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Brookview School

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Brookview School Community Newsletter



Brookview School
An Independent Montessori Community



AMERICAN MONTESSORI SOCIETY
education that transforms lives

Full Member School

Dear Brookview Community:

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Pitch In Campaign! We have raised over \$32,000 so far. Last year, 100% of our families contributed. We have extended the campaign for one more week. Even if you only give a dollar- let's get 100% participation from our community in 2011!

We look forward to seeing many of you at Elementary Move-up Night this Tuesday. If your child is of the age to transition into lower or upper elementary within the next couple of years, you won't want to miss this important event. I'm sure you will find the evening both informative and enjoyable!

Have a great week!

Jennifer Spikner, Sue Dubar, & Suzie Finster
The Brookview Management Team

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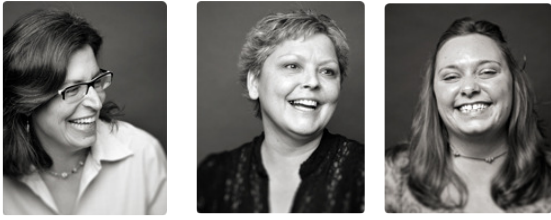
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On the Calendar...

December 6: Elementary Move-Up Night, 6:00

December 13: Winter Celebration, 5:30-7:00

Upper Elementary Students Work on Presentation Skills



Students in Ms. Lindsay's Upper Elementary class are practicing skills that they believe will be of great benefit to them in the future: being good presenters. I spoke with a few of the students about what they are learning.

Joely Gibson is currently preparing a presentation on Iraq. "The hardest part of preparing a presentation is the research. You have to be sure your information is accurate. For example, I found a flag of Iraq and it turned out not to be the right one because they've changed their flag eight times!" Joely told me that she gets a little nervous before she gives a presentation, but then she tries to tell herself what she needs to do. "I remind myself not to fidget, or say 'um.' If someone asks a question that I don't know the answer to, I say, 'I'll find that out for you and I'll tell you later.'" I think I've got confidence in myself!"

Benjamin Almquist has also been working on his presentation skills. He recently gave a presentation to his class on Indonesia, and now he's working on a presentation for move-up night on prime factors. "You have to be calm," says Benjamin. "You have to be patient, and respectful, and try to answer every question that they ask. You have to practice a lot at first, so you can do your best when it it's the real thing. It's OK if you don't get it right the first time, because then you just practice more. Presenting is a very amazing skill. You just practice, and then you get used to it...and it makes you want to do it more!"

Grace Krsul-Sullivan enjoyed making a visual aid for her recent presentation on Yemin. "I used a tri-fold board, and I included pictures of animals, plants, culture, school, geography, and the flag of Yemin," Grace explained. "If you practice presenting skills now, then you won't be shy when you have to present as an adult. You have to have that skill for a lot of jobs."

Evelyn Faust agrees. "It's important to learn how to present so that you can teach people stuff that they don't know. You can learn to be comfortable talking in a community."

"When we get older, we'll have the confidence and the skills to give presentations for certain jobs," says Ellis Spikner.

Before I left, I asked Wil Korbel and Ellis if they had any tips for someone preparing a presentation. Here are their suggestions:

1. Use a strong voice.
2. Stand up straight.
3. Be prepared for questions.
4. Do a rough draft first.
5. Don't talk too fast; don't just try to get it overwith!
6. Be a role model.
7. Don't say "like" or "um."
8. Make eye contact with your audience.

And don't forget Benjamin's advice: practice, practice, practice!

Join us for Winter Celebration!

Believe it or not, it's already time for another Winter Celebration- widely known to be the favorite annual Brookview event of many families! The celebration will be held on Tuesday, December 13 from 5:30-7:00.

This year, our Winter Celebration will carry us through the continents of Africa and Asia. We will start in the Great Room with a performance by the Brookview Choir at 5:30. Mr. Larry will lead the children in a few songs before we head out with our passports to explore the foods and cultures of a dozen different countries. You and your children will see the classrooms transformed into far away places. There will be crafts for the kids, interesting things for everyone to see, learn, and taste!

In keeping with Brookview tradition, we will meet Mr. Larry in the foyer of the school at about 6:50 to sing holiday songs from around the world, and you'll be on your way home at 7:00- with plenty of time able to get the kids to bed on time! See you there!

Holiday fun

Brookview moms and friends enjoyed a lovely holiday luncheon at the home of Nina Molter on Thursday as they shopped for Silpada jewelry. Brookview parent & Silpada representative Kelly Latta generously donated the profits from the sales of the jewelry to Brookview School. Jenny Novakovic showcased her talent as a truly gifted chef; the food was absolutely delicious! The afternoon was topped off with gourmet cupcakes baked by Lilac Kordansky.



If you couldn't make it to the party, you can still order jewelry online and the profits will still benefit the school if you place your order by December 7. [Click here](#) to go to Kelly's website and start shopping! When you're ready to check out and you're asked who

your hostess is, choose Brookview School.



Place a SCRIP Order online.

SCRIP Cards are available for hundreds of retail stores and restaurants. Every card you purchase earns money for Brookview School. When you use SCRIP cards for the items your purchase anyway, it costs you nothing! We place SCRIP orders on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. When you do your holiday shopping this year, shop with SCRIP and earn cash for Brookview!

If you've never shopped with SCRIP, now is a great time to give it a try!

[Click here to learn how!](#)

Many Thanks!

Thanks to the **Ulrich, Straw, Rusbasan, Horvath, Bugrim, and Wolski-Hokanson** families for your help with the Brookview Farm!

Thank you to **Elizabeth Frost of the Phoenix Cafe** for the donation of delicious croissants for the Pitch In Brunch!

Thanks to **Jenny Novakovic** for making the delicious soup and salad dressings for the Pitch In Brunch!

Thanks to **Laurie Moreno** for setting up and cleaning up at the Pitch In Brunch!

Thanks to **Bill Korbel and Lost Dunes Golf Course** for sharing your beautiful space with us! Thanks to **Jennifer and Mark Collins and Blue Star Produce** for the salad greens for the brunch!

Thanks to **Andy Faust and David Ryan** for the recent work in the infant room!

Thanks to **Jenny Novakovic, Erin Beck, Vanett Word, and Maria Jordan** for volunteering for Slow Snack!

Thanks to Julia and Maria Bugrim, Erika Haas, Devon Cowgill, Simon Rusk, David Ryan, the Huhn Family, Sue Dubar and Suzie Finster for coming out to help rake leaves and clean up the playground!

Cats in need of a Good Home

A Brookview family is looking for a good home for their two cats, (one male and one female, ages 10 and 11) after having recently discovered that their child is allergic to cats. If you or someone you know may be interested in adopting these cats, please contact the school for further details.

Alumni Corner

Congratulations to Brookview Alum Bea Evans for her college acceptances at Duke, University of California-Berkley, The Art Institute of Chicago and Cornell. Way to go, Bea!

"Education should no longer be mostly imparting of knowledge, but must take a new path, seeking the release of human potentialities."

- Maria Montessori

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