



BROOKDALE BOBCAT PRINTS

Connie Holman, Principal

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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www.fpschools.org

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Principal Message

Happy New Year to you all! I wish everyone a healthy and peaceful beginning to the New Year. As we move into the second trimester of the school year, I'd like to remind you of the wonderful work that is happening at Brookdale! Brookdale staff continue to work hard each day, providing rigorous instruction and students continue to amaze me with all they are learning. We couldn't do it without you and the work you put in with your children at home - Thank you! I am looking forward to all that 2018 will bring! We will do our best to meet the needs of all students each and every day! I believe that learning truly is a cooperative endeavor between the school and home, so once again, I thank you for taking the time and interest to remain involved in your child's education. The staff and I would like to thank all of you for everything you do to support Brookdale students, the school, and the community!

You've heard me say it and seen it in the newsletter many times, but it bears repeating...

ATTENDANCE COUNTS! Good attendance means 9 or fewer absences in a school year.

Why do we care? Like you, we want your child to be successful not just at our school, but in life. Research is showing that children who do not have good attendance (even in kindergarten and first grade) are less likely to graduate from high school.

It takes teamwork! We need to work together to support your child. If you have any concerns, questions, or needs please contact us as soon as possible. We want to know if your child is reluctant to come to school, having health problems, or if there are other issues impacting your child's attendance. We will work to resolve any issues. Communication is key!

What do I do if my child **MUST be absent?** Contact us as soon as possible with a note or phone call. By law, we must have contact from you to excuse an absence. Please do your best to schedule appointments outside of school hours, and vacations on school breaks.

To be successful, your child needs to come to school on time, every day, and stay all day.

Thank You!

IT'S SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH! - January is School Board Appreciation month! The Franklin Pierce School Board is second to none! They work hard to guide our district and ensure the best for staff and students alike. We are very fortunate to have such an effective and dedicated school board. Please join us in thanking Mrs. Sherman, Mr. Baumgarten, Mr. Roberts, Ms. Morgan and Ms. Gallogly for all their hard work to make our schools the best they can be.



BULLYING PREVENTION - Addressing and preventing bullying at Brookdale is always a priority. Throughout the school year we emphasize kindness, citizenship and conflict management techniques to reduce bullying in our school. Sometimes it is hard to recognize the difference between conflict and bullying. Conflict and disagreement are very common, and

elementary age children are just starting to learn how to handle these situations. We work hard to teach children how to solve conflicts - use words, walk away, tell an adult. We also teach children how to make friends, be a friend and respect each other's differences. Bullying is repeated, on purpose (intentional) and one-sided (one child or a group of children have the power over another). Students often confuse bullying with conflicts or friendship problems. Two sided arguments and accidents are not bullying. If students are bullied they are encouraged to stick up for each other and report it to an adult.

How to Respond: Bullies love to pick on kids who act like *lions* and *mice*. Lions respond aggressively, and this usually makes the situation worse. Mice usually respond passively and do not get help and do not stick up for themselves. Acting like a lion or a mouse usually makes the situation worse. Instead, children are encouraged to act like strong, confident kids - Stand tall, hold your head up high and use a strong, firm voice to tell them to stop!

Wednesday Schedule in January

January 3, 17, and 31 are regular 3:30 dismissal days

January 10 and 24 are 2:00 dismissal days

PLEASE PLAN AHEAD FOR OUR SPRING CONCERTS

February 13 Second Grade Concert ~ 6:30 p.m.
April 3 Fifth grade Musical ~ 6:30 p.m.
May 15 Kindergarten and Marimba ~ 6:30 p.m.



BOBCAT PRIDE AWARD WINNERS - We are proud of our students who were chosen at our Bobcat Excellence Assembly on Thursday, December 14th for the following accomplishments.

