



Brookwood Banner

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January 9, 2018 Volume 17



Principal's Message - Mrs. T. Caouette

Welcome back! Returning to school in January is filled with renewed energy and the amazing feeling of settling into a new year full of promise and fresh

opportunities. It has been lovely seeing everyone back at school and we have enjoyed hearing the children's stories about their time away from school. We trust that our families have had a restful break and are ready to gear up to see what 2018 has in store.

A thank-you goes out to all of our families and friends who celebrated with our students during our Christmas concerts, teas and chapel. It was wonderful for the children to share their gifts and talents and we are very proud of our students and

staff who helped make every performance a success.

We are also proud of how much our school community supported our various initiatives and fundraisers during the first four months of the year. We had many programs that reflected our caring and generous community culture. We always welcome and appreciate your support in all of our endeavors.

The start of a new year provides an ideal time to reflect on where we have been and where we are heading. Establishing good routines, habits and encouraging perseverance within our children ultimately helps them feel safe and secure. January is an exciting time of year and often a month when we see students make gains in their learning. Students will be actively engaged in all aspects of Brookwood as their academic, social and artistic skills are further developed. Our students continue to explore and push the boundaries of their imagination with projects, artwork and presentations. We look forward to their work being displayed on bulletin boards and in the classrooms for the school to appreciate.

As always, teachers look forward to sharing successes of their students with you during the conferences that will be taking place at the end of January.

Thank you for all that you continue to do as our community partners; without your ongoing, positive support we would not be

able to do all that we do at Brookwood. On behalf of the entire staff at Brookwood School, I wish you good health and happiness in 2018. We look forward to witnessing the many successes and achievements of our students as the year unfolds.

Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

Our next set of **Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences**, for students in **grades 1 - 4**, are scheduled for:

- **Tues. January 23 &**
- **Thurs. January 25th**

Please see the instructions below to book your conference time on line. You will be able to go in and start booking on Friday, January 12 at 9 am.

School Appointments - Parent Instructions

1. Go to our school appointments web site:
<http://brookwood.schoolappointments.com/>
2. Register for an account by clicking the "**REGISTER**" menu tab and filling in the on-line form. Choose a user id and password for yourself and then click the "**Register Now**" button.

3. Add your children into the system by clicking the **"Add a Student"** button. Click **"Insert New"** button to add more children.
4. Click the **"date"** icon beside each child's name to schedule appointments. Select the staff you wish to book appointments with and the **"View Calendars"** button. Use the **"Ctrl"** or **"Command"** key to select multiple staff to view at the same time.
5. Click on available time slots to book your appointments and then click the **"Book Appointments"** button to save your bookings.
6. Add your children into the system by clicking the **"Add a Student"** button. Click **"Insert New"** button to add more children.
7. Click the **"date"** icon beside each child's name to schedule appointments. Select the staff you wish to book appointments with and the **"View Calendars"** button. Use the **"Ctrl"** or **"Command"** key to select multiple staff to view at the same time.
8. Click on available time slots to book your appointments and then click the **"Book Appointments"** button to save your bookings.

Student of the Month

Congratulations to Ava Wolfe (1P), Madison Badger-Kristensen (2S), William Adams (3M), Mya Burrell (4P) for having their names drawn for lunch out. These four students are the winners of the Students of the Month draw for November. These students were recognized at the Student Celebration Assembly on Thursday, December 21. As part of their recognition, these students will be treated to lunch out at Harvey's. We would like to thank Harvey's for their support of this program.

School Pride Draw

Our draw was made to recognize 8 students who had their names entered into the School Pride Draw. These students had their names entered for demonstrating one or more adjectives related to our School Pride Program.

Nathan Bandura
Martin Lewis
Khash Reid
Jamie St. Martin
Travis Freisen
Lucas Isley
Kaylem Pickett
Joshua Davis

They took pride in being:

Polite
Respectful
Involved
Dependable
Enthusiastic

All students, who had their names entered, are to be commended for

contributing to School Pride. Congratulations to these eight students who had their names drawn for December. These students were recognized at the assembly on December 21 and were able to pick a prize from the display cabinet for having their names drawn.

Praying Parents

Maranatha parents interested in praying following chapel on Wednesday, January 10, are asked to meet in the gym. All Brookwood parents are most welcome to join this group on Wednesday.

Family Vacations during the School Year

Families are encouraged to take vacations according to the school calendar, but we know that this is not always the possible. Throughout the year, there are a number of families who take vacation time. As a result, our teachers are often requested to provide "homework" prior to students leaving on vacation. As the school administration, we have directed our teachers to share with parents that it is not possible to prepare homework prior to a vacation for a few reasons.

□ Teachers in classrooms have unit/daily plans but they are not always able to follow a perfect outline as the timeline can change, even on a daily basis.

□ As well, teachers are constantly planning, organizing and revamping lessons based on student needs and level of understanding, as a result it is difficult to "teach" students what they need to know before they complete some work when it hasn't

been covered in class yet. When a student is absent for vacation purposes outside of the school calendar, teachers will keep track of the work they need to complete and provide them with what needs to be done upon their return. This allows the teacher to make decisions on which assignments could be omitted, based on their individual skills, and which assignments are vital for their completion to ensure continued success in the subject area. Students will always have a reasonable amount of additional time to complete work they have missed and have an opportunity to ask questions to their teacher that might arise.

□ Additionally, vacations are for enjoyment and we understand how difficult it can be to complete schoolwork with a busy and often full vacation schedule. As a result, in place of schoolwork, teachers may ask the student to document their vacation through video or written description or reflection, and may offer them the opportunity to present the information to their classmates when they return. We continue to ask for parent support in helping their children to complete work or assignments that were missed while away on vacation. We appreciate your support of this school procedure as we work together to ensure success for all of our students. Our goal is always to help our students develop their learning and achieve success.

Please see the letter below regarding the online safety presentation for parents on January 18.

Brookwood School Association/Council
C.O. Brookwood School
460 King Street
Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2T6

Dear Brookwood Parents,

Technology is everywhere. In today's digital society, kids have immediate access to the entire world right at their fingertips. We all want to keep our kids safe. However, we do not all know how to **talk** to our kids about being safe online.

Brookwood School Council is happy to be hosting ISP Computers who will bring an online safety presentation to our parents on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7:00pm. This presentation is designed to empower parents to help their children navigate and manage digital technology and be safe online.

This presentation will be held **at the school**, will last one hour with Q&A to follow, and will be completely **free** to all Brookwood school parents. As this session will be geared towards parents, we do ask that children remain at home. No childcare will be provided. All we ask is for parents to please RSVP by January 17, so we can accommodate everyone.

Thank you. We look forward to seeing you there.

Brookwood School Council

Please return this form to the school by January 17 or email Lei, [leigrys@gmail](mailto:leigrys@gmail.com) to RSVP.

_____ YES I will be attending the online safety presentation on January 18 at 7:00pm.

_____ # of attendees

Name _____ Child's class _____

