

Bonnie Brae Star



Bonnie Brae Elementary School
5420 Sideburn Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22032



Volume V Issue 2

We dare, dream, see and do. You count on us; we count on you!

October 27, 2009

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



NEW HOURS:

Mon: 8:30~12:40

Tues-Fri: 8:30~3:10

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Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

We thank those of you that have already come in to volunteer your help and support in the classroom, Book Fair, and the Fall Festival. The staff and I are looking forward to the additional opportunities that the month of November brings to invite you to come into Bonnie Brae. We hope to see many of you who are parents of fourth graders at the Veterans' Day program on the 11th. The students always enjoy it when parents are able to join them for the big Thanksgiving lunch. This year the lunch will be on November 24th. Don't forget we also have evening events this month; our PTO meeting on November 11th and the Human Growth and Development preview night on the November 17th (held at Fairview ES).

Teachers are also looking forward to the opportunity to meet with you during the parent-teacher-student conference days on November 2nd and 3rd. If you are unable to secure child care and your child is not participating in the conference, please have them bring something quiet to do as they will be required to remain with you by sitting outside the classroom door. There are many conferences being held throughout the day, everyone's respect for others is extremely appreciated. These conferences are a wonderful opportunity for parents, teachers and students to share information that will benefit and enhance your child's educational experience. We encourage you to not only share insights into your child, but to ask questions and ask for ways to support your child's strengths and areas of need, study habits, and citizenship skills (BBES Big Three).

Through our cooperative and supportive efforts we can truly make a difference in our children's ability to become successful in their efforts to grow and learn.

Sincerely,

Kathy Bruce,

Principal

Calendar



- Oct 28—Picture Day
- Oct 30—First Grading Period Ends
- Nov 2—3 - Student Holidays/Teacher Conferences & Sally Foster Pickup
- Nov 6—Impact Aid Forms Due Back
- Nov 11—Veteran's Day Program Grade 4
- Nov 11— PTO Mtg/Library 7 pm
- Nov 17—FLE/HGD Fairview ES 6pm 5th & 6th Grade Parents
- Nov 24— Thanksgiving Luncheon
- Nov 25— 2 hr Early Dismissal
- Nov 26-27— Thanksgiving Holiday
- Coming Attractions:
- Dec 4—Picture Retakes & Candids
- Dec 17— 6th Gr Winter Concert 7 pm
- Dec 23—2 hr Early Dismissal
- Dec 24-Jan 3 Winter Vacation



CHANGE IN TRANSPORTATION REQUEST FORM

There is a new form to be used by parents if you request that your child's transportation home be changed. Check a box and fill out any pertinent information to alleviate any problems with your child's change in transportation and send it in to your child's teacher. This form is on the Bonnie Brae Website under Forms.

!!! BOTH SETS OF PARENTS MUST COMPLETE THE CHANGE IN TRANSPORTATION REQUEST FORM FOR THE CHILDREN TO GO HOME WITH SOMEONE ELSE!!!

Please Complete the Federal Impact Aid Forms!

Fairfax County has a lot of homes, businesses and government agencies on federal property that are exempt from certain local and state taxes. As a result, FCPS loses a portion of its operating revenues that would normally be generated from these taxes. The Impact Aid program is a federal program designed to assist local school districts that lose property tax revenue due to the presence of tax-exempt federal property.

Your support is needed in obtaining our fair share of Federal Impact Aid funds. The data gathered will be used to support our request for these funds. The information you provide on the form will be treated confidentially.

Additional information on the Impact Aid program is available on the U.S. Department of Education's web site at <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/impactaid/index.html>

The forms must be returned as soon as possible. We are anticipating all completed forms to be returned to Bonnie Brae by Friday, November 6th.

100% Participation is required!!

PTO Updates

The PTO Newsletter will be published online every month. To view the October newsletter, please go to www.fcps.edu/BonnieBraeES / and click on the October link found along the left-hand side of the page.

