

DECEMBER 2008

Dr. Gustavus Brown Elementary School's Bulldog Bulletin



421 UNIVERSITY DRIVE • WALDORF • MARYLAND • 301-645-1330 • MR. MARVIN JONES, PRINCIPAL


Old Man Winter has arrived...

Review Your Cold Weather Plans

Dear Dr. Brown Family,

We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. Welcome back from that short break (officially)... and now, for the next few weeks we continue... ***On to the Next Level!***

As we continue our journey, however, please be aware of the following weather-related reminders. Inclement weather is often the reason for unexpected school closings, delays, and early dismissals during this time of year. The possibility of these occurrences warrants a review of your emergency plan with your child. It is important that he/she knows what they are to do and/or where they are to go in a (weather-related) emergency situation.

 In the event of an early dismissal due to inclement weather, morning Pre-K will remain at school through lunch and go home on the regular buses at dismissal time.

If conditions require the closing or delayed opening of schools, decisions are usually made by 5 a.m. or on the evening preceding, if possible.

If it becomes necessary to close schools during the day, local radio and television stations are notified and asked to make announcements, usually by 10:30 a.m.

If you do not have access to the radio or television, please call the 24-hour information lines at 301-934-7410 or 301-932-6656 for up-to-date details. Parents can also be notified by email of unscheduled delays, early dismissals or closings. Simply log on to www.schoolsout.com, to register to receive an automatic email whenever a change in the regular school day occurs. Follow the link from our school web site.

Also, please be sure the information on your child's Emergency Card is kept up-to-date. Often we are unable to contact parents due to changes in home, work and/or cell phone numbers. If any of your numbers have changed, it is vital that we have the most current information on file in case of an emergency or illness. We appreciate your attention to this concern.

Lastly, we thank you and look forward to your continued support of your children (our students) and upcoming school events, such as our Drop n'

Shop, Breakfast with Santa and Dr. Brown's Secret Shoppe. Read on for details...

A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Jefferson and Mrs. Holmes, members of the House of Israel of Mt. Ennon Baptist Church, for their extreme generosity in giving to our students, the gift of school supplies for students in need. We received brand new items for as many as 50 students; items of particular benefit this time of year, as children begin to run out of necessities. We are very grateful.



Thank you also to all of our family members for your continued support of your children and of our school. Your caring, concerned and cooperative efforts are always welcomed and truly appreciated.

Have a joyous and relaxing holiday season.

Sincerely,

Marvin L. Jones,
Principal

Simple Ideas:

Lessons Learned from the Holidays

by Deborah M. Brown, Vice Principal

December is here and I'm not sure how it got here so fast.

This is such a busy season that sometimes school doesn't get as much attention as it does the rest of the year. Please try to make time for your children to get their homework done, and done well. The children are excited and sometimes they rush through their work just to get it out of the way. Try to get your children in bed at their usual bedtime; they will be able to pay attention better in class if they have had plenty of rest.



The holidays can be educational as well as lots of fun. Let your children help in the holiday preparations. Let them put the stamps on the Christmas cards, help you write shopping lists, or help follow the recipe you are making. Take quiet time to read your cards together. Older children will enjoy reading the cards to you. Read your favorite stories and watch your favorite movies and take time to talk about them with your children. Remember that school supplies make great stocking stuffers and

will help your children to get off to a great start in the New Year.

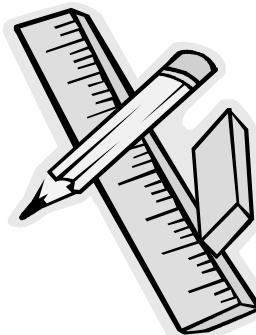
I hope that your family's holidays are wonderful and filled with delight. Take care of one another and be safe.

Reading & Math to be Tested

Students in Grades 1 through 5 will be administered standardized quarterly tests in Reading and Math during the week of January 5, upon our return from Winter Break. Reading tests will be given on Tuesday, January 6 and Math will be tested on Wednesday, January 7. The exams take an hour or less and are given first thing in the morning. Make-up exams will be given between January 8 and January 12.

Some proven tips for testing success include:

- Get a good night's sleep before the test;
- Eat a healthy breakfast;
- Maintain a pleasant home environment and avoid unnecessary conflicts or worries;
- Be on time, not late for school;
- Dress in comfortable clothes;
- Relax. Do the best you can.



