

Brookside School

A MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Monroe Public Schools in collaboration with the members of the community shall ensure that all children receive an exemplary education by well-trained committed staff in a safe and orderly environment.

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents, Staff, and Students,

June 2025

Thank you all for a wonderful and productive year at Brookside School! Our students learned so much throughout the year, and we are so proud of them! As the 24-25 school year concludes, I wanted to acknowledge your collaborative efforts in making our school an exceptional place for our students to grow and succeed.

We had a year full of exciting activities, such as the Empty Bowls Project, our extraordinary band and chorus concerts, our pep rally, and schoolwide bingo as well as all the other many classroom activities around the school. Our students were very active raising money for the Red Cross for the California fires and the Pasadena Animal Shelter. In addition, we also supported the REPLENISH food drive. These charitable acts were run by our amazing student council.

The students have had excellent learning experiences in and out of the classroom. This would not be possible without the dedication and professionalism of our outstanding teachers, support staff, and of course all our parents. Thank you so much!

I want to take this opportunity to thank the PTA for all they have done this year to support our students. They hosted events such as the Trunk or Treat, Light Up the Night Girl's Choice Dance, Ice Cream Social, Boy's Choice Bowling Night, and Scholastic Book Fairs – just to name a few. A special thank you to our executive board: Jenifer Olcott, Jessica Glavin, Melissa Vince, and Anna Mauvet. Their endless commitment to Brookside is greatly appreciated!

June is a very busy month. Please check out the newsletter for all the exciting events.

Class placement for the 2025-26 school year will be available through Parent Access in August. Parents will get a notification e-mail to log in to the parent portal. Parents must acknowledge all required forms in Parent Access prior to seeing their child's class placement. Please take the time now to ensure that your Parent Access account is active.

To all our fifth-grade students, we wish you all the best as you begin the next step in your educational journey. I look forward to hearing about all the great things you have yet to do.

The office staff will be available during the summer if you have any questions.

Have a wonderful, restful, and safe summer!

Respectfully,

Mr. Scott Sidler

VISIT US ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.monroe.k12.nj.us>

FIFTH GRADE MOVING UP CEREMONY

Our fifth grade moving up ceremony will be held on June 18th at 9:45 a.m. in the Barclay Brook Gymnasium. Parents of our fifth-grade students are invited to attend the program as we acknowledge their completion of elementary school. A letter was sent home with information to pre-register to attend the moving up ceremony including the admission wristbands. Please be sure to return the form to school by **June 10th**. Pre-registration is required.

Please do not arrive at school before 9:30 a.m. so that we can allow the school buses time to depart from the bus lot with minimal traffic congestion. Upon arrival, please do not park in any labeled parking spaces and do not block the fire lane. Feel free to use the parking lot between Brookside and Barclay Brook Schools after 9:30 a.m. We look forward to seeing you there.

LIBRARY – BOOK RETURNS

Fifth grade students will need to return all library books/magazines by **June 6, 2025**. For books not returned, the librarian will send out notices notifying the parents of overdue books. We appreciate your cooperation with having your child return their library books.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Each month the grade levels select a student that exhibits exemplary character for a character trait highlighted that month. The following students received this honor:

March – Cooperation

3rd Grade – Amishka Maharaj
4th Grade – Vidhita Basana
5th Grade – Sofia Babicki

April - Kindness

3rd Grade – Jivya Gundimada
4th Grade – Kush Gill
5th Grade – Samyuta Chitrapu
3-5 Grade – Alizah Najam

May - Citizenship

3rd Grade – Vidita Bharadwaj
4th Grade – Siena Aly
5th Grade – Abigail Sinha
3-5 Grade – Harrison Strus

MONROE TWP. HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

The following students were selected from Brookside School as Character Honorees for the Monroe Township Human Relations Commission; they were: Grade 3 – Natasha Godson, Grade 4 – Amaris Tan, and Grade 5 – Yash Anand. These students consistently model the Six Pillars of Character at Brookside School. Congratulations to our students!

STUDENT TRANSFERS

Parents of students who will be transferring to schools in another community should notify the main office at 732-521-1101. We will need the name and address of the new school your child will be attending.

LUNCH ACCOUNTS

As we approach the end of the school year, there have been several questions regarding student balances on their lunch accounts. Student balances will roll over into the next school year automatically. **Unpaid balances must be paid by June 16, 2025.** If your child has a negative balance, you can pay it online or can send it in with your child with their name, teacher, and grade marked on the envelope. If your child is leaving the district and they have a balance on their account, **please submit a letter in writing requesting a refund to the cafeteria manager no later than June 9, 2025.** We appreciate your cooperation with taking care of your child's lunch account.

REPORT CARDS & CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Report cards will be available on Parent Access on the last day of school at dismissal. You will be notified of classroom assignments in August. A great deal of time and effort is invested in constructing class lists and every effort is made to see that each child is appropriately placed. Many factors including academic progress as well as social and emotional development are carefully considered when placing each student. Our intent is to ensure that your child has a successful year. Your understanding is greatly appreciated regarding this matter.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL NURSE, MRS. DEBELLIS

For Parents of Children with Medications at School:

If you would like to pick up your children's medications before the last day of school, (June 20, 2025) please email me at maria.debellis@monroe.k12.nj.us to make an appointment for pick up.