In this month's issue:

- ◆ Letter from Kelly Hood, PTO President
- ◆ Box Tops and Tyson Chicken ongoing fundraisers
- ◆ Sally Foster Fundraiser

◆ Holiday Shoppe

In addition, our website contains information about:

- ◆ PTO programs and other fundraisers
- ◆ PTO membership and volunteering

We also have a 09-10 PTO calendar online and a link for ordering Bonnie Brae Spirit Wear.

HELP WANTED –

Current/immediate need for volunteers. Go to the PTO homepage and click on the link on the right-hand side of the page to view current needs.

Gold Star Award Winners

Congratulations to our Gold Star Students. September's Character Trait was The Big Three: Respect Yourself, Respect Others and Respect Property.

Kindergarten Bianca, Christopher, Luke, Leo, Natalia, Hanna, Madylin, Kiran, Jordell, Lauren

Grade 1 Isaiah, Carina, Long,

Adara, Joyce, Jared, Lauren, Kyle

Grade 2 Ana, Hannah, Emily, Abby, Jack, Rachel, Natalie, Olivia

Grade 3 Tammy, Ryan, D.J., Savannah, Ethan, Clara, Jason, Gracie

Grade 4 T.K., Claire, Jeffrey, Hanna, Paul, Catherine, Frankie, Nikita

Grade 5 Adrian, Eduardo,



Abby, Caroline, Tim, Natalie, Joe

Grade 6 Bushra, Justin, Annie, Danielle, Sarah, Louis, Ninamarie, Emily



Reminders, Reminders

Thank you for remembering to:

- Help your child to come to school every day unless he/she is sick.
- Call the ABSENTEE LINE at 703-321-3939 each day your child will be tardy or absent from school.
- Send in a note when your child returns to school after being absent.

Bonnie Brae SCA News

(by Mrs. Stunkard and Mrs. Higgins, SCA Sponsors)

On October 9th, all students in grades 3,4,5 and 6 voted in our student council elections. We would like to thank all of the students who ran for office this year. The competition was especially tight this year. However; we are proud to announce this years officers: President: Cecelia , Vice-President: Tim , Secretary: Alyssa , and Treasurer: Melanie .

The SCA held their first meeting of the school year with the new officers and room reps on Tuesday, October 20th. This year's room reps are: Jahshan:

Hira and Thomas, Shildt: Rachel and Jessica, Compton: Laura and Nicky, Priftis: Paul and Lauren, Church: Natalie and Diante, Lemon: Colleen and Nick, Orhood: Hunter and Stacy, Carlson: Heather and Eduardo, Frazier: Kihoon and Justin, Borick: Danielle and Nicki, Crawford: Rhyan and Callie, Boggs: Bushra, Annie and Matthew

At the first meeting students voted upon this year's spirit and fundraising events. Below is a schedule of spirit days. Be sure to show your spirit!!

November 13 ~ Twin Day (dress like a friend)

December 11 ~ Wacky Tacky Day

January 15 ~ Jersey Day

January 29 ~ Crazy Hat Day

March 12 ~ Favorite Book or Movie Day

April 16 ~ Rainbow Day (neon colors)

Blackboard

FCPS and Bonnie Brae are committed to building strong partnerships between home and school in support of students. Phone calls, conferences, notes and e-mail are certainly means of communication we all use regularly. As many of you already know, FCPS has a communication tool known as Blackboard that is being used more and more by teachers and parents to share information that is useful in supporting student success. Blackboard is an online resource that allows teachers to share their newsletter, classroom information, and specific daily homework assignments. If a student is absent, you can access Blackboard and find out what the homework assignment was for that night. Parents are informed about upcoming projects and can support students in budgeting time, etc.

In order for you and your child to access Blackboard, a username and password are required. Your child's teacher should have already provided you with that. Please contact the teacher if you would like that information given to you again. The username and password will allow you and your child access to Blackboard from any computer with Internet access; work, home or any other remote access. Blackboard is accessed by going to <http://fcps.blackboard.com>. or going to Bonnie Brae's home page and clicking on the FCPS 24-7 Learning icon.

