



Broadwater Bulletin

Holiday Edition

December 2015/January 2016

Joe M. Halligan - Principal

The Weather has Gotten Much Colder!



©gnur! - illustrationsOf.com/93477

Each year, as the weather changes, we want to remind parents to make sure that children are dressed appropriately before heading to school each day. Our Montana weather can change on a moment's notice, and students need to be prepared for the changes. At Broadwater School, our policy states that students will be sent outside for recess each day unless;

1. The outside temperature and/or wind chill is below zero.
2. It is pouring rain.
3. An emergency is called by

the National Weather Service.

If you have to drop your child off before 7:30 AM, which is never recommended, please make sure they have warm clothing. Our Breakfast Program starts at 7:30, and kids will not be allowed in the building before then. During morning walk, students are generally outside for 10 - 15 minutes before the school day starts. That can be a long time to be in the cold without appropriate cold-weather gear. Recesses throughout the day last between 15-20 minutes, depending on the grade level. If students bring hats and gloves in their backpacks, they can be ready for any drastic changes in the weather. We have a limited supply of hats, mittens and coats available for students and families in need. Much of our supply has already been diminished due to cold weather needs

this year. Please come in and visit with us if your child is in need of warm winter clothing.

If your child forgets his/her hats and/or mittens, we can often help them by providing donated items, but again, we are limited to the number of items we can hand out each day. Please help your child remember to bring the necessary items so they can be comfortable and enjoy their time outside at recess during the cold weather.

If you would like to donate any new, or lightly used, winter clothing, please contact the school at 281.6207 and ask to visit with Mrs. Alpers, our Family Resource Coordinator. Our hope is that every student at Broadwater will be prepared for the cold winter ahead, and we thank you for doing your part at home to make sure this happens.

Label Student Clothing and Other Items

Some of you might have noticed that our student Lost and Found has grown quite large already this year, and it's only the first part of December! One of the easiest things that you can do at home to ensure that your student comes home every day with their stuff is LABEL

all items of clothing, lunchboxes and backpacks with their name and phone number. This trick takes no time at all, and can save you a lot of time, money and heartache trying to locate lost items at school. Band and orchestra instruments should also be labeled for older

students. Remember, it is difficult to reclaim lost items without some identifying information, and teachers cannot possibly keep track of all student clothing. Please take the time to make sure your child's items are labeled! Come visit our Lost and Found any time!

Broadwater Elementary School
Phone: 406.281.6207



The Weather Outside is Frightful!

DECEMBER AND JANUARY CALENDAR EVENTS

December Events	
PTA Meeting at 6:30 PM	3
PTA Family Movie Night in the Cafeteria - 6:30 PM	4
Band/Orchestra Concert in the Gym at 10:15 AM	9
Sodexo Holiday Meal during lunch time	9
Family Skate Night at Skate World - 5:00 to 8:00	17
Holiday Break - No School	23 - 3
January Events	
Students Return to school in January 2016	4
PTA Meeting - 6:30 PM Childcare provided!	7
End of 2nd Quarter	15
No School - PIR Day	18
Report Cards Go Home	22
BUG Assembly at 8:45 AM in the gym - 4th/5th Grades	26
Family Skate Night at Skate World - 5:00 to 8:00	28



1st Quarter Honor Roll at Broadwater

Every quarter, Broadwater School takes time to honor those students in grades 4-5 who excel in the classroom and earn Honor Roll status. Names followed by an * indicate students who earned straight A's. 1st Quarter Honor Roll students are:

Alehya Arnold, Kameron Ball, Mary Buck*, Isabelle Belcourt, Rosalee Bronson, Brooklyn Brownson, Angelena Carbery, Jadon Cox*, Tracy DelCamp, Kara DeRoeck*, Lindsay Dillon, Caeleb Evans*, Lily Ferguson, Ax Firman, Antonio Gonzalez, Syr Green*, Rian Gress, Aiden Haas, Devlen Harris, Clara Haslem, Kenneth Hawkins, Victor Koch*, Caden Kuntz*,

Dominique Kuntz, Matthew Lehman, Johnathon Luce, Peyton Mavencamp*, Emily Mavencamp*, Gabe McNamee, Jaiven Parker, Serenity Pulley, Jonah Rainey, Madison Rexford*, Avery Rindahl, Bailey Rodenberger, Chloe Rogers, Jamison Rogers, Mia Romero, Jalen Rosas, Gavin Scott, Sara Sopko*, Aiden Stanley*, Taylor Steiner*, Alex Steppe, Johnny Vasquez, Riviera Utley*, McKenzie Webb, Gage Weyrauch, Katilyn Wham, Hannah Wheeler and Nick Wintrode

Congratulations to all of our Honor Roll students - Your hard work and dedication will always pay off!



Thanks to all of the students and teachers who worked extremely hard to achieve the goals set by all! Keep it up!

