

Briarwood Newsletter

Briarwood Family
Newsletter

briarwoodpta.org

March 4, 2019

Message from Mr. Lash

Snow Day Information

There have been several questions recently about whether or not the Shawnee Mission School District will need to adjust the school calendar for students due to the number of snow days the district has had this school year. SMSD built four snow make-up days into the calendar, and per the audit guide for the Kansas State Department of Education, "The numbers of hours that may be forgiven are equal to the number of hours designated to be snow make-up days." In other words, for every snow day that the district schedules, the state will forgive an equal number of days. Since the district built in four snow days, up to eight snow days can be used without having to adjust the calendar. Thus far, eight days have been used due to inclement weather; therefore, we do not have any additional days available to use without having to add days of school to the calendar. As of Feb. 27, there is still potential that a change in the calendar could still be needed, especially if there are any more inclement weather days. If a change is made, the announcement would be shared broadly in our district and with school communities.

Información de los Días con Nieve

Ha habido muchas preguntas recientemente acerca de clima que si el Distrito de Shawnee Mission School va a ajustar el calendario para los estudiantes debido a los días con Nieve que se han tomado en el año escolar. SMSD tenía cuatro días de nieve en el calendario por guía de auditoria del Departamento de Educación del Estado de Kansas, "La cantidad de horas que pueden ser perdonadas son equivalentes al número de horas designadas a los días ya asignados de nieve". En otras palabras por cada día que el distrito proponga, el estado perdonara el mismo número de días. Sabiendo nosotros que el distrito puso cuatro días, hasta ocho días van a poder ser usados sin tener que hacer un cambio en el calendario. Hasta ahora, los ocho días ya han sido usados debido al clima por lo tanto ya no tenemos más días adicionales disponibles sin tener que agregar días al calendario escolar. A febrero 27, todavía puede haber cambios necesarios en el calendario, especialmente si hay más días con climas peligrosos. Si llegara a haber un cambio el anuncio será compartido en el Distrito escolar y con las comunidades de la escuela.

Important Upcoming Dates

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- Friday, March 8: **NO SCHOOL Pre-K through 8TH grade. (Early dismissal grades 9-12)**
- Monday, March 11 – Friday, March 15: **NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK**
- Friday, March 29 – **NO SCHOOL**

Thank you all for a Hugely Successful Auction!!!



For months, the Auction Chairs and their dedicated committees of volunteers worked tirelessly securing sponsors, soliciting donations and planning the event – and we are happy to share that it was a HUGE success! As you all know, the auction is the PTA's main fundraiser and the proceeds fund all PTA sponsored programs and activities for the next 2 years. A HUGE thank you goes out to our Chairs Aimee Mayhew, Amy Person and Katie Enger, our Donations Coordinator Michelle Ingram and the PTA Vice President of Funding, Molly Lund. The entire Briarwood community is very appreciative of your hard work! We'd also like to give a shout out to our after-party hosts Tracey and Rich Meyer and their helpers Kim and Darrell Stein, Denee and Brian Compton, Kelli and Andrew Alldredge, Debbie and Mick Conrad and Jill and Jim Wehner.

Legislative Update



Hey Briarwood! There may not be an election until August, but there's still some school-related legislative stuff happening. Check it out!

At the State level: The Kansas legislature got a little crazy in mid-February - there were over 300 bills introduced before the session deadline for new bills. It's hard to keep track of all of them, but if you want a public school advocacy perspective a good website to keep tabs on is <http://underthedomeks.org>. Also - make sure you've subscribed to your legislators' newsletters.

Most of us can subscribe to Rep. Stephanie Clayton's newsletter here: <http://www.clayton4kansas.com/> and Sen. Barbara Bollier's newsletter here: <https://www.barbarabollier.org/>. If you want to double check who your legislators are you can look it up easily here: <https://ksleglookup.org/>

At the Local level: Three Briarwood parents and one Briarwood student spoke at the Feb. 25th board meeting about our playground. If you'd like to see them speak they start at about the 1:02 mark and end around the 1:14 minute mark on the recording of the meeting, which you can find here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1SS7raOqbDU&t=10s>

Also, Erica Frans, a Briarwood parent, was named to the Digital Task Force Committee. We are lucky to have hyper-local representation on this important committee.

The district is also moving forward with its Strategic Planning Process - they are on the part where they are asking people if they want to be on the Action Teams. If you're interested in being on one of the teams check out this link - <https://www.smsd.org/about/strategic-plan-2019-overview>.

Progressive Dinner April 27 – Hosts Needed

Dinner hosts – we need you! Shove the toys in the basement and let's put that formal dining room to use! Want to show off that new kitchen remodel? Have an amazing meal that will have the whole school talking? Sign up now, it's for the kids! Contact Deana Curtin dmlogan77@yahoo.com or Courtney McFadden cmcfadden01@yahoo.com with questions. Sign-up and details will come soon!



Prep now for the Used Book Fair

Please start saving your old books for the annual Used Book Fair coming up Wednesday, April 24 - Friday, April 26.



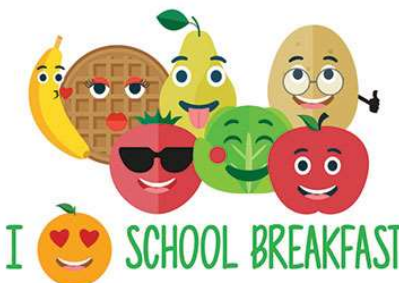
Kindergarten Enrollment

If you have a preschool child that will be 5 on or before August 31, 2019 and plan to enroll them in Kindergarten at Briarwood for next year, please call the office at 913-993-2200. We will place your child on our e-mail list and be able to send you information about kindergarten enrollment as it comes available.

