

**Welcome New Families
September 6, 2022**

A community of thinkers, innovators and future leaders

Briarcliff Middle School is a learning organization that nurtures students as they navigate the social, emotional and intellectual journeys of early adolescents.

BMS seeks to build a strong and positive community:

- Is responsive and adaptive to our students and the world around us;
- Provides equal access to tools and resources to enable teachers and students to participate at a global level;
- Fosters curiosity and innovation in students and educators alike;
- Engages families in partnership
- Classroom instruction shifting towards a new blend of **student-centric lessons and projects that are authentic, reflect students' choices and encourage creativity and innovation.**

The Middle School Model

Designed around the unique developmental needs of early adolescents

- Small learning communities
- Fostering curiosity, problem solving and critical thinking
- Encourages Social Emotional Learning
- Emphasis on Family Partnership
- Outstanding Team of Educators who are Experts in Early Adolescence

Brain and Body Connection

- Rapid, but uneven, physical growth
- Physical maturation means = Increase in activity and new interests
- Social Emotional development lags behind physical growth
- What were you thinking?
 - Capable of abstract thinking and self-reflection, BUT...
 - The portion of the brain that governs decision making and controls impulsive is still developing
- Every behavior has consequences - positive or negative
 - Emphasis on the learning experience

Brain and Body Connection

- During adolescence, the parts of the brain that are responsible for expressing emotions and for seeking gratification tend to mature sooner than the regions of the brain that control impulses and that oversees careful decision making. As one expert puts it, the teenage brain “has a **well-developed accelerator** but only a **partly developed brake**.”
www.mentorfoundation.org/brain

Middle School is like a Roller Coaster...

- Anticipate bumps, dips and sudden swings
 - Missteps and mistakes are opportunities to learn, grow, and teach
- Use your safety bar at all times
 - Teachers, Team Leader, Counselors, Principals
- Most love the thrill of the ride (or at least parts of it)
 - Exploration, reflection and self discovery
- It is over before you know it
 - Just 3 years to get ready for high school



Expectations...

- Students are expected to complete work in all subject areas
- Students are expected to be good citizens of our school community, as demonstrated by the way they look, act and sounds
- Students are expected to maintain BEARS behavior



B ring a positive attitude

E enter prepared

A actively participate

R each for excellence

S how respect

Expectations...

- Students are expected to power down cell phones upon entering the building. Phones must be secured in lockers during school hours
- Students are expected to take care of school devices. Devices should be turned off and charged each evening.
- Students are expected to use school iPads for school work.
- Honor the Parent-Student Handbook and the Code of Conduct
- Be mindful of Social Media and the impact it may have on student mindset

Course Offerings

Core Classes: Held Daily

- English Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- World Language or Resource Center



Course Offerings

Encore Classes

- Held Quarterly: Daily
 - Art
 - Computer Art
 - Health
 - Movement for All
- All Year: Alternating Days
 - Music
 - Physical Education
- Explore: Rotating within 10-Day Cycle
 - Enrichment Classes: Social Studies, Science Wellness, Math (rotating per quarter)
 - Academic Intervention: ELA Strats, Math Strats, Learning Center
 - Music Lessons

