



Art-i-Facts

March 2011
Vol. 08, Issue 04

News from the Brooks Museums Magnet Elementary PTA

Mon, March 21

6:00– 8 pm
Family Skate Night
2901 Trawick Rd, Raleigh

Wed, March 23

7—8 pm Pieces of Gold
Raleigh Memorial Auditorium

Fri, March 25

No School

Tues, March 29

4:15-6:30 pm
(multi-purpose room)
Variety Show Auditions

Fri, April 1

No School: Teacher Workday

Tues, April 5

4—6 pm (multi-purpose room)
Variety Show Dress Rehearsal

Thurs, April 7,

6:30-8 pm (multi-purpose room)
Variety Show
PTA Meeting

Thurs, April 14

6:00 pm (media center)
Parent Information Session
6:30 pm—PTA Board Meeting

Fri, April 15

Class Picture Day
3:15 pm Moving Museum

Mon—Fri, April 18-22

No School—Spring Break

Mon-Fri, April 25-29

Scholastic Book Fair

Thurs, April 28

4:30-7:30 pm
Student Led Conferences

Principal's Notes by Felicia Locklear, Principal

Brooks Family and Friends:

I hope you all have had a great third quarter of the year. It is hard to believe that very soon we will be entering the last quarter of our school year!

There is lots of exciting news to share with you about the Brooks Family. It is always wonderful to celebrate our school.

First of all, Brooks has received the **National Magnet Schools of America School of Distinction Award**. Kim Padron, our magnet coordinator, applied for the award and we were recognized at the March 1st WCPSS Board Meeting. Fourteen other Wake County schools received recognition from the National Magnet Schools of America. This award recognizes Brooks and the other fourteen magnet schools as some of the best in the nation!

Our **Spotlight on Student** award this year has been given to **William Breen**, a 5th grader. Spotlight on Student is an award each school is able to present to one student who demonstrates the WCPSS character traits. Each student is recognized and presented an award at a school board meeting. William, his family and teachers was recognized at the March 15th school board meeting.

Lastly, we want to recognize **Lindsay Wall**, who is one of the 20 semifinalists for the Diane Kent-Parker First Year Teacher of the Year Award. Each school is able to recommend one outstanding first year teacher. From the 163 schools, 20 semifinalists are selected. Lindsay will now go through an interview and observation process. In May, four outstanding first year teachers will be selected. Let's all wish Ms. Wall good luck in this process! We are so

proud of her and the recognition this brings our school.

A special thanks to our PTA and school family for the wonderful PTA Carnival. We had an incredible turn out and a good time was had by all. It was so much fun to see our students sharing their school with their families.

Brooks is a very special place! Thank you for all you do in helping us make it a special place!



Winter Carnival Wrap-up by Anne Scott, Winter Carnival Chair



WOW, what a night on March 4th! The Winter Carnival excitement was contagious. Lots of happy faces shone as students, their families, and friends came back for an evening of fun.

The classrooms buzzed with games of all kinds focusing on eye hand coordination (ring toss, tailgate and sports games), creativity (make & take, karaoke), imaginary play (the

emergency room) , and exercise (inflatable slide, obstacle course). Thanks to all the classroom volunteers for making the games possible.

The cafeteria fed lots of hungry bellies—thanks Zoës Kitchen, Papa John's Pizza, Chick-fil-A, and Yogen Fruz. Each vendor gives back to the school so please thank them for joining us the next time you go into their restaurants. An extra thanks goes to Zoës for donating 100% of their proceeds to the Brooks PTA.

The Cool Cash & Stash was a suc-

cess - over \$15,000 raised for Brooks the PTA. A big thank you to all families who joined in the fundraiser - 300 students participated. New this year, 25% of tickets were purchased online including 2 of the 7 winning tickets. Bidding for Brooks had more Time with Teacher items than auction items! Thanks to all teachers and staff who generously offered to spend quality time with students outside of the classroom.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to students, parents, and staff for coming out to play and making the Winter Carnival a night to remember!

School Store and Book Stop

Visit the **School Store** to purchase school supplies and small Brooks Spirit items at reasonable prices.