We expect our Dr. Brown Bulldogs to prove that they are indeed the "Best in Show" with their level of excellence on these two tests.

Perfect Attendance

The following students were here every day, arriving and leaving on time in November.

Rebeca Aguilar-Barahona, Demetrius Bennett, Selah Calacan, Nylaysia Grant, Kaylin Urrego-Gallo, Brent Boswell, Joshua Crossley, Kailyn Jackson, Zeyneb Mourtaj, Talaya Scott, Nia Strong, Ayanna Wheeler, Danielle Adams, Deandre Battle, Justin Blake, Jalen Crump, Jayren Dawkins, Elizabeth Dion, Mackenzie Dixon, Tyara Hawkins, Kaitlyn Heard, Isaac Hyson, Melanie Molina, Kyle Piper, William Robinson, Brandon Thomas, Shakara Williams, Maya Armstead, Christian Collins, Abigail Craig, Octavius Didley, Lisa Fleet, Alex Jackson, Asia Johnson, Elijah Johnson, Rylee Josephs, Josiah Lewis, Christian Lyles, Brianna McMillion, Matthew Pedigo, Pape Sow, Skylar Weekly, Payton Whisler, Kelli Bonner, Briana Campbell, Christian Chavez, Zaniya Gassaway, Tyrone Hawkins, Ariauna Hemsley, Gael Herrera-Ruada, Xavier Jarmon, Bryce Lewis, William McLaughlin, Jaden Mitchell, Joshua Price, Kaliyah Rogers, Jordan Rutledge, Justus Clark, Londelle Graham, Dorian Kilroy, Braxton Lewis, Kyra Smith, Kristen Valencia, LaDainian Williams, Keivon Diggs, Langhston Haynes, Jelani Henderson, Akiva Kelton, Taviah Levenson, Jariah Russell, Jason Shekleton, DeV Vaughn Williams, Ariana Bell, Kavon Burks, Christian Calacan, Victoria Craig, Breanna Davis, Alijah Hill-Thompson, Jared Smith, T'Asia Wheeler, Nyah Anthony, Chalaya Bingham, Casey Bonner, Jaymon Franklin, Jevon Hamilton, Shaniah Johnson, Immanuel Leonard, Dorrell Ritchie, Terrell Robbins, Mackenzie Shugart, Perri Smith, Brianna Strong, J'Shaun Wallace, Jasmine Washington, Manuel Chavez, Alexis Davis, Aabria Day, Macoreya Gray, Mary Paris, Demetrius Ricks, Aniya Sorrell, Asia Thompson, Jerel Watson, Medrick Ellis, Elijah Finfera, Charmene Jimason, Jalexus Thomas, Devar Battle, Jada Duckett, Derrick Fleet, Austin Fontaine, Kelvin Fuentes, Madison Godreau, Aysa Hubbard, Mehdi Mourtaj, Lauren Plater, Laquana Tullis, Langston White, Cameron Bonner, Zarah Floss, Tabitha Hall, Haydan Kregar, Edward Love, Paul Massey, Tyler Quick, Ari Randolph, Ethan Snider, Michael Talbert, Darius Wilson, Marissa Adams, Keeshawn Allen, Alexis Anderson, Paris Anthony, Daniel Bonilla, Inaya Cheaver, Alwyn Haynes, Amaya Jernigan, Nicholas Knight, Matthew Noonan, Dequan Robinson, Kayla Rutledge, Jalyn Thomas, Kieala Brown, Quintin Butler, Nigel Crockett, Kameron Ford, Kyla Harris, Nicholas Higgs, Zachary Jenkins, Michael McGraw, Corey Miles, Christopher Persell, Adriana Rodriguez, Ayanna Smith, Zenobia Smith, Michaela Talbert, Alpha Barry, Kiyara Bess, Destiny Bishop, Andre Harris, Zhengning Huang, Angel Leonard, Merwan Mourtaj, Cheyenne Noonan, Nijm Tullis, Tyrese Watts, Natasha Wheeler, Jason Wilson, Cheyenne Young, Ana Altamirano, Alesia Brooks, Jeanne Delacruz, Alyssa Harley, Sheyla Hicks, Alyssa Howard, Quinton Hutchinson, Kyana Jernigan, Indya Jones, Scott Logue, Jessenia Mills, Danija Reeves, Tasia Taylor, Alyssa Thompson, Kameron Tuerr, Samantha Vasquez, Darius Wilson, Decorey Gray, Jasmyn Harris, Daquan Hunt, Natecia Phillips, Antonio Randolph, Emily Snider, Makayla Soper, Melvin Sprawls, Amber Swann, Jocelyn Zaragoza, Jasmine Ben, Brianna Buckner, Tyler Collins, Christopher Cruz, Alyssa DeFelice, Joseph Duckett, Jakiyah Estep, Keyser Ibrahim, Justin Mothershead, Amber Watson, Diamante Winters.