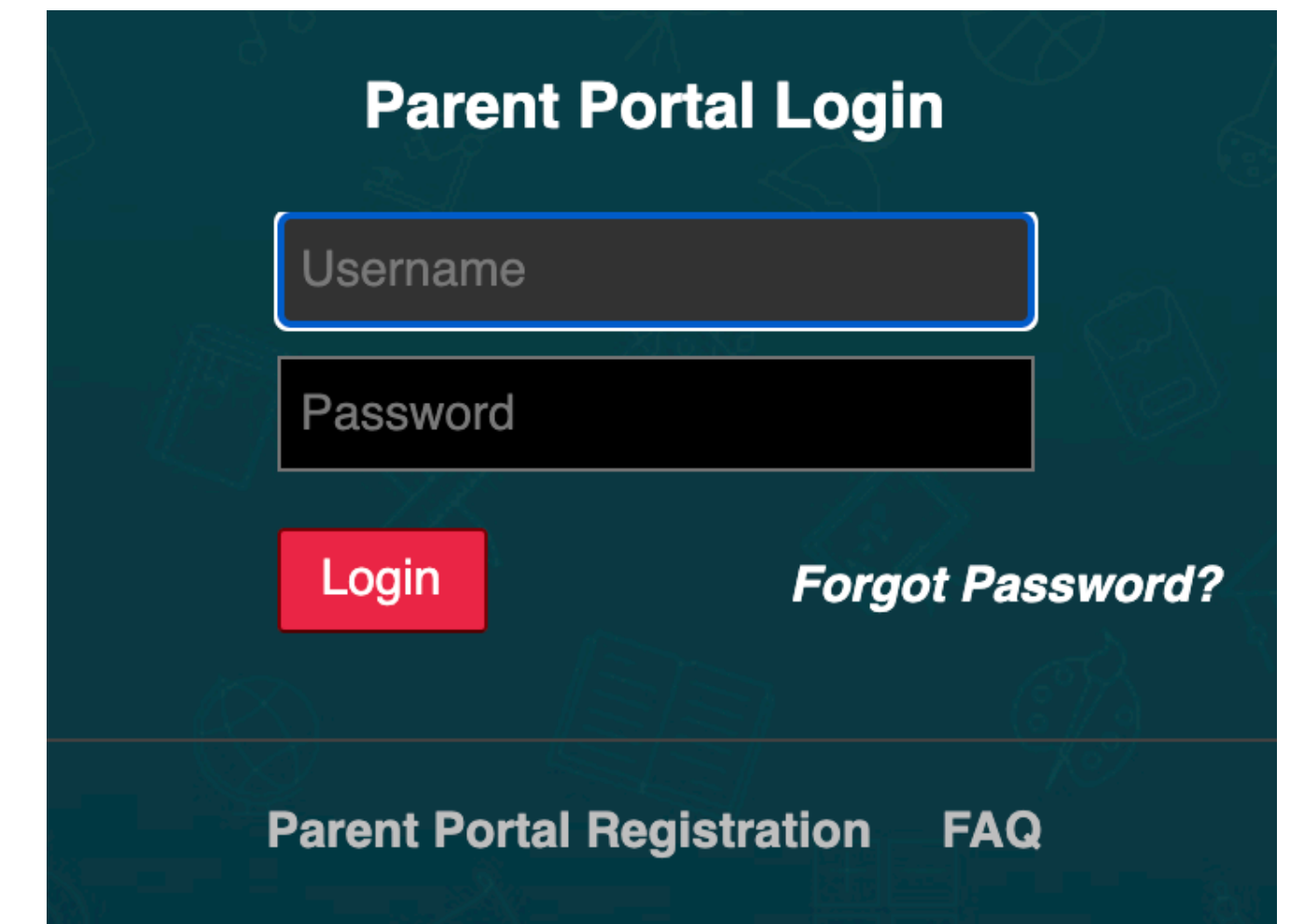


Sample Schedule

Period	Class
Period 1 8:35-9:16	Math
Period 2 9:18-9:59	Social Studies
Period 3 10:01-10:42	Science
Period 4 10:44-11:25	Explore: Enrichment, Support, Music Lesson
Period 5 11:27-12:08	Lunch
Period 6 12:10-12:51	Related Arts: Art, Health, Creative Movement, Computer Art
Period 7 12:53-1:34	ELA
Period 8 1:36-2:17	World Language or Resource Center
Period 9 2:19-3:00	Physical Education and Music

