

BROADWATER BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2014

NOVEMBER DATES
TO REMEMBER

REPORT CARDS GO HOME	4
PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES 12:00 STUDENT DISMISSAL	5-7
PTA MEETING @ 7:00 PM IN THE GYM	6
LIFETOUCH PICTURE RETAKES	10
FAMILY SKATE NIGHT @ 5:00 PM - SKATE WORLD WEST	13
HONOR ROLL ASSEMBLY @ 8:45 AM	17
STUDENT COUNCIL FOOD DRIVE	17-21
EARLY OUT DAY - STUDENTS DISMISS AT 12:00 PM	25
THANKSGIVING BREAK - RETURN TO SCHOOL ON DEC. 1ST	26-28

WAYS YOU CAN
HELP US ALL!

- Remember that our school is a construction zone this year! Anything you can help us do to alleviate traffic and congestion around the school is appreciated!
- Please do your best to NOT leave your car unattended in the alley when picking students up after school. What may seem convenient for you causes bigger problems for others trying to do the same thing. We all have to do our part!
- Please do not bring dogs onto school grounds. While most dogs are friendly, we have many kids who are afraid of, or allergic to, all dogs.

PARENT - TEACHER CONFERENCES

November 5 - November 7 are designated for Parent/Teacher Conferences this year. By now you have received a confirmation of your assigned conference time or times. If your child has not brought one home, please call our office at 281.6207 so Diann can schedule you for a conference. All grades will be dismissed at 12:00 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday that week.

Our conference times are:

Wed: 7:30 - 8:05 AM

12:45 - 4:00 PM

Thur: 7:30 - 8:05 AM

12:45 - 6:00 PM

Fri: 7:30 - 8:05 AM

This is an important time for you to meet with teachers one on one to discuss your child's academic

progress. Please be on time, as teachers have several conferences scheduled in a row. Being just a few minutes late will delay everyone's schedule. I cannot guarantee that a teacher will be able to meet with parents who are late for appointments, so please try to make it to your scheduled time. If you, for some reason, discover that you cannot make your assigned time, please contact the office beforehand, and we will do our best to reschedule for a time that best fits.

Our goal is always to have 100% parent participation during conferences. Please do what you can to help us reach our goal - nothing is more important than your child's academic success!

See you at Conferences!

- Mr. Halligan



Every fall our teachers look forward to the opportunity to meet parents and family members during conferences. Please support your child by making attendance a priority during this week!

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE HINTS

Here are some helpful tips for a successful conference with your child's teacher(s):

Before the Conference:

Talk to your child about school. Write down your concerns to share with the teacher(s).

During the Conference:

Discuss the concerns you might have.

Listen carefully to everything the teacher(s) has to say and take notes.

Ask for explanations of things you don't understand.

Ask for suggestions if you need support.

Assure the teacher(s) of your continued support from home.

After the Conference:

Talk with your child about the conference; share positive comments the teacher(s) made about him or her.

Follow up with any suggestions you and the teacher(s) agreed upon.

Be sure to call the teacher(s) any time you have questions or concerns.

The key to a great home/school relationship is communication. It is our goal, as a school, to maintain consistent communication with all families. Please feel free to call any time you have a question or concern.

CROSS COUNTRY TROPHY BACK HOME!

At this year's Yellowstone County Cross Country meet, 60 runners in grades 2-5 represented Broadwater School and earned our Spirit Trophy back. This is the 2nd time in 4 years that Broadwater School has been awarded the trophy. The trophy is awarded to the school who has the highest percentage of eligible students participating in the county meet.

We are the only school in Yellowstone County who has been awarded the trophy twice, once in 2011 and now again in 2014!

Our record breaking numbers

topped last year's count by more than 20 students!

At 3:45 on Tuesday, October 7th, all 60+ students and staff boarded a bus and headed to Pioneer Park to compete with over 40 schools throughout Yellowstone County.

This event is the culmination of many weeks of Running Club training with Mr. King and Mr. Chris Cook, one of our fantastic Broadwater volunteers.

This year our 5th grade boys took 3rd place overall, led by Trey Smith (6:45.78) and Liam

Romei (6:52:08).

Our 4th grade girls' team came in 6th overall. The top finishers for girls were 5th grader Alexis Smith (7:34.45), 4th grader Chole Rogers (7:19.68) and 3rd grader Clara Haslem (8:03.95).

As you can see we have a great group of runners, and will continue to enjoy success in this event for years to come!

We will start training again in the spring, so be on the lookout for information coming home in March of 2015!



Way to go Panthers! Congratulations on bringing home the Spirit Trophy once again!