Teachers will continue to make refinements to their Blackboard pages and be sharing more and more information that you should find helpful. You are encouraged to access Blackboard on a regular basis. If you have any question, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Bonnie Brae Inclement Weather Information

Due to inclement weather a change in schedule will be broadcasted over the radio and television stations will carry the news. **Do not phone the school.** You may check cable Channel 21, the FCPS website www.fcps.edu or call the FCPS hotline at 1-800-839-FCPS (3277). To receive this information via e-mail, sign up for the FCPS Keep-in-Touch e-mail notification system.

Two-Hour Delayed Opening

(Monday-Friday)

Grades K-6: 10:30 a.m. – 3:10 p.m.

Two-Hour Early Closing

(Monday-Friday)

Grades K-6: 8:30 a.m. – 1:10 pm

If early closing falls on a Monday, dismissal time will be 1:10 pm

NOTE: When school opening is delayed, there is no breakfast program.

NOTE: School-age child-care centers will operate from the time school closes until 6:15 p.m., whenever possible.

Mal tiempo y los planes para los cierres de emergencia

En situaciones de mal tiempo, sintonice el Canal 21 por cable, vaya en el Internet, a www.fcps.edu o llame a la línea de

información directa de "FCPS" al 800-839-3277. **Por favor no llames a la escuela.**

Quando las escuelas abren dos horas mas tarde (Lunes a Viernes):

Grades K-6—10:30am-3:10 pm

Si es un lunes, las escuelas primarias cerraran a las horas acostumbradas de martes a viernes.

Grados K – 6: 10:30 a.m. – 3:10 p.m.

Los centros de cuidado de niños en edad escolar ("SACC") abrirán en lo posible a las 8 de la mañana.

Quando las escuelas cierran dos horas antes debido a que las condiciones climáticas están empeorando durante el día, se aplicará lo siguiente:

El anuncio se hará a las 10:30 de la mañana.

Las clases en las escuelas primarias terminaran dos horas antes de la hora habitual de martes a viernes.

Los centros de cuidados después de clases y de niños en edad escolar ("SACC") se mantendrán abiertos hasta que se recoja a todos los niños.

HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Family Life Education Program

Fifth and sixth grade students will soon be taking part in lessons on Human Growth and Development (HG &D) as part of the Family Life Education (FLE) Program. Lessons will take place during the week of December 14-18. These lessons address the many changes that students will experience as they go through puberty and provide them with important information that will help them make positive choices as they grow and change in the next few years. Topics planned for HGD instruction include the physical and emotional changes of puberty; hygiene; the basics of reproduction; a brief introduction to sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV; and a discussion of abstinence from sexual intercourse.

You are invited to attend a meeting to preview the HG & D lessons and materials and to talk with school staff about the program. The meeting will be held on November 17, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Fairview Elementary School. All program materials and videotapes will be available for your review at that time.

As you may know, parents who do not wish to have their children participate in Human Growth and Development instruction may choose to opt their children out of any or all of the lessons. If you would like to opt your child

out of one or more lessons, please fill out the form on the back of this letter and return it to your child's teacher by December 1st. If you have already indicated your desire to opt your child out of the HGD lessons by using the form provided earlier in the school year, you do not need to return this form. Should you opt your child out and then later decide you want your child included in HGD instruction, you must notify your child's teacher in writing before instruction begins.

An alternative instructional program is provided for children who do not take part in HGD instruction, and every effort is made to foster understanding and respect for family choices and to avoid peer pressure for or against participation in the program.

We look forward to working as your partner in providing information that will help your child make healthy choices related to the exciting changes and new challenges he/she will be facing the next few years. Please contact Jen Niccolls (jniccolls@fcps.edu) or 703 321 3900 with your questions.