Hours

8:45-9:15 am

Wednesday

K-2nd grade

Friday

3rd-5th grade



Have your student ask their teacher how to earn Book Bucks, then redeem at the **Book Stop!**

Hours

8:45-9:15 am

Tuesday

K-2nd grade

Thursday

3rd-5th grade



First in Fitness by Chuck Amato

First in Fitness (FIF) began in 1982, with 300 participants. There are now three First in Fitness events held each spring with over 2000 Wake County students running and jumping their way through seven events. Brooks participates annually in this fun event. This school year's First in Fitness will be held at Southeast Raleigh High School on Wednesday March 16th with students from 28 schools attending. The rain date is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22nd.

To qualify for the First in Fitness team, students need to achieve the best score or lowest time in one

event of all students in their specific grade. One boy and one girl will represent Brooks in each event at the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade levels. However, students' event

scores are not the only consideration in choosing the team. Each student must work hard, display good sportsmanship and be a good citizen of the Brooks community.



2011 Brooks First in Fitness Team

Grade	Speed Rope	Pull Ups	Shuttle Run	Mile Run	100 yard Dash	Long Jump
2nd	Noah Berman Allie Foppiano	Paul Griffin Kayla Ponziano	Samuel Stasiewicz Makalah Brownridge	Camden Nemeth Grace Barnard	Ford Everett Kendall Sobol	Justin Hopkins Ella McDonald
3rd	Robert Pilson Madelyn Liverett	Jack Burkhart Eliza Wood	Will Seate Anna Wesley Dubach	Jake Rouse Ashelyn Vinsel	John O'Connor Ivasha Cannady	Austin Rouse Sydney Best
4th	Ben Ellis Emma Danzey	Raymont Wilson Sarah Duguid	Allen Bond Caitlin Ferguson	Gus Lehrman Gillian Scott	Juan Medrano- Hernandez Mia Dais	Carson Elliott Mary Emma Graves
5th	Ryan Best Chloe Yopp	Jacob Stasiewicz Alex Schaffner	Hart Thomas Jazmyne Chavis	Jack Agresta Caroline Barnard	Trenton Pennix Michelle Cutler	Jackson Reid London Gardner
Triathlon (5th grade)		Chase Coley Timara Chapman	Chase Coley Timara Chapman	Chase Coley Timara Chapman		

Inside Story Headline



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Original Works Coming Soon by Jamye Donovan

Our school has teamed up with Original Works –

please send it back to school. Details coming home soon along with your Preview Magnet in your child's Monday Folder.

Original Art Dates

March 21: Magnets come home for preview and orders

March 29: Art Orders due to school with payment

May 2: Art Orders sent home with students

Questions? contact Chris Bason @ cbason@sweetiehandbags.com or Kelly Allen @ kmallen@nc.rr.com

Themes by Grade Level

K- Eric Carle's Mixed Up Chameleon

1- Ezra Jack Keats' Cityscape

2 –Weatherscapes

3 - Aboriginal Animals

4- Planets in Space

5- Brooks Monoprints

5th Graders Get Their 15 Minutes of Fame by Caroline Barnard and Liz Hahn

On February 24th, the fifth grade performed an opera at the North Carolina Museum of History. The packed house loved it!

The Creating Original Opera Program is from the Metropolitan Opera Guild. Mrs. Goldfinch and Mrs. Sabino attended a training to bring the program to Brooks in 2005. It started with only one class putting on the opera. Soon, it was expanded and the entire 5th grade put on the opera. Up until last year, it was only performed at Brooks in the multipurpose room. The opera program has come a long way since the beginning and hopefully it will continue for many years!

How did we prepare? Though very fun, it was also a bit nerve-wracking.

Students were performers, make-up artists, costume designers, public relations officers, historians, carpenters, set designers, writers, production managers, and a stage manager. Everyone worked really hard to learn what it takes to create an opera and it paid off!

On the day of the opera, we had two fun and informative field trips. One to the NC Museum of Science and the other the History Museum. After the field trips, we watched "*Night at the Museum*" to prepare for the opera. Next step, a run through of the performance and a delicious dinner everyone enjoyed. After dinner, students made their way to the front of the museum. Everyone was super excited and perhaps a little nervous even though there was

no need to be because everything went great. Here are some things students shared. "My favorite thing was being able to help people and make them look good," said student Hannah Butkus. Laura Conoly said, "I felt really, really excited, but a little nervous!"