800 - METER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Each year, Mr. King's 4th and 5th grade PE classes run the 800-meter course as part of their fall physical fitness test.

After the fitness tests, we hold a championship race for the top 10 boy and girl finishers in the intermediate classes. This year's top finishers, and their times, are as follows:

Boys:

- Liam Romei - 3:13.81
- Trey Smith - 3:18.20
- Gage Binz - 3:19.88

Girls:

- Chloe Rogers - 3:39.27
- Alexis Smith - 3:41.84
- Jillian Mavencamp - 3:45.56

These students, and 14 others, competed at Terry Park on October 15th and the fastest boy and girl will be crowned in front of their classmates at the Honor Roll assembly on November 17th. We are proud of all the runners, and each one is a winner in our book!

Students are encouraged to keep training for the next round of physical fitness tests coming up in the spring of 2015. One way that students can remain active is to join the Broadwater Running Club, which will start up again in the spring.

Mr. King will hold another 800 competition as we get closer to the end of the school year. We are excited to see how much students will improve their physical fitness times!

"One way that students can remain active is to join the Broadwater Running Club..."

HELP NEEDED - PARENTS WELCOME!

If you have ever visited our school during the lunch hour, you know that, for 90 minutes each day, our tiny gym becomes a major hub of activity. In such a small space, it is easy to see how regular student activity can become a little overwhelming. We are lucky this year to have the best GDA staff imaginable and I try to work in the lunchroom as often as possible to support them. There are days, however, when

I am unable to be in there. What we are looking for are parents or grandparents who might be willing and able to help out one day a week in the lunchroom.

If you are interested in volunteering, your duties would consist of helping students with lunch needs, like opening milks/juices, grabbing silverware and napkins, providing condiments and light cleaning like wiping tables and sweep-

ing the floor. We do allow students to be social during this time, but not disruptive to the normal flow of the school and disrespectful in their behavior. That being said, it can get a little "noisy" at times when kids are talking to their friends, some of whom they don't get to see much throughout the school day.

Please contact the school if you are interested!



STUDENT ATTENDANCE - SHOULD BE A PRIORITY

Every year, over 22 million school days are lost nationwide to things like the common cold/flu bugs. Knowing that, every day we have with our students is critical to their learning and success in school. We know that many families have multiple children in our school, and some days those kids have appointments of all kinds. If you, or someone in your family needs to schedule appointments, please try to do so outside of the regular school day. We understand that some offices, particularly local doctors, do not schedule appoint-

ments after 3:00 or 3:30 PM, which makes it difficult for families with school-age children. At Broadwater School, our teachers maximize every minute they have with your kids, so missing school time can really add up.

During this first quarter, we had over 70 students with perfect attendance. That's 40+ days with no tardies or absences, and it is certainly something to celebrate! We do, however, have a long way to go as a school to make attendance a top priority for all students and families.

Thank you for helping our school, and your children by scheduling appointments as late as possible and checking them out of school as close to dismissal as you can. Your students will see the benefits of increased classroom and instructional time, and our teachers and staff members will be able to keep moving forward for the good of all students. We appreciate your vital partnership and know that we need you as parents and families! **Please remember photo ID's when checking students out early!**



The more school a child misses each year the more likely they are to experience difficulty with learning and other school tasks. Please do what you can to ensure that your children are on time, every day and ready to learn!

BECOME A YELLOWSTONE CASA VOLUNTEER

Did you know that today in Yellowstone County, 400 children are placed out of their homes because they experienced abuse or neglect? Are you a compassionate individual that wants to make a difference in the life of a vulnerable child? Yellowstone CASA is looking for new advocates. Yellowstone CASA trains everyday community volunteers to be advocates for

abused and neglected children in the court system. Be that difference to a child. Become a CASA Advocate. Do you have 5 to 15 hours a month to donate and the desire to change a child's future? Advocates must commit to a child for the duration of a case (approximately 22 months), serve as the investigative arm of the court, write reports and advocate for the child's best interest in a court

room. Training is held throughout the year. Please contact Maggie Brusven, Program Coordinator, if you have questions:

1201 Grand Ave. Suite 5
P.O. Box 688
Billings, MT 59103-0688
406.259.1233
maggie@yellowstonecasa.org



PERSONAL SAFETY LESSONS IN NOVEMBER



During the week of November 10th - 14th, Mrs. Klaboe and Mr. King will be teaching lessons on personal safety to Broadwater students in all grades.

These lessons are designed to educate students on some of the things with which they may be confronted down the road, in terms of their personal safety.

