—Friday 8:30-3:10

<http://www.fcps.edu/news/start.htm>

Counselor's Corner

By Chris Stunkard and Rebecca Legan

We would like to thank our mentors this year who have been so supportive and caring to our students. Our Bonnie Brae mentors meet regularly once a week throughout the year. This year's committed staff who mentored students included: Sherie Titus, Lauren Martin, Jenna Martin, Karen Panos, Megan Higgins, Jen Niccolls, Kathy Bruce, Cathy Bowen, Allison Batty, Tina Fitzgerald, Marsi Beschel, Nora Marrero, Jackie Jones, Debbie Martin, Karen Moran, Jan Cross, Tracy Walker, Michele Carlson, Dana Hirsch, Kathleen Price, and Rivka Safferson. They enjoyed playing games, reading books or providing academic support to their mentee. This year we were very fortunate to have Jackie Price and Brandon Kuter from Robinson Peer Helper Program meet once a week to mentor our students. The students loved seeing the high school students at Bonnie Brae.

We were very excited to hear that the winner of the Mentorworks Nominee Essay Contest was Vy, a fourth grader. She was chosen as one of the winners through Fairfax County Public Schools. Vy wrote an essay on her mentor, Megan Higgins and received a \$200 savings bond at the Partners in Education and Mentorworks Awards Ceremony at Falls Church High School on May 14th. Congratulations to Vy and Megan!

Immunizations for Rising 6th Graders

Sixth graders **cannot** begin school on September 8th without proof of having had the Tdap booster or having had a tetanus-containing vaccine within the past five years. Parents and guardians of current fifth graders should check their children's immunization records and provide the school with proof of meeting the new requirement before the end of this school year.

If your child is 11 years old, he or she should get the Tdap immunization, and documentation should be provided to the school immediately. However, if your child is still 10 years old, he or she may receive the Tdap vaccine approved for 10-year-olds or wait until the 11th birthday to receive the vaccine approved for 11-year-olds. If the 11th birthday is after the first day of school, your child must have a medical exemption from the doctor stating when he or she will receive the Tdap in order to attend school.

Students can receive immunizations required for school at no charge at any Fairfax County Health Department walk-in immunization clinic.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Donaldson, health and home instruction specialist, Student Registration and Student Services, at 571-423-4402 or elizabeth.donaldson@fcps.edu



Rehearsals for the 5th grade musical, PETER PAN, are underway. Parents and guardians of our 5th grade students and/or friends of Bonnie Brae Elementary School who would like to volunteer to help with dance routines, staging, scenery, props, costumes, makeup, etc. would be greatly appreciated.

We have a very talented group of players this year but are on a shoestring time line, as usual. The performances are June 10-11.

If you are interested in helping with PETER PAN, please email Mary-Grace.Henry@fcps.edu or call 703-321-3914 for further information and to volunteer.

Thank you very much.

MG HENRY

Music Specialist