For all students who need medication in school for the 2025-2026 school year, you can access the district medication forms on the Monroe Township Public Schools website, under "Health Offices". The completed forms and medications are to be delivered by an adult to Brookside preferably BEFORE the first day of school, Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2025. Please email me at maria.debellis@monroe.k12.nj.us to make an arrangement with me for medication drop-off before September 3, 2025. No medications can be accepted without the completed physician forms with physician signature, stamp, date, and parent signatures.

For Grade 5 Parents:

Thank you for taking your children for their 6th grade immunizations and submitting the forms to me. For those parents who have not made an appointment for their child's 6th grade immunizations, just a friendly reminder: if your child is entering Middle School in the fall, according to NJ law, they must receive the **Tdap and Meningitis immunizations after they turn 11 years old. According to NJ State law, your child will not be allowed to attend school until proof of immunization is received.**

- If the vaccines have already been administered, but you have not sent in documentation from the physician, please send it to me at Brookside at this time.
- If your child is not 11 years old by September 4, the documentation must be received at the middle school within 2 weeks after their 11th birthday. Reach out to the middle school nurses to let them know when your appointment is.
- Please email the middle school nurses for any immunization questions after Sept. 1st: Alicia.Realmuto@monroe.k12.nj.us OR Cristina.Demone@monroe.k12.nj.us.

Have a wonderful, safe, and fun filled summer!

CAMP REGISTRATION

Registration for the Mt. SEPA and Recreation camps is through the Monroe Township Recreation Center. Registration is on-line at <https://www.monroerec.com/> for summer camps. For more information, visit their website.

CHILD FIND

The Monroe Township Public schools are seeking to identify resident students between the ages of 3 and 21 who may exhibit difficulties with mobility, voice or hearing, visual acuity, physical limitations due to orthopedic or muscle abnormalities, cognitive, language or emotional difficulties. If you have identified a child who resides in Monroe Township with anyone or a combination of difficulties listed above, please encourage the parent to contact the Department of Pupil Personnel Services at (609) 642-6128 to schedule an appointment. A member of the Child Study Team will initiate a referral for possible evaluation.

If you have any questions regarding this service, please feel free to call (609) 642-6128 to request additional information.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| June | 2 | Brookside Concert at 7 p.m. at MTMS PAC |
| | 3 | Sixth Grade Middle School Orientation at 6 p.m. – MTMS / PTA Meeting at 6:30 p.m. – Media Center |
| | 5 | Brookside Day / Schoolwide Picnic – please send your child in with a Towel |
| | 6 | 4-Hour Session Day / Dismissal at 1:05 p.m. / Brookside Field Day |
| | 10 | Primary Election--Voting at Brookside |
| | 11 | Board of Education Meeting / Public Session Begins at 7:15 p.m. |
| | 12 | Art Gallery Walk at 6:30 p.m. – Woodland School |
| | 13 | 4-hour Session Day / Dismissal at 1:05 p.m. / Field Day Rain Date |
| | 17-20 | 4-Hour Session Days for Students / Dismissal at 1:05 pm |
| | 17 | Fifth Grade Moving Up Ceremony Rehearsal at Barclay Brook School |
| | 18 | Fifth Grade Moving Up Ceremony at 9:45 am – Barclay Brook Gym |
| | 20 | Last Day of School / Report Cards on Parent Access at Dismissal |

Brookside Elementary School is thrilled to introduce breakfast in the upcoming school year!

The Key to Your Child's Success: A Well-Balanced Breakfast!

Your school's breakfast program will offer a well-balanced breakfast to every student, each morning, in the cafeteria. These nutritious meals are carefully designed to comply with current USDA regulations and dietary guidelines, and include a filling breakfast entrée, a side item, low-fat milk and 100% juice.

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day! Children of all ages need breakfast each morning to succeed. Although breakfast is the one meal your children cannot afford to skip, it is becoming increasingly difficult for children to find the time to eat a nutritious meal in the morning.

Brookside Elementary School's breakfast may be purchased in the cafeteria, daily from 9:10am-9:20am, and the student may take it to their classroom to be eaten for breakfast, or they may save it for snack.

Breakfast is free to all students who qualify for the Free and Reduced Meal Program. The price for purchasing a breakfast is \$2.25.

We want to take the worry out of your morning routine! When you know, your children are guaranteed to receive a healthy breakfast in the morning, you have one less thing to worry about each day. School breakfast will help your children start the day with the right type of nutrition that energizes them for a full day of learning.

Our breakfast menus are prepared by our Chefs and Dietitians to provide:

- Delicious entrée and side items such as whole grain muffins, assorted cereals, low-fat yogurts and other delicious items.
- Variety of fresh fruits, skim milk white or chocolate, and 100% juice
- Each breakfast contains no more than 30% of calories from fat and no more than 10% of calories from fat.

Breakfast menus will be available soon on the district website:

www.metzmonroetownship.com

Questions, please feel free to contact us at

732-521-6042 ext. 2042