Each lesson is taught at appropriate comprehension levels. The following outlines the

planned curriculum for this year's Personal Safety lessons:

Kindergarten - *"Joey Learns the Touching Rule"*

1st Grade - *"What to Doo..."*

2nd Grade - *"It's Your Body: You're in Charge"*

3rd Grade - *"McGruff on Self-Protection"*

4th Grade - *"Yes, You Can Say No"*

5th Grade - *"When Should You Tell: Dealing with Abuse"*

As you can see, each lesson focuses on how to distinguish between safe and unsafe touch. A consent form was sent home with each student, and should have been returned to their classroom teacher. If consent forms were not returned, your child will not participate in the lesson, and will be in an alternate setting during the instructional time. Please call the school if you are unsure about the consent form, or if you have any other questions about the personal safety lessons.

Thanks to our Corporate Sponsor -
St. Vincent Healthcare!

BROADWATER SCHOOL

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Fax: 406.254.0057
www.broadwaterschool.weebly.com
Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/broadwaterschool>

FAMILY SKATE NIGHT!

Who: Broadwater families, friends, teachers and staff

What: A fun night of skating, or just hanging out with friends and family - Cost is just \$5.00 per skater

When: Thursday, November 13th from 5:00 to 8:00 PM

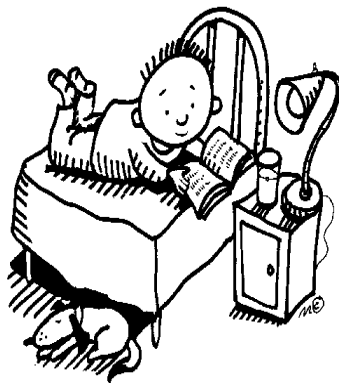
Where: Skate World - 701 Rosebud Drive, off King Ave. and 29th Street West

Why? One of our goals at Broadwater School is to increase parent and family involvement. This night is designed to get families involved with one another, and the school, in a fun way! Please come out and join us!

For more information about this event, please call Sheryl Alpers at the school: 281.6424



Counselor's Corner



THE IMPORTANCE OF HOMEWORK IN YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION

Dr. Sam Goldstein and Dr. Sydney Zentall

Homework is important because it is at the intersection between home and school. It serves as a window through which you can observe your children's education and express positive attitudes towards your children and their education. As children grow older, homework and the amount of time engaged in homework, increases in importance.

Let's examine the six constructive purposes for homework in the context of your child's educational experience. The first two are the most important and obvious. Through (1) practice and (2) participation in learning tasks, homework can improve your child's achievement. Thus, it would be expected that if homework were completed accurately, not only would your child's general knowledge and grades improve but your child would also increase mastery of basic academic skills, such as reading, writing, spelling and mathematics.

Homework can provide other benefits. Your child's ability to bring an assignment home, gather and organize necessary materials to complete the assignment, return the assignment and receive a grade, strengthens his or her sense of responsibility. Time management skills are learned. There is also improved (3) development of personal skills such as time management gained by completing homework. Further, when homework proceeds smoothly it can become (4) a positive aspect of your relationship with your child.

Finally, although we often do not consider that homework serves a school administrative role, it offers schools an opportunity to let parents know what their children are learning. Thus, homework can play a public relations role by (5) keeping parents informed about class activities and policies. Homework can also fulfill (6) an administrative role in helping schools achieve their overall mission of improving student's achievement.

Homework is a bridge that joins schools and parents. From the school's perspective there is the opportunity to monitor students' independent progress. For parents there is the potential to gain a greater appreciation of education and to express positive attitudes towards their children's achievement.

*At Broadwater School, our approach to homework may differ from some schools in Billings. Our staff believes that most student work can/should be completed during school hours. If work is sent home, it is almost always because students did not utilize the time allocated during the work day. In primary grades, reading each night is not considered "homework", and is encouraged to promote solid reading skills in all students. If you have questions about the amount of homework your child may, or may not, be coming home with, please contact their teacher(s) before or after school.

How Can I Help my Child Understand What Bullying Is and Isn't?

Broadwater School, and all Billings's schools, are working hard to educate students and parents about the issue of bullying in schools. According to experts, bullying is a learned behavior. Aggressors are generally children who have learned anti-social behavior at home, in school or elsewhere in their social environment. Because it is learned, experts say it can be "un-learned". First and foremost, it is important for kids, and adults who work with them, to understand that not all hurtful behavior is bullying. Here are a few statements that help us gain a better understanding of this kind of behavior, and what constitutes bullying.

- When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful and they do it once, that's RUDE behavior.
- When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they do it once, that's MEAN behavior.
- When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they keep doing it, even when you tell them to stop, that's BULLYING behavior.