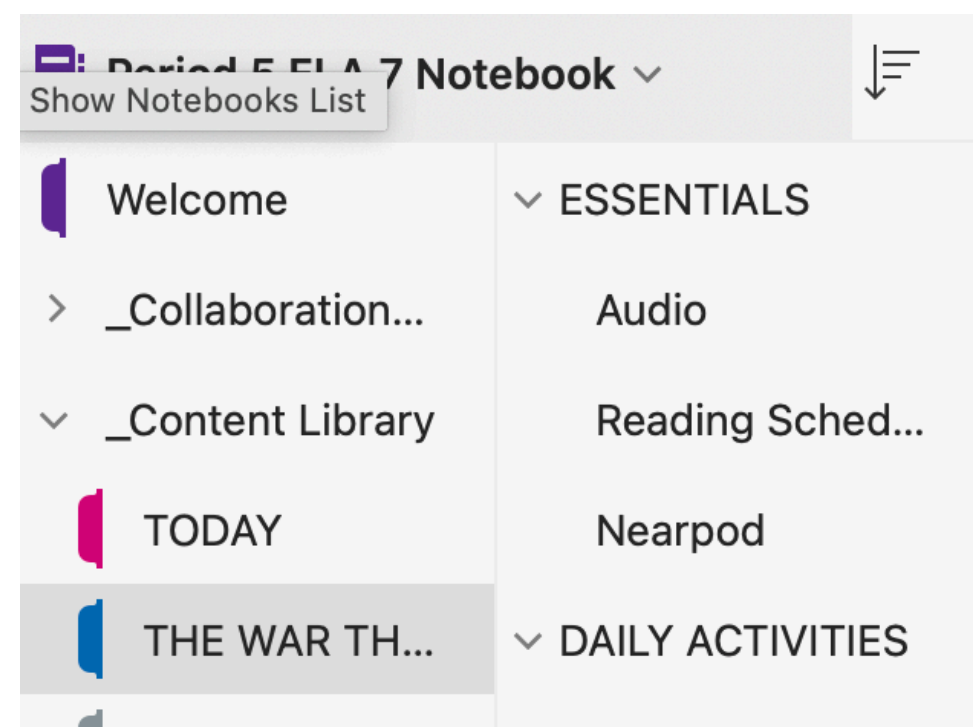
Communication is Vital

- Class Specific Information
 - eSchool Parent Portal
 - Student Agenda Book
 - Student Device
 - Know your child's log in
 - Check notebooks and review current work



The image shows a 'Parent Portal Login' form on a dark teal background. It features two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password'. Below the 'Password' field is a red 'Login' button and a link for 'Forgot Password?'. At the bottom of the form, there are links for 'Parent Portal Registration' and 'FAQ'.

eSchool Parent Portal



The image shows a sidebar from the eSchool Parent Portal. It includes a 'Show Notebooks List' button, a 'Welcome' message, and a list of notebooks under the heading 'ESSENTIALS'. The notebooks listed are '_Collaboration...', '_Content Library', 'TODAY', and 'THE WAR TH...'. There is also a 'DAILY ACTIVITIES' section.

2. Character Traits

Tuesday, June 1, 2021 7:57 AM

Identify character traits of the following characters; **write at least 2 adjectives per character and provide evidence from text for each one.** We've given you an example to

MA

Communication is Vital

- School Community Information and Updates
 - Weekly BMS Updates E-Blast
 - Website and Facebook
 - Wellness Suite - Managed by Clinical Team

Need to Know...

- Virtual Back to School Night: **September 29th**
- Family Conferences will be held, as needed, on **November 9th** (evening)
- Clubs and Activities begin the **week of October 3rd**
- Plan after school events in advance
 - Students may only stay after school for a scheduled activity
 - A school club or activity (scheduled)
 - The late bus departs approximately 3:40 and will make consolidated stops
- Students must always be supervised on campus

Need to Know...

- Attendance is critical and compulsory
 - Notify the office of absence, tardies or early dismissal via School Dismissal Manager
- We cannot interrupt classes to call students to the office
- Avoid bringing “forgotten” items to school
 - Build Responsibility and Resiliency
 - Items cannot be delivered (with the exception of lunch) Lunch Account System

Need to Know...Lunch Procedure

- At each grade level, two groups will rotate between the lunch room and recess.
- School Lunch
 - My School Bucks - Funds on student accounts
 - Nutrislice is available for pre ordering
 - Published menus are available on school website

Finally...

- Expect good things will happen
- Ask your child about school each day
- Stay in touch with teachers
- Know that we are here to help
- Let the ride begin...