Perfect Attendance for the 1st Quarter



During the 1st Quarter of this year, Broadwater had almost 60 students with perfect attendance - that's about 15% of our entire student population! Of course our goal is for every student to be here, every single day, ready to learn. Students who miss school often, or are frequently late, tend to not perform as well as those students who are in school every day. Please make your child's attendance a priority in 2015! In order to achieve perfect attendance, students must not miss a day of school, or be tardy even one time during the quarter. Congratulations to these kids for having perfect attendance during the 1st quarter, and we wish everyone the best of luck with the 2nd quarter:

Addison Allie, Alan Andersen, Rigley Beals, Nick Beckers, Isabelle Belcourt, Gage Blatnick, Lucas Blatnick, Grace Burr, Brandon Castro, Maddax Charles, Evan Clark, Saryanna Clark, Noah Clark, Lydia Cohn, Alice Cohn, Anthony Cole, Leah Coles, Andrea Coles, Sophia Corbridge, Kiyah Courchene, Isaiah Delgado, Ariana

Demarest, Kara DeRoeck, Anthony Ferguson, James Fields, Jessi Glassing, Talen Gosnell, Andrew Graham, Syr Green, Michael Harrison-McCartney, Clara Haslem, Sophia Johnson, Seth Johnson-Rehn, Malina Keller, Rose Kelly, Elias Kron, Madison Lambert, Arianno Lavin, Avery Lehman, Maya Lopez, Joseph Luce, Johnathan Luce, Zalyynn Martinez, Kiegan Mashek, Emily Mavencamp, Peyton Mavencamp, Ramona McConnell, Ryan McCreary, Lilly McNamee, Gabe McNamee, Logan Melton, Willy Nelson, Kassie Nichols, Myrcle Ortiz, Maddix Pederson, Kaliana Pierson, Serenity Pulley, Sienna Quesnel, Leah Rainey, Micah Rainey, Jonah Rainey, Duncan Reed, Chole Rogers, Eztli Romero, Madison Ross, Nora Sather, Evey Sather, Sean Scher, Vaughn Sheridan, Cashius Smart Enemy, Isabella Smith, Erik Sundstrom, Kyler Thorup, Johnny Vasquez and Amelia Young

***Compare this list with our Honor Roll list, and you will see a lot of the same names! Attendance = Performance!**

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB AT:

WWW.BROADWATERSCHOOL.WEBLY.COM



Counselor's Corner

Why Children Need Your Presence and Not Your Presents

*** This holiday season, rather than spending money on family, spend TIME with family.***

It is no secret that children love new toys. They love Christmas and birthdays because of the multitude of gifts they receive. However, the most important gift any child could receive is the continual presence of his parents in his life. As a parent, giving your time, energy and love to your child is one of the most important things you can do. Here are a few reasons why presence is more important in your child's life than the latest and greatest present.

Children need your example

Home is the place where children learn basic skills such as how to speak, walk, use the toilet, hold a fork, manners, etc. Children learn these skills from watching others. Parents set an example to children. If a child sees a parent performing a certain task, the child feels it is also OK to do it. When you are present in your child's life, you help shape

your child into the person you know he can become. Children look up to you their entire lives and your actions speak much louder than any amount of money. Show your children, by your example and your actions, that you want what is best for them.

Children need your physical touch

When children fall and hurt themselves, or they are sick, there is nothing like a kiss from their mom or a snuggle from their dad. Physical touch is a powerful thing. Take the time to snuggle your children, let them sit on your lap while you read them stories and give them hugs before bed each night, etc.

Involvement helps build a child's self-esteem

When you are involved in your child's life, you help him gain confidence and build up his self-esteem. When parents make it a priority to attend a child's choir concert or basketball game or even make sure her homework is complete, it brings feelings of security and love to a child. This is important to a child's mental health. When these feel-

ings do not exist, the child is more likely to be insecure and have feelings of low self-worth.

A strong relationship builds a child's communication skills

When parents are present in a child's life, they spend more time talking to the child. Whereas, when a child is just given a gift, they are usually by themselves for an extended period of time. Communication with parents is essential for establishing critical skills. Vocabulary, grammar and even basic socializing skills can all be learned through constant communication between a child and a parent.

At first, presents may seem like a great way to win your child's love but they will never take the place of being present. Children grow up too quickly. Don't let their childhood slip by without being involved and letting your actions show your child how much you care.

- Excerpts of this article originally written by Family Share website, 2015

Have You Considered Joining our PTA?

Part of being a member of the community at Broadwater School is investing time and energy back into the school. Probably one of the easiest ways this can be accomplished is through involvement in the PTA. This is by no means an exclusive group of parents, but rather a group of interested moms and dads who are passionate about what is going on in their child's school.

We would encourage you to give some thought to becoming a member of the PTA, and contributing to the ongoing success of our students and school. Being a part of the

PTA does not require hours of meeting every week. Our group meets one time, every month, for about an hour. It is almost always the first Thursday of each month, unless there is a conflict with a holiday, from 6:30 - 7:30 PM. In a school of over 360 students, our parent population is right around 800 adults. Currently, our PTA representation includes about 2% of that population. While we are very excited about the parents we have attending each month, we would enjoy seeing more of you at our meetings to help us make decisions that will

impact your kids for years to come. If you are interested in being a part of the PTA, you can call the school at 281.6207, and your name will be passed on to our president, Brenna Paulson. You can also email her at broadwaterpta@billingsschools.org. Everyone is welcome!





