

The Briarwood Buzz

By: Mrs. Norris

December Issue

From the Principal.....

It is hard to believe we are approaching winter break! Thank you for continually working together in the best interest of our children! Our conferences were a success! Thank you to the BWD staff for their hard work in preparing materials as we shared our students' growth and progress!

As always, should you have any questions or feel you are in need of a follow up conversation, I encourage you to contact your homeroom teacher and arrange for a meeting or phone conference.

The second grade Chorus and Orff Ensemble presented a tremendous Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 12th. Mr. Serfozo led the children down a festive journey with both song and dance. As the concert unfolds, the holiday cheer instantly fills you with warmth and a sense of purpose. Seeing the delight in the children's eyes is truly what the Holiday Season is all about!



Thank you to the parents that attended my Principal's Forum on Friday, December 14, 2018. The conversations and feedback are invaluable! I truly enjoyed myself as we shared numerous ideas and answered any questions. Thank you to my amazing Grade Level Chairs: Mrs. Adochio, Ms. Gatti, and Ms. Thompson for attending and always providing insight and humor!

Upon entering the building look to our windows in the front hall to see the newest creation from our BWD Buddies December event. Students worked with their partners in creating how they Light up Briarwood! The children thought of wonderful ideas and created illustrations to accompany their work. Well done children, you certainly do make Briarwood a positive place!

As the weather grows colder, please continue to send children in multiple (labeled) layers of clothing. We go outside if the temperature is above freezing. As a reminder, please be patient and respectful during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal. Please adhere to

parking lot procedures; they are created to keep everyone safe. As you enter into the holiday season and have extra items that would be helpful to our STEAM program i.e. bubble wrap, rolls from wrapping paper or paper towels etc. please consider donating to the school!

We look forward to seeing our Briarwood students once again on January 2, 2019!

Wishing our Briarwood families, a happy, healthy New Year!

Warmest regards,

Mrs. Glaab

What's Happening in Ms. Lentine & Ms. Sabatino's Preschool Class.....

Preschool has been busy learning about the change in seasons and everything relating to the upcoming winter. We listened to stories about snowy weather, including *The Mitten* by Jan Brett and *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats. We learned how to dress ourselves and our friend "Mat Man" up for a cold day, using jackets, gloves, mittens, boots, scarves and other winter accessories.



We also participated in a "Winter Wonderland", where we practiced OT and PT skills in winter related activities. Some activities included Sleigh Ride Fun, Jingle Bell Obstacle Course, Snowy Day Obstacle Course, Snowman Ball Toss, and Scooter Board Ornaments. We are having "snow" much fun here in preschool!





Flu Season Facts From Nurse Seery

The CDC states that the Flu is more dangerous than the common cold for children. Each year flu affects numerous children and their families. An influenza vaccine (flu) is the best method for preventing the flu and its potentially severe complications. The CDC recommends all children 6 months and older get a flu vaccine. State law requires all children who attend preschool to receive the flu vaccine between September and December in order to remain in school).

Mainly coughing, sneezing or talking spreads flu. Children can pass the flu virus to others for a period of more than seven days after symptoms begin. The difference between cold and flu is that they are caused by different viruses. Cold symptoms include runny or stuffy nose, cough, congestion, sneezing, watery eyes and sore throat. Schools are a prime location for the flu virus to spread. Here are some things you can do to prevent the spread of flu and germs.

1. Vaccinate your child.
2. Practice good hygiene to control the spread of the virus. Teach your children the following:
 - Cover your coughs and sneezes with the inside of your elbow or a tissue.
 - Wash your hands with soap and water.
 - Avoid touching your face- especially your eyes, mouth, and nose- as it spreads germs.
3. Stay home if you have the following flu symptoms- Fever, Aches, Chills, Tiredness and Sudden onset. (FACTS)
- 4 See your doctor.

Be sure to drink plenty of fluids and get rest with either cold or flu symptoms.

Children should remain home from school if diagnosed with the flu or fever over 100 and should remain home until fever free for 24 hours and symptoms subside or cleared by the physician.

For more information go to www.cdc.gov/flu

WINTER CONCERT

On Wednesday, December 12, 2018, the Briarwood Chorus and Orff Ensemble performed in concert for everyone to enjoy! The students in the music ensembles worked very hard and put on a fantastic show.



The evening began the Orff Ensemble playing on hand bells and the Briarwood Chorus singing the holiday classic "Deck The Halls." As the Orff ensemble switched to their instruments of xylophones, metallophones and glockenspiels, the children continued with the concert with "Play the Bells to Celebrate." The next song was a real "Kodak" moment as the chorus performed "Snow" and threw "snow" in the air during the performance. The concert also displayed the creativity of the chorus in the song "Mister Snow" which featured student created hand motions. Also, on display was the fabulous accompaniment skills of the Orff group as they performed more songs about snow, winter, Hanukkah and Christmas.



The evening culminated with the fun song "Reindeer Love to Boogie." It was a fantastic ending to a fantastic evening. We hope you enjoyed concert. Best wishes and peace be with you through the holiday season.



Important Dates

January 2	Back to School from Winter Break
January 16	Grade 1 Fun Night – 6 pm
January 18	Professional Development – Teachers Early Dismissal for Students – 12:50 pm
January 21	Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Schools Closed