

Bear

Volume 20, Issue 08



Tracks

December 12, 2019

Dates to Remember



- **Dec. 19**
 - ◆ Field Trip—3rd grade to Columbia Museum of Art, 9:00 am
 - ◆ 282nd Army Band visits, 1:00 pm
- **Dec. 20**
 - ◆ Pajama Day for Lower & Upper El
 - ◆ AC Flora students perform
- **Dec. 23–Jan. 3**
 - ◆ Winter Break
- **Jan. 6**
 - ◆ Students return to school
- **Jan. 7**
 - ◆ CRP begins
- **Jan. 13**
 - ◆ School Improvement Council Meeting, 1:00 pm
- **Jan. 14**
 - ◆ Richland 1 Science Fair @ Fairgrounds, 4:00–7:00 pm

Bears on Track

Congratulations Runners!

Each semester Brockman Elementary forms a 5K running club called Bears on Track. The club trains 3rd thru 5th graders to run in a 5K at the end of the semester. The training takes place once a week where students practice running long distances and demonstrating good running technique. The 50-member running group is very popular and is at max capacity each semester. Additionally, many past Bears on Track runners have excelled later on in high school athletics. The club is coached by many Brockman Elementary teachers (Mr. Linnan, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Stoner, Mrs. Edgren, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Ferrell, and Mr. Linton) as well as our parent volunteers (Mr. Grove, Mrs. Casey, Mrs. Merritt).

This past weekend, the club ran in the Deck the Hasl 5K at Heathwood Hall. We're so proud of them!



Principal's Message



Dear Brockman Families,

Thank you for your generosity during this holiday season. We want to share our appreciation and let you know the extent of your giving.

First, we were overwhelmed by your generosity for our Veteran's day donation of toiletries and snacks for Ethan Scott's father. We filled EIGHT boxes with donated items! The State newspaper ran a nice article about our efforts. You can read it at this link: www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article238220944.html. Thankfully, AFLAC agreed to pay for the postage to mail these donations to Kuwait so that the soldiers in the unit with Ethan's father can benefit from them.



In addition, we asked you to donate to Harvest for Hunger and you donated 1333 items! We are pleased to report that the items were picked up at our school on Tuesday and will reach families in our community before Christmas.

We appreciate your generosity!

Respectfully,

Dr. Heidi Stark

** ATTENTION ALL MONTESSORI PARENTS **

MONTESSORI INFORMATION SESSIONS — If you are interested in having your 3-year-old to first grade child be a part of the Richland One Montessori programs for the 2020-2021 school year, you **must attend** one of the upcoming Parent Information Sessions. **EVEN IF YOU'RE A PARENT OF A CURRENT MONTESSORI STUDENT, you must attend a session as the enrollment process has changed.** All current Montessori students will be promoted to the next grade with no problem. **YOU MUST ATTEND IF YOU HAVE A YOUNGER CHILD THAT WILL BE A NEW ENROLLEE INTO THE PROGRAM!** After attending the session, you will be able to enter the lottery enrollment process. The sessions are listed below!
Saturday, January 11—W.G. Sanders Middle School Auditorium, 9:00 am
Wednesday, January 29 — W.G. Sanders Middle School Auditorium, 5:30 pm



Primary

Giving the Best Gift of All

Creating a Giving Generation

Here are some suggestions to make the concept and the act of giving a part of your regular interactions with your children.

Teach what it means to share

One way you can help your children understand what it means to give is to teach them the importance of sharing. Often, when you think of the word "sharing," you picture dividing tangible things like splitting a piece of cake with someone or letting friends play with toys. Even these small examples of sharing can help your children understand, in simple and concrete terms, what it means to be generous.

Model generosity

Think about your attitudes toward charity and what messages you send to your children. Often your children are unaware when you write checks for charity or they do not see you when you run an errand for an infirm neighbor or cook a double batch of dinner for a struggling family. Let them know when you perform acts of kindness.

Talk about your feelings when you give

Tell your children how you feel when you make charitable contributions or buy things for those in need. Take time at dinner or even while driving in the car to discuss what you do to help others and how it makes you feel.

Do it together

Ask your children to help you when you pack up donations of clothes or household items or when you help a friend. Spend an afternoon at a food bank or at a community clean-up project. Let them experience first-hand what it feels like to give their time to a cause. Often these activities become the highlight of your family's time together.