Tid-Bits To Be Aware Of...



Construction to Continue:

We are nearing the end of our historic building renovation and students and teachers will be moving into the newly finished basement very soon. When students return to school on January 4th, after the winter break, 1st grade and Mrs. Ashmore's 4th grade classrooms will be starting 2016 in a new room. Title I has already moved over, and the Resource Room will be moving shortly. Once moved, the annex will be cleaned out and abated. The demolition will not happen until early June to ensure the safety of all students and staff members.

Morning Coffee and Other Drinks:

Believe it or not, we are experiencing a high number of students showing up each morning for the morning walk with a cup of coffee, hot chocolate or other drink. Please do not send your child to school with a mug, or other drink, to drink while they are at the morning walk. Not only can these drinks be spilled and cause injury, but they also create messes that will remain on our playgrounds. If kids need a morning drink, please make sure they finish them while they are still at home with you. Thanks for your cooperation!

Morning Drop-Off and Afternoon Dismissal

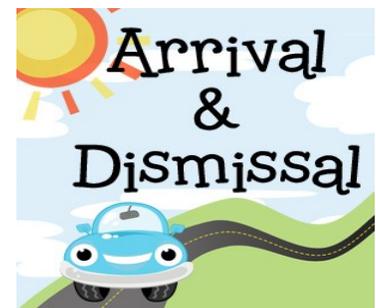
Every morning and afternoon, Wyoming and 4th Avenues become a hub of activity and foot and vehicle traffic. With this activity comes an inherent risk for accident or injury. Please do everything you can to help us prevent this from happening. Our bus zone on 4th Avenue is reserved for bus parking ONLY every day from 7:00 - 9:00 AM and 2:00 - 4:00 PM. Please do not park your vehicle in the bus zone in the morning when you drop your student(s) off. Pulling up to the curb and letting kids out is permissible.

We have learned that no matter how many times this issue is addressed through a

newsletter, bulletin, phone message or hand delivered note, there will always be someone who does not do their part to help.

That being said, please think about what you can do to help everyone involved remain safe. If you observe someone in the wrong, please do not confront them, but rather bring it to the attention of Mr. Halligan, or another school staff member. We must all remember that many of the things we see as "infractions" are not enforceable by law, and often there is nothing that can be done aside from another conversation with the person.

The school appreciates everything that has been done to minimize issues, and we ask that you remain patient as we move through the winter months.



Recycling Program at Broadwater

Recently Broadwater School, thanks to the efforts of Julie Hippler, our Title I Reading Interventionist, was recognized and awarded a grant from the state of Montana. This grant is a part of the governor's Smart School Challenge that has recently started throughout the state.

Please bring any aluminum cans to our school to be recycled. Cans can be dropped off in designated grade level cans by the big dumpster on Wyoming Ave. All money raised will go to help beautify our new school through landscape projects.





Turning Over a New Leaf - Principal's Pen

Every year, at exactly this time, each one of us is given the opportunity to 'start fresh' or 'turn over a new leaf' in some area of our lives. As students, parents, teachers and community members, this fresh start can come in a variety of forms. As we kick off 2016, and work our way toward the end of another school year, I encourage each of you to choose at least one area of your life in which you would like to 'start over', or work harder just to make better. You might have a bad habit that needs kicking, or perhaps you want to start a new healthy habit like daily exercise, reading a book a week or choosing a healthier diet. As the principal of Broadwater School, I am so pleased with the progress we are making as a learning community, and I am excited to see what the next five months will bring. As you all know, this year of construction has brought with it a number of obstacles and hardships for both students and teachers. Our community has done a tremendous job

rallying around this project and just rolling with the punches, as they come our way. If I could choose one area for our school, as a whole, to focus on, it would be the area of daily attendance. During the first four months of school, we have spent way too much time each morning writing tardy slips to those students who walk through our doors after the school day has already begun. Every year, thousands of hours of teaching and learning time is lost to tardy and absent students in our schools...we can do something about it! I know that most students at Broadwater are capable of being here, on time, every day. I want to remind everyone that getting to school every day is a team effort. Each of us must rely on our families to help make that happen. I am asking for the help of each student, parent, sibling and family member to make daily attendance a priority in your home in 2016. During the month of December, many of our students will be testing, so daily attend-

ance is paramount. Thank you for partnering with us - We cannot do it without you!

Mr. Halligan - Principal



"Every year, thousands of hours of teaching and learning time is lost to tardy and absent students in our schools...we can do something about it!"

New Address for 2016?

It is critical that you, as parents and family members keep the school up to date on your most recent contact information. In the event of an emergency, we need to be able to contact you as quickly as possible!

If you have recently moved, or have a more current phone number, please let the office know as soon as possible. For the safety of your student(s), we need to have the most up to date contact information for you and your family! Please complete and clip out the form below, if applicable, and send it back to school with your child.

Student Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

New Address: _____

New Phone Number(s): _____ **Please indicate: Mother Father Other**

E-Mail Address: _____

INFORMATION SCHOOL NEEDS TO BE AWARE OF: _____
