

**Braddock Elementary School/PTA
Newsletter**

October 2009

Cindy Botzin, Principal

Teresa Davis, Asst. Principal

7825 Heritage Dr.
Annandale, VA 22003

703-914-7300

Welcome back! It is such an exciting time in the life of a community as our school comes alive again. I would like to extend a warm welcome to new and returning families. This is going to be another great school year. The students' enthusiasm is contagious as they come through the front door with their parents ready for the school year to begin.

I hope to see many of you volunteering and attending future events. Each classroom has been asked to find two room parents. These room parents will attend PTA meetings and help encourage other families to become involved in school events. The PTA usually meets the first Thursday of the month (except holidays). We need to let our families know how many wonderful things are going on at school.

Each family is asked to volunteer 5 or more hours per year. You don't have to be in the building to volunteer. You can contribute time to your child's classroom through tasks that can be completed at home. Any effort and support will be greatly appreciated.

We are fortunate to have many outstanding teachers at Braddock. We are a schoolwide Title I school and lucky to have additional math and reading support. Please take time to visit our website and click on Profiles and then click on Accreditation and AYP. We are fully accredited in all areas again this year. Your Standards of Learning scores (SOL) for grades 3, 4, and 5 are mailed directly to your home. Please let us know if you did not receive your child's scores.

It is always our pleasure to continue working closely with you and your children. The staff is always here for you. My direct phone line is: 703.914.7374. You can leave me a voicemail in the evening or on the weekend. Please feel free to send me an email @

Cythia.Botzin@fcps.edu

Sincerely,

Cynthia Botzin, Principal

Introducing your Math and Literacy Teams

Here at Braddock we are lucky enough to have wonderful teams of Math and Literacy Specialists. We are here to help the Braddock Family continue to excel in academics! We are looking forward to an amazing school year!

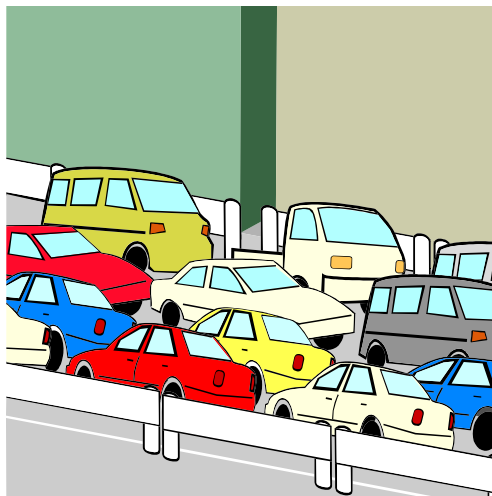
The Ladies of the Literacy Lounge (Room 1): Maggie Readyhough and Lindsay Varner – Upper grade and Primary Literacy Collaborative Coaches. Amanda Deaton, Katy Aronson, Renee Brown and Jody Samuels- Reading Recovery and Literacy Support!

The Marvelous Math Mavens (Room 2): Angeli Tempel, Zoya Lucas, Kim Witeck and Erin Channell.

You can find us in Rooms 1 and 2. Feel free to stop by with any questions, comments or just to introduce yourself!

KISS-N-RIDE

Tired of long Kiss-N-Ride lines? Try car pooling with a friend or neighbor.





News from the Literacy Lounge

Have you ever heard the words “**Literacy Collaborative**” when walking through the halls of Braddock? Literacy Collaborative or “**LC**” is Braddock’s framework for teaching throughout all grades in Language Arts.

Literacy Collaborative was developed at both The Ohio State and Lesley Universities. At Braddock, all teachers are trained by our Literacy Collaborative Coordinators (Lindsay Varner and Maggie Readyhough) to implement the framework in their classrooms. Because of Literacy Collaborative, teachers and students develop a common language as they think and talk like real readers and writers. Students engage in meaningful reading and writing activities that allow them to have deep understanding of reading as well as writing different types of texts for different purposes. Our hope as teachers is to encourage all of our students to become life-long readers and writers.

Please stop by the Literacy Lounge (room 1) with any questions you might have about LC! We would love to share the wonderful thinking, learning and growing your children are doing!

Have a great month!!

The Literacy Team



Eagles @ the Braddock ES Library

Welcome to a new school year at the Braddock Elementary School Library! Braddock Eagles are starting the school year off on the right foot by checking out terrific books to read. All classes visit the library on a weekly basis for a library lesson or to listen to a great story. Students have the opportunity to check out library books, magazines, or recorded books during their library class. Our library is an open library so students are welcome to visit the library at their teacher's discretion to exchange their books throughout the week. The library staff is here to help keep Braddock Eagles reading!

We have an exciting year of learning planned in the library. Be sure to visit **The Braddock Eagle Library Blog** to keep up on all the library news. The address is: http://braddockeagle.typepad.com/braddock_eagle/.

September is a month filled with many opportunities to enjoy literature.

National Library Card Sign-Up Month (<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/librarycard/index.cfm>) – don't forget to get the most important school supply of all!

Fall for the Book (<http://fallforthebook.org/>) - September 21-26, 2009

National Book Festival (<http://www.loc.gov/bookfest/>) - September 26, 2009 on the National Mall from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

TV Turnoff Week (http://www.screentime.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=49&Itemid=8) - September 20-26, 2009

Volunteering in the library is a great way to support learning and literacy at Braddock. There are many ways to help from adopting a section of the library to keep neat to shelving to participating in our two Book Fairs. In all cases training is provided.