Praise the giving impulse

When you see your children being generous, point it out and praise them. Help them put into words the positive feelings they may have as they help others.

Create opportunities

Introduce ideas and opportunities for your children to give time, contribute money, or donate personal items. You might, for example, suggest they visit an elderly neighbor who can't get out much anymore, choose a charity to support, or give some of their less-used clothes to a community shelter for women and children.

A parting thought

The goal is to make the process of giving a natural part of your children's lives. When being generous feels personal and gratifying for everyone in the household, your children are more likely to grow into kind, charitable and giving adults.

Lower Elementary

Giving to the Community

Montessori children learn to and are encouraged to give back to their communities in creative ways that beckon to mind the famous saying "see a need, fill a need." These contributions should be inspired by the children's ideas which are born from conversation and discussion about the community and its needs. Children at Brockman chose to collect canned food for a canned food drive. Other ideas could include: a drive to benefit a local animal shelter, read stories and sing songs to residents of a nursing home, or making and selling goods to benefit a cause they believe in.

By supporting children with logistics, we encourage them to learn how to be active and supportive members of our communities from a young age. Children can quickly learn the importance of volunteering and contributing to aid others.

Giving back is just one way a child begins their active role as a peaceful member of our society.



Upper Elementary

Trade Fair 2019

by Rachel Griffin & Naomi Martin

The Trade Fair is an activity where classes from the Upper Elementary get together and trade items that they have made. This is the seventh year of our annual Trade Fair. The Trade Fair takes place in November because it is this time of the year when we think about how important it was for the Native Americans and settlers from Europe to work and trade with each other to survive. The Trade Fair is important because it helps students understand the importance of trade during the early colonial period of America. Students enjoyed the Trade Fair and traded a lot of homemade items. Items that were traded included paintings, slime, jewelry, and stress balls. We learned about supply and demand. Supply and demand is an economic model of price determination. This means that the more supplies you have the less it costs and the fewer supplies you have the more it costs. Learning about trading helps us gain a better understanding of how early settlers, Europe, and the Native Americans worked and lived together.



Brockman FUNdRUN Update

Another successful PTO FUNd Run is in the books! A huge THANK YOU to the Brockman Community for all of your help and support of the 2019 FUNd Run! It was a great day to raise money for our school and show off our new playground equipment and the upper elementary track. Throughout all of the FUNd Run events, we had over 50 parent volunteers, 15 corporate sponsors, 3 community partners, and thus far have raised nearly \$11,000! (We are still counting a few packets that have trickled in!) We estimate that about 60% of students sent in their packets so please don't hesitate to continue sending in donations, as the PTO forwards funds to projects throughout the year — for example, this year's proceeds will fund ongoing classroom initiatives like ALEKS licenses, gardening projects, community-building events like the end-of-year picnic, and further playground renovations — we still have the lower elementary and primary playgrounds to go! Checks can be made out to Brockman PTO and online donations can be made via our Paypal link (you do not need a paypal account to donate). Here is the link to donate: www.brockmanpto.org/fund-run/#donate

Thank you to the Brockman teachers, staff and administration for your help and support of this year's FUNd Run, specifically Dr. Stark, Ms. Giles, Ms. Hufstetler, Mr. Linnan, Mr. Linton, Ms. Blalock, and Mr. Peterson, as well as the following parent volunteers (we apologize if there is anyone we missed — we are so lucky to have such a large group!). We couldn't have done it without you!

Erin Baldwin

Susannah Biel

Tara Cecchini

Mark Cecchini

Sarah Claggett

Laura Cloud

Shannon Coleman

Shirra Culp

Katharine Dragner

Kate Flory

Maxine Floyd

Urica Floyd

Bergan Fudger

Nancy Goffi

Ashley Hahn

Samuel Hahn

Carla Harkness

Denise Hudson

Caroline Humphries

Erin Johnson

Dick Kawooya

Cara Koerber

Susan Lyon

Elizabeth Massey

Mandy McLean

Karen Mekongo

Marcia Merritt

Renee Nicholes

Leigh Oden

Claire Raj

Paulette Rayfield

Andrea Rhodes

Julie Schmidt

Kristen Seay

Lindsay Shazly

Tarek Shazly

Elizabeth Thebo

Kate Usry

Patti Walker

Jennifer Webb

Janelle Zeller