Other things students said about the experience: "I felt happy and proud of myself!" said Dulce Garrido. Tori Little explained, "I felt a little bit nervous about my speech but I got through it and was happy for myself!" Many people were proud of themselves. And, they definitely should be because they did the most amazing job they could ever do!

Notes from the Music Room by Ann Goldfinch

Spring is a busy time in the music room! Kindergarteners are learning to read and write music to create music that accompanies books by Eric Carle as part of an integrated unit with art and media that builds on classroom learning.

In media and music, 1st graders learned about Louis Armstrong and how he made a difference in the music world through jazz. In art class, they created jazz inspired masterpieces! Also, they learned about songwriting, and how to read and write 3-note melodies on the music staff. These lessons tie into the unit on prominent people. They will examine musical forms, the introduction, and learn about expressive qualities for the remainder of the quarter.

2nd graders are becoming experts in performing simple harmony parts that are spoken, played on instruments and sung. They are review-

ing melodic concepts and the pentatonic scale. As a class, they will create weather compositions using body percussion and instruments, record them to compare in a Paideia seminar, and discuss which sounds are realistic. We hope to put links to these recordings on the Brooks website.

3rd grade students have reviewed how to read and write melodies, and how to improvise rhythms and melodies to compose music for their Cinderella plays to be performed on Tues, March 29, 2011 in the Brooks multi-purpose room. This is their coached project for 3rd quarter and part of an integrated unit involving art, media, music, and classroom work.

4th graders are working on playing the recorder. If you are a 4th grade family, you should hear some practicing at home—hopefully progressing in quality. Students are also learning about NC regional music (bluegrass, beach music) and folk instruments.

5th graders are exploring westward expansion from the point of view of Native Americans. In art, students created animal masks in Native American style. In music, they are using primary source texts to create compositions using recorders and other instruments, as well as creative movement. We will record and evaluate these performances for their cultural authenticity and musical quality. We hope to put links to some of the recordings on the Brooks website.

The 4th/5th grade chorus participated in the Raleigh Fine Arts Elementary Choral Celebration at Meymandi Hall on March 15, 2011. A smaller group of chorus students will perform in this year's county-wide production of Pieces of Gold at Memorial Auditorium on Wednesday, March 23 at 7:00 pm. Tickets can be purchased at the Memorial Auditorium box office or Ticket Master.

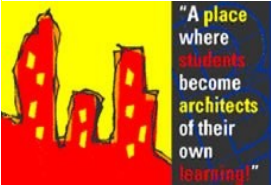
Staff Appreciation Week April 4 - 8

Throughout the school year, the Hospitality committees work diligently to welcome the new kindergarteners and their families, beautify the campus, provide family picnics and ensure that our fantastic staff at Brooks know how much we value them.

Staff Appreciation Week is April 4th - 8th and we're excited about this year's theme, 'Around The World'. This is a week for us to pamper the Brooks Staff with extra special treatment throughout the entire week. Some of the treats we have planned include a Breakfast in Paris, Swiss Chocolate Addiction desserts, Take-Out dinners and a delicious Luau Luncheon!

Each Brooks family will be instrumental in making our Staff feel appreciated during this fun, eventful week. Thank you in advance for your help and support - we couldn't do it without you! Details coming in Monday folders.





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PTA News by Lisa Moore

Dear Brooks Parents and Families,

I hope you were able to attend the Winter Carnival. It was an event not to be missed. We had a record number of "Time With Teacher" participants and new games and expansions of some of our most popular ones. The evening was filled with smiling faces and happy children. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and was involved in making this year's Carnival such a success.

Congratulations to all the 5th graders for your creation and production of *Secrets Revealed*. This 5th Grade coached project was written, directed, and performed by the students at the NC Museum of History. If you missed it, see the production by visiting the Brooks website.



I would also like to congratulate all of our 2011 First In Fitness participants. See page 2 for a list of our First in Fitness Team and a bit of history about the event.



The year is going quickly but we still have a few more PTA meetings. Everyone is welcome to attend, so please join us.

2010-11 PTA Meetings 6:30pm

- April 7th—multi-purpose room
Variety Show & General Membership Meeting
- April 14th and May 19th—media center
PTA Board Meeting

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