Enrollment packets will be ready for pick up on Monday, March 4 in our office. Kindergarten enrollment night will be April 18, but we welcome completed documents as soon as you have them finished.



Food Service Nutrition Nuggets



A great breakfast program is available in the cafeteria every day. This is a great time to try School Breakfast. Let's help students to perform better every day by making sure they eat a healthy breakfast at home or at school.

Students who eat school breakfast are more likely to:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Have better concentration and memory
- Be more alert
- Reach higher levels of achievement in reading and math, and score higher on standardized tests
- Drink more milk and eat more fruit daily

Eating school breakfast is associated with:

- Lower rates of absenteeism and tardiness
- Fewer behavioral problems
- Reduced number of nurse's office visits
- Higher grades and increased standardized tests scores
- Positive learning environments

School breakfast can also:

- Decrease the risk of food insecurity
- Improve children's overall dietary intake
- Help protect against childhood obesity

- Protect against other negative health outcomes
- Reduce students' stress and anxiety

Don't forget – if your child receives free or reduced meals, they are eligible for one breakfast and one lunch per day as part of this benefit. All breakfast and lunch meal choices are available for all students regardless of eligibility status.

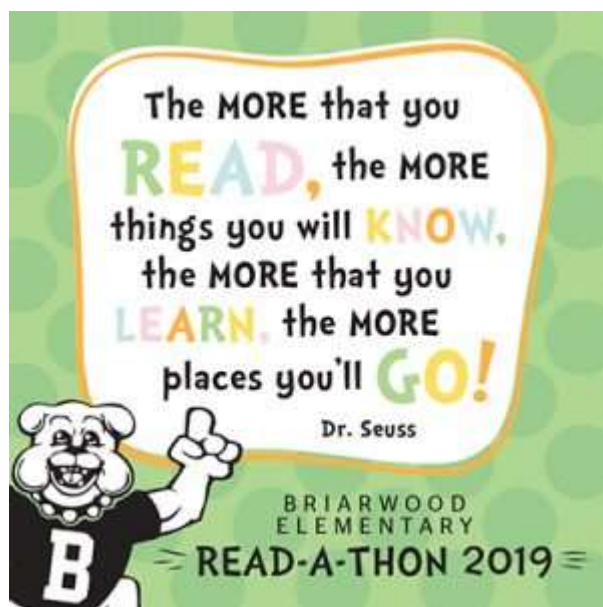
The school breakfast menus, lunch menus, and other nutrition information are available on the district's website at <https://www.smsd.org/about/departments/food-service>

Read-a-Thon Recap

The Second Annual Briarwood Read-a-Thon was a success! We hope your students enjoyed the author visit from Daniel Miyares, Mystery Readers and other fun reading events last week. We reached our reading goal of over 2,500 hours as a school!

We would like to thank the generous businesses who donated books to our Book Raffle, including Ascend Books, Costco, Half Price Books, The Learning Tree, Andrews McMeel, Chronicle Books and Briarwood's own Michelle Dunham of Ruby Reads.

Please extend our thanks to your friends and family members who supported this fundraiser. All money raised goes to the Briarwood PTA and allows us to continue to support activities that build a love of reading in our students.



Prepped and Ready – Parenting Skills Program

Questions about the program? Feel free to reach out to our Social Worker Caren Howes via email carenhowes@smsd.org or you can call her at 913.993.2230.



Prepped and Ready

PARENTING INTO THE TEEN YEARS



Dr. Shayla Sullivant, MD, DFAACAP
CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIST

Bad things happen in good families, too. Some of the best parents in the world face really challenging periods with their children. Being a good parent does not make our kids immune to tough times. There are changes we can make and steps we can take to make our homes safer and our community healthier.

Dr. Shayla Sullivant, MD

Dr. Sullivant is in practice at Children's Mercy Kansas City. Dr. Sullivant is partnering with the community to empower parents with information early to prevent some of the painful experiences that she has witnessed.

Parents today face new challenges that our parents never encountered. But there are steps we can take as parents that make a difference. We can address problems before they become too big. We can take steps to prevent tragedies from happening within our own homes.

Presentation Topics:

- Self-care
- Eating disorder prevention
- Screen time
- Substance use (including vaping)
- Suicide prevention
- Home safety (Including storage of firearms, medications, etc.)

Location: Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center - 8788 Metcalf Ave. Overland Park

Date: March 7, 2019

Duration: 6:30pm - 8:30pm

RSVP: jcmhcevents@jocogov.org

Limited seats are available so reserve your spot now.

2018-19 PTA Executive Committee

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- **Co-Presidents:**
 - Allison Taylor – buckletaylor@yahoo.com
 - Erika Saleski – esaleski@comcast.net
- **President Elect:**
 - Megan Cicero – megancicero@att.net
- **VP Administration:**
 - Mary Boomer – maryseltzerboomer@gmail.com
- **VP Community Events:**
 - Krissie Kiehne – krissiekiehne@gmail.com
- **VP Student Services:**
 - Jon Wilson – jonwilson@webcohesive.com
- **VP Funding:**
 - Molly Lund – mollylund@gmail.com
- **VP Finance:**
 - Laura Strongman – lstrongman@kc.rr.com
- **VP Communications:**
 - Chelsea Hilton – chelsea.hilton@gmail.com
- **Secretary:**
 - Michelle Ingram – mich_ingram1@hotmail.com
- **Treasurer:**
 - Humaira Mirza – humairaamirza@gmail.com
- **Briarwood Foundation:**
 - Nancy Batdorf – nbatdorf@gmail.com

Get Social with Briarwood

Stay up on the latest Bulldog updates via social media!



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