I would like to extend an invitation for all parents and caregivers to visit the library. It is always a pleasure to meet our Braddock parents and of course we can always use library volunteers! Please feel free to contact me by telephone or e-mail at 703 914-7343 and at Noel.Foley@fcps.edu

Happy Reading!

Noel Foley
Librarian



COUNSELORS CORNER
Ms. Celata and Ms. Lee
703-914-7353/7334



A LETTER FROM THE
COUNSELORS

Dear Braddock families,
 We are so excited about the new school year. We are starting to visit your child's classroom to introduce ourselves. We will also be teaching good personal hygiene habits in hopes of staying healthy this school year. We have also started our lunch bunch groups, which is where we have your child and several classmates eat lunch with us. This is a real treat for the kids and helps us get more one on one with each student.
 We are also really excited to have Brian Sirdofsky join our counseling team this semester. He is finishing his counseling internship here at Braddock. He will be working in Ms. Celata's office every Tuesday and Wednesday.

Warm regards,
 Ms. Celata and Ms. Lee

WHAT'S GOING ON THIS
MONTH

- We have started a school-wide drawing contest. Students draw an eagle and the winner will receive a pizza lunch with the counselors. Their eagle will be displayed school-wide.
- If you are in need of school supplies please contact us. We are proud to introduce the Braddock boutique, which is comprised of all clothing styles and sizes.
- Red Ribbon week, October 26-30th. More information will be sent home with your child about the activities for this week.
- Please contact Ms. Celata or Ms. Lee if you are interested in putting your name down for the holiday assistance. The deadline is quickly approaching.
- If you need FREE after school care for your 4th or 5th grade student, please contact Ms. Lee about the Alternative House Program.



Estimados Padres:

Me da mucho gusto darles la bienvenida a la Escuela Elemental Braddock. Mi nombre es Lina Castilla y soy el enlace entre la escuela y los padres, "Parent Liaison". Ahora que la escuela ha comenzado nos preparamos para las diferentes actividades que tendremos a través del año escolar.

El jueves 24 de septiembre de 2008 de 6:45 a 8:30 pm tendremos la "Noche de Regreso a la Escuela" es una actividad muy importante ya que tendrán la oportunidad de conocer a los profesores que les informaran cuales son las metas académicas para este año escolar, reglas de la clase, etc. Habrá interpretación simultánea (con audífonos). ¡Los esperamos!

Por favor revisen los folder que llevan sus niños a la casa donde encontraran, información importante referente a sus hijos, mensajes de los profesores, clases de ingles, café mensual para padres, reuniones, actividades, etc.

Les animo que se hagan miembros del PTA, la Asociación de Padres y Maestros, es importante asistir a las reuniones mensuales del PTA donde se mantendrán informados, compartirán sus ideas, preocupaciones y experiencias con otros padres y educadores. El PTA, tiene un papel muy importante en la recaudación de fondos que se usan en beneficio de sus hijos, tales como excursiones, instrumentos musicales, asambleas educativas y muchas otras cosas más. La próxima reunión será el miércoles 17 de septiembre a las 7:00 pm.

Voluntarios. Hay muchas formas que usted puede ayudar en la escuela. Algunos padres ya están viniendo a colaborar. Los voluntarios hacen una gran diferencia en la escuela y su ayuda es realmente apreciada.

Visítenos en el " Centro de Recursos para Padres" "Parent Resource Center" que esta ubicado en el aula #38. Estoy a la orden **de Lunes a Jueves de 9:00 am a 3:00 pm. El teléfono es 703-914-7341.**

Si deseen una conferencia o reunión con el profesor/a de sus hijos pueden enviarle una nota, un mensaje de e-mail o llamar a la escuela y si necesitan intérprete pueden comunicarse conmigo que con mucho gusto les ayudaré.

Les saluda

Lina Castilla

Parent Liaison

CLASES DE INGLES GRATIS EN:

**“FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH”
7610 NEWCASTLE DRIVE, ANNANDALE.**

**MARTES DE 6;30 PM A 8;30 PM A PARTIR DEL
MARTES 28 DE SEPTIEMBRE 2009.**

**HABRAN DOS CLASES: CLASE DE INGLES BASICO Y CLASE DE CONVERSA-
CION (para los que ya han recibido clases de ingles)**

**백 투 스쿨 나이트에 동시 통역자가 오실 예정이오니
많은 부모님들의 참여를 바랍니다.**

Book Character Day

October 30th

More information to come ...



Advanced Academics at Braddock Elementary

Welcome Back! I'm happy to be back at Braddock again this year as the full-time Advanced Academics Resource Teacher. As in previous years, I will be servicing students in grades K-5 through whole class lessons as well as pull-out groups.

Students will be provided enrichment activities in collaboration with their grade level content. They will engage in activities that promote critical and creative thinking and allow them to use their higher level thinking skills.

There will be an informational meeting about the Advanced Academics Program at Braddock on October 1, 2009 during the October PTA meeting. Should you have any questions about your child's needs or about the Advanced Academics Program in Fairfax County, feel free to contact me at CLSonberg@fcps.edu. You may also want to check out the FCPS website at: <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt/>.

I look forward to working with your children again this year!

Ms. Caryn Sonberg