DROP & SHOP



Enjoy a night of shopping,
without the kids!

Friday, December 12
from 7:00 until 10:00

Let your child's teachers entertain them with
a fun-filled night of movies and games, while
you enjoy 3 hours of child-free shopping!

\$10 per child or \$25 per family of 3 or more

Make your check payable to Dr. Brown Elementary School.
Proceeds benefit The American Cancer Society
via Dr. Brown's Relay for Life Team

Yes! I'm interested in having a night to shop
for the holidays on Friday, December 12, 2008

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Parent's Name _____

Phone Number _____

NO WALK-INS. PLEASE R.S.V.P. BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11th





'Tis the season for the
Dr. Brown PTO's
**Holiday
Shopppe**

Something for everyone!

Your child can purchase gifts
for every member of the family:
Mom, Dad, Grandma,
Grandpa, brothers & sisters

Open Monday, December 15 through Friday,
December 19 during regular school hours.

Preview hours at the
Breakfast with Santa
on Saturday, December 13,
from 10:00 to 12:00



The Dr. Brown
PTO invites
you to have



Breakfast with Santa

Saturday morning, December 13
from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon



- ◆ Enjoy a Fresh, Hot Breakfast
- ◆ Pictures with Santa
- ◆ Personalized Ornaments
- ◆ Holiday Crafts
- ◆ Sneak Preview of the PTO's Dr. Brown Holiday Shoppe

**ALA CARTE
ITEMS**

- Fruit Bowl
- Donuts
- Coffee
- Tea
- Water

Santa Claus' meal

Chicken Patty on Bun
Hash Browns
Orange Juice or Apple Juice

_____ x \$3.00 = \$ _____

Little Elves' meal

Chicken Nuggets
Hash Browns
Orange Juice or Apple Juice

_____ x \$2.50 = \$ _____

Student's Name(s) _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

**PLEASE PRE-PAY WITH CASH OR CHECK PAYABLE TO DR. BROWN PTO
ALLERGY NOTICE: PEANUT OIL WILL BE USED TO PREPARE DEEP-FRIED ITEMS**



MAGNIFICENT MATHEMATICIANS

As students become fluent in their math facts at designated operations and levels, they will be recognized for their accomplishments. The operations are addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and the fact levels for each operation are 0-3, 4-6 and 7-9. Fluent means that they show 100% accuracy using FASTT MATH at each level for each operation.

ADDITION 0-3: Thomas Valentine, Jada Davis, Jasmyrn Harris, Kayla Mixon-Donaldson, Jessenia Mills, Diamante Winters, Michael McGraw, Brandon Lewis, Ethan Snider, Tyler Chaffins, Langston White, Kieala Brown, Imani Spicer, Marquise Taylor, Destiny Bishop, Dewayne Braden, Jontel Armstead, Ashley Deare, Austin Fontaine, Daryl Raguindin, Paul Massey, Brianna Mincy, Ari Randolph, Michael Talbert, Matthew Noonan, Jalyn Thomas, Mekhi Williams, Alyssa Howard, Quinton Hutchinson, Dominique Clemons, Keyser Ibrahim.

ADDITION 4-6: Alexis Anderson, Kenneth Hartmann, Antonio Randolph, Alyssa Howard, Keeshaun Allen, Mehdi Mourtaj, Ethan Snider, Keyser Ibrahim, Paul Massey.

ADDITION 7-9: Daniel Bonilla, Antonio Randolph, Mehdi Mourtaj, Keeshaun Allen, Alexis Anderson, Kenneth Hartmann, Paul Massey, Kieala Brown, Michael McGraw.

SUBTRACTION 0-3: Antonio Randolph

A Special Thank You

to all who participated in our food drive. With the help of our PTO and everyone who sent in food items we were able to brighten the Thanksgiving holiday for several of our Dr. Brown families. Thank you for caring and sharing.



