



BROOKDALE BOBCAT PRINTS

Connie Holman, Principal

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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www.fpschools.org

January 16, 2018

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Last Thursday Brookdale honored Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with an all-school assembly. Fourth and fifth grade students presented information about Dr. King in a variety of ways and presented excerpts from his "I Have a Dream" speech. Students were challenged to spend a little time on Monday *servicing* others in some way - helping at home or in the community. I am anxious to hear how our students made a difference!

We talk a lot about the importance of on-time, daily attendance. There are a lot of misconceptions about attendance...

Myth 1: My kids need to do well in high school, so they can go to college, but elementary school doesn't really matter. Elementary school is for playing and socializing.

Fact: In elementary school kids learn the fundamental reading and math skills that are the building blocks for high school learning.

Myth 2: I know that a bunch of absences in a row are bad, but an absence here or there is okay. Keeping my child home to rest, or to help around the house, or for some family time won't make a difference.

Fact: Two absences a month adds up to 20 absences a school year - that is 120 hours of instruction lost. It is proven that missing more than 18 days a school year (10%) even in elementary school greatly increases the chance that a child will NOT graduate from high school.

Myth 3: My child is doing fine at school now. Being absent won't make a difference.

Fact: Students who attend school regularly are more likely than students who are frequently absent to:

- Learn to read well by the critical 3rd grade milestone.
- Be more engaged in school, feel better about themselves and are less likely to be depressed.
- Build good habits for school and life (How many employers will tolerate a worker who misses 10% of work days?)
- Score higher on standardized tests.
- Graduate and go on to college.
- Break the cycle of poverty. If education is the escalator out of poverty, attendance is the engine that keeps the escalator running.

Brookdale students are the best! Together, we want to give them EVERY opportunity to succeed!

NO TOYS AT SCHOOL - Please remind your children that toys/trading cards are NOT to be brought to school from home. This is an interruption to learning and we cannot take responsibility if they are lost, stolen or broken. Thank you!

5TH GRADE CAMP MEETING - Fifth grade parents please mark your calendars and plan to attend a parent/student informational meeting about our outdoor education overnight camp at Camp Colman. The meeting will be held in the multi-purpose room on Thursday, January 18 at 6:30 p.m. **It is important that all fifth grade parents attend. We will have an interpreter attending for our Spanish speaking families**

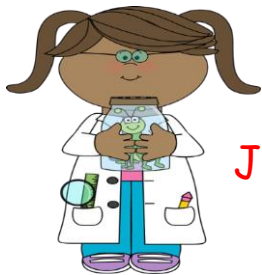


Wednesday Schedule in January

January 17 and 31 are regular 3:30 dismissal days

January 24 is a 2:00 dismissal day

AMP BEGINS FOR GRADES 2 - 5 - PLU is once again going to have their Artist Mentoring Program at Brookdale from Friday, February 9 - Thursday, May 17 from 3:30 - 4:30 in our MP room. This camp is completely free of charge! Students must be in grades 2 - 5 to qualify. The students will learn some choir, bucket band, dance, recorder, hand chimes and music theory with a concert for parents on Thursday, May 17. Applications were sent home last week and must be returning by Wednesday, January 31 to be considered for the class. Any questions can be emailed to Ingrid Smith (program coordinator) at artistmentoringprogram@gmail.com.



Science Night - Thursday Jan. 25th

6:30-7:30

**Join us for a celebration of student learning in science!
Activities, student displays, demonstrations and a
raffle! All ages welcome!**

No School Days

January 29th ~ Staff Training Day

FEBRUARY 19 - 23 ~ MID WINTER BREAK

Break begins at our regular dismissal time on Friday, February 16.

School resumes on its regular schedule Monday, February 26.

PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN (K,1,2) - Please pack an extra pair of clothes, including underwear and socks, in your child's backpack. Accidents do happen and we would like to be prepared. It is nice when a child can wear a pair of his or her own pants. The health room has a VERY limited supply.

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