- Neveah McCalpine, Olivia Irwin, and Ray Serrano were our Principal Award t-shirt winners.
- November student attendance winners were Ellie March and Kai Edwards, they received a \$10.00 gift card from Mrs. Holman. Congratulations to Ms. Wanager's class having 98.15% percent attendance for the month of November.
- Our Pizza with the Principal winners were: Autumn Effelberg, Mia Laguer-Rosario, Phillip Donaldson, Ysabela Lopez, Siennah Baza, Savannah Santiago They enjoyed a pizza lunch with Mrs. Holman on December 18th.

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!

UPDATE RECORDS - Have you moved? Do you have a new phone number? We cannot emphasize enough how important it is that we are able to contact you in any type of emergency involving your child. Please call our office at 253-298-3100 or send us a note with your most up-to-date address and phone information. Thank you!

No School for Brookdale students
 Monday, January 15 ~ M. L. King, Jr. Day
 Monday, January 29 ~ PRAD Day

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.**



THE WAY WE PRAISE CHILDREN can make a tremendous difference in how they perceive themselves. This is true not only in the classroom, but at home as well. **“Every word parents say and action they perform sends a message to their children. These words and actions tell children how to think about themselves. Parents should always praise their child's effort instead of their accomplishments.”** --- Mary Cay Ricci

Do Not Say	Do Say
You are really athletic!	You really work hard and pay attention when you are on that field!
You are so smart!	You work hard in school and it shows!
Your drawing is wonderful; you are my little artist	I can see you have been practicing your drawing; what a great improvement!
You are a great athlete. You could be the next Pele!	Keep practicing, and you will see great results!
You always get good grades; that makes me so happy.	When you put forth effort, it really shows in your grades. You should be so proud of yourself. We are proud of you!

NO CELL PHONES - Our office can be a very busy place. In order for the office staff to provide all visitors with the best customer service, we ask that cell phone conversations be completed before you come to the front desk. Thank you!

SOCIAL MEDIA - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. are wonderful ways to keep track of family and friends. However, Franklin Pierce Schools has a district policy that prohibits teachers from 'friending' students. To help with this, families should not ask a teacher to join your group of friends on social networking sites. Teachers are always available through district email and can also be reached via classroom phones.

SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVERS - The Transportation Department of Franklin Pierce Schools is seeking applicants interested in substitute bus driver positions. Do you like working with children, want to make extra money, and work within your own children's school schedule? If so, please apply.



- Drivers will receive paid training.
- Drivers must be at least 21 years of age, and have a clean Dept. of Licensing (DOL) Abstract.
- For more information, please call the Transportation Department at (253) 298-3865.
- To apply, please visit the Job Openings on the www.fpschools.org website.

INTERNET, MOBILE PHONES, AND TEXTING SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Do** teach your child not to post identifying information on the internet.
 - Do** set a limit for how much time your child can spend online.
 - Do** keep the computer in a public room in the house. Do not have an Internet-connected computer in your child's bedroom.
 - Do** utilize parental controls provided by your Internet Service Provider and/or blocking software. (Contact your Internet ISP if you have questions).
 - Do** talk to your children about purchasing "in app" products.
 - Do** talk to your child about using any location services on their device.
 - Do** periodically review your child's computer, emails and messages. You should have all of your children's passwords.
 - Do** spend time with your child online. Have them show you their favorite online destinations. Get to know your child's online friends as you would their real-life friends. Learn to navigate the web.
 - Do** know who they text and email. Most providers have online ways to identify frequent contacts so you can see if someone new appears as a contact.
 - Do** monitor your child's access to the Internet and texting.
 - Do** talk to your child about the danger of Internet predators.
 - Do** watch for unexplained changes in your child's behavior.
 - Do NOT** hesitate to seek help from law enforcement if you think a predator may be targeting your child.
- For more helpful Internet safety information, please visit www.netsmartz.org. Netsmartz.org has age appropriate videos, activities, and information for students in elementary school, middle school, and high school.

Franklin Pierce Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to Dr. Shaun Carey, Compliance Coordinator for State and Civil Rights Laws; Wendy Malich, Title IX Officer; or William Rasplica, 504/ADA Coordinator at 315 129th ST S, Tacoma, WA 98444-5099 or at (253)298-3000