Artists Bank the Grand Prize

Congratulations to the six finalists from the third and fourth grade classes who helped Dr. Brown win the Grand Prize of \$300 from the County First Bank Art Contest.

Zachary Jenkins received the Best of Show Award out of all the elementary schools in the northern region, and Isaiah Chappell received the Most Original Award. First place went to Ayanna Smith, second place to Paul Massey, third place to Jenney Huang, and fourth place to Mehki Williams. Fantastic job everyone!



You can view all of the artwork done by these students and the rest of their classmates on Artsonia.com. Be sure to visit and join one of the fan clubs and leave comments for the student. First and second graders also have work on Artsonia.com.

It's that time of year to get out the holiday decorations again and old greeting cards that you received last year. Save them! Send them in to Ms. Stinehart, the art teacher, and get a Bulldog Bravo. Please save your old 2008 picture calendars and send those in for an extra Bulldog Bravo. Here's a list of some other useful recyclables and found materials that



can always be put to good use in the art room: paper towel tubes, bathroom tissue tubes, buttons, brown paper bags, baby food jars, craft sticks, embroidery thread, feathers, shells, beads, corks, q-tips, cotton balls, silk flowers, pine cones, ribbon and much more. If you have something you think could be used in art, please contact Ms. Stinehart.

5th Graders will be Reading their Descriptive Winter Essays



at the
New Year's PTO Meeting
Tuesday, January 6 at 6:30 p.m.

COMPLIMENTARY HOT CHOCOLATE WILL BE SERVED



Beat the band. Order early and save!



The Dr. Brown 2008-2009 Yearbook

The 2008-2009 school year at Dr. Brown is packed full of learning, and fun activities. Help your child to remember this special year by ordering your copy of the yearbook today. Order before Valentine's Day and save!

Yes! I'm ordering before Valentine's Day!

Please reserve a copy of Dr. Brown's 2008-2009 Yearbook for my child.

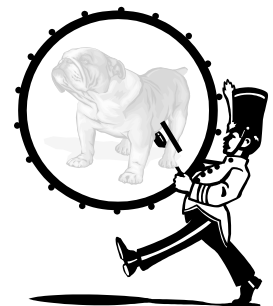
Child's Name _____

Teacher _____ Grade: PK K 1 2 3 4 5

Number of Yearbooks: _____ x \$12.50 each = Total enclosed: \$ _____

\$14.00 after February 14, 2009. Yearbooks will be delivered in June, 2009.

\$12.50



Compassion



Parents are encouraged to talk with their children about consideration and caring, and urge them to show grace, kindness and tenderness to others.

Brown's Bag of Events

Friday, December 12

Relay for Life Drop & Shop, 7:00 to 10:00

Saturday, December 13

PTO Breakfast with Santa, 10:00 to 12:00

Week of December 15 - December 19

PTO Secret Shoppe for the Holidays

Friday, December 19

2-Hour Early Dismissal:
PM Pre-K attends. No AM Pre-K.

**Monday, December 22 through
Sunday, January 4, 2009**

SCHOOLS CLOSED: Winter Break

Week of January 5 - January 9

2nd Quarter CCPS exams, grades 1-5

Tuesday, January 6

PTO Meeting, featuring our
5th Grade students, reading their
descriptive Winter essays, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 7

2-Hour Early Dismissal
AM Pre-K attends. No PM Pre-K.

Friday, January 9

5th Grade Water Safety Project due

Friday, January 16

End of 2nd Marking Period

Monday, January 19

SCHOOLS CLOSED:
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday

Tuesday, January 20

SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR STUDENTS:
Semester Break
Presidential Inauguration Day

**Wednesday, January 21
Through**

Friday, January 23

Dr. Brown Science Fair,
projects due, grades 4 and 5.

Thursday, January 22

Math, Reading, and Principal's Night
Grades 3 through 5, 6:30 to 7:45

Monday, January 26

Dr. Brown Science Fair Open House,
winners announced, 9:30 to 1:30

The Charles County public school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. For inquiries, please contact Keith Grier, Title IX Coordinator, or Patricia Vaira, Section 504 Coordinator (students) or Keith Hettel, Section 504 Coordinator (employees/adults), at Charles County Public Schools, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, P.O. Box 2770, La Plata, Maryland 20646; (301) 932-6610/870-3814. For special accommodations call (301) 934-7230 or TDD 1-800-735-2258 two weeks prior to the event.

