

# Art-i-Facts

November 2010  
Vol. 08, Issue 02

News from the Brooks Museums Magnet Elementary PTA

**Thurs, Nov. 4**  
Report Cards go home 2nd-5th grade

**Sat, Nov. 6**  
9:00 am - 12 pm Magnet Fair  
SE Raleigh High School

**Mon., Nov. 8**  
6-8:30 pm Family Skate Night  
Skate Ranch 2901  
Trawick Rd, Raleigh

**Thurs, Nov. 11**  
No School: Veterans Day

**Fri, Nov. 12**  
Fall Picture Retake

**Tues, Nov. 16**  
7-8:30 pm Night at Our  
Museum

**Thurs, Nov. 18**  
6:00 pm (media center)  
Parent Information Session  
6:30 pm - PTA Board Meeting  
*\*all meetings open to everyone*

**Wed - Fri, Nov. 24-26**  
No School: Thanksgiving  
Break

**Fri, Dec. 3**  
1:15 pm—Early Release

**Thurs, Dec. 9**  
7-8 pm (multipurpose room)  
Holiday Concert

**Wed, Dec. 22- Mon, Jan. 4**  
No School - Winter Break

**Mon, Jan. 17**  
No School - MLK Holiday

**Thurs, Jan. 20**  
6:00 pm (media center)  
Parent Information Session  
6:30 pm - PTA Board Meeting  
*\*all meetings open to everyone*

## PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Brooks Families:  
Ok, we have now hit the end of the first quarter of the school year! Students have jumped into museum field trips, Paideia Coached Projects, Student Led Conferencing, integrated reading and math, SMART Boards, and so much more. Kindergarten students have settled in and fifth grade students are becoming a little "middle schoolish!" All in all, we have had a great start to the year.

In a few days, many of you will receive your child's first report card for the year. Please make sure to sit down with your child and talk about what you see on that report card. For those areas that show "above grade level performance," ask your child something in that area they enjoyed. For those areas that shows "below level performance," ask them what one thing they could do to make improvements in that area. Then, throughout the quarter, continue to have those discussions with your child about how they can continue to grow in school.

I want to take this moment to thank our wonderful PTA for the \$14,000 that parents raised during this year's No Fuss

Fundraiser. It is unbelievable that parents will and can support our school in this way. Knowing that even during a dark time in our economy our parents are still committed to doing what they need to do for our school is absolutely heartwarming.

Thank you all for being the best parents in Wake County.....thank you for being a part of our school family!

Felicia Locklear,  
Principal



## EARLY RELEASE DATES

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**February 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**March 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**April 8<sup>th</sup>**

Dismissal will be at **1:15 p.m.**

## NOW OPEN

**Brooks School Store  
and BookStop**

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 **BookStop!**

**Hours: 8:45-9:15 am**  
**Tuesday K-2nd grade**  
**Thursday 3rd-5th grade**

## ATTENTION all NEWCOMERS

New to Brooks? Want to be involved with our wonderful school community? Our VP of Volunteers would love to hear from you and is eager to assist.

Contact Graham Satsisky  
[ksatsisky@nc.rr.com](mailto:ksatsisky@nc.rr.com)

**There is no "I" in Team but there is a "u" in volunteer!**  
by Debbie Weir

# Art-i-Facts

## Special Thanks

### Fall Clean-Up Day

Thank you to everyone who came out and helped with the **Brooks Fall Clean Up Day** on **Saturday, September 25**. We had a great turnout of parents and kids helping to make sure our school grounds stay in good condition. If you enjoy outside work and have any interest in volunteering a couple of hours at the school, there are still various projects around our campus that we hope to tackle. For details email Anissa Ferris [anissaferris@yahoo.com](mailto:anissaferris@yahoo.com)

### Reflections 2010-11

Thanks to everyone who submitted entries for the PTA Reflections program with the theme "Together We Can." Judging will take place in November and winning entries will go to the next level. Thanks for supporting and celebrating your children's talents.

Questions? Please contact:

Jessica Knight  
[jasonknight@mindspring.com](mailto:jasonknight@mindspring.com)  
 or Lynn Fransson  
[Lynnfransson@hotmail.com](mailto:Lynnfransson@hotmail.com)

## Celebrating Character by Heather Roberts, School Counselor

This year our Brooks Character Education is getting off to a great start! Each month has a Character Trait to learn about and celebrate. Classrooms then nominate a representative who embodies that character trait. These fabulous students are recognized at the monthly Character Celebration Breakfasts! September's trait was responsibility. And, October was respect.

### Upcoming Breakfasts

**November 17**

Courage

**December 15**

Kindness

**January 19**

Self Discipline

**February 16**

Integrity

**March 23**

Perseverance

**April 13**

Good Judgment

## National Red Ribbon Week

**October 25– 28, 2010**

This "Just say no to drugs" program had students decorating their classrooms doors with a Red Ribbon, as well as, making the "dare to be drug free" pledge. A thank you to students for participating in our theme days throughout the week.



## National Walk 2 School Day by Chuck Amato, Physical Education

Thank you to the students and parents that participated in this years Walk 2 School Day on October 6th. We had about 90 participants from the Brooks Community walk to Brooks from St. Marks church.

Please visit this link for more about this wonderful event .

<http://triangle.news14.com/content/631168/local-students-skip-the-bus-for-walk-to-school-day>



## Excitement in 2nd Grade by Jennifer Klyne, 2nd Grade Teacher

The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders recently had two exciting visitors. The interim superintendent, Dr. Donna Hargens, came to visit Brooks. She is traveling the county to visit each grade, K-12, to see the continuum of learning. She chose our wonderful school for her 2<sup>nd</sup> grade visit. The visit began with a conversation among 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers about the learning that takes place in a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classroom. We were all very excited to share the reasons we love 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and Brooks. She then traveled to each 2<sup>nd</sup>

classroom to observe the children and the learning that takes place. This was a great honor to share the wonderful work that goes on at Brooks. On October 12, they had a visit from the NC Symphony as an in school field trip. The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders have been studying sound, how it is produced, and how it is changed. The symphony had a "petting zoo" - they talked about the instruments they brought and how the instruments made sound. The students took their knowledge from their studies and

had a hands-on experience with how to change the sound of the instruments. All children were able to play the violin, viola, flute, trombone, and trumpet. After the visit with the Symphony, the children took part in a seminar. They compared the instruments in the "petting zoo" with another instrument and also shared their knowledge of sound during the seminar. The children had a great time with the NC Symphony. Hopefully, one day we will see some of our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders playing in the symphony.

## Test Your Cultural Sm-Arts by Jennifer Maiorano, PTA VP of Programs

Your PTA sponsors a dynamic Cultural Arts program to:

- a) connect curriculum to real world experiences
- b) spur creativity and learning through varied artistic interpretations
- c) offer exposure to diverse cultures
- d) improve writing skills
- e) ALL OF THE ABOVE!

How many programs does CA bring to Brooks?

- a) 1 performance monthly

- b) a top notch Writer in Residence for 3<sup>rd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> graders
- c) 2 theatrical, 2 musical, and 2 musical storytelling performances annually
- d) ALL OF THE ABOVE!

If you answered **ALL OF THE ABOVE** for both questions, then you have excellent Cultural Arts Intelligence! Already this year, our students have learned African stories, songs and dance about family life from *The Magic of African Rhythm*, and were

treated to the music of the Bay Street Brassworks quintet. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders learned new ways to think about writing poetry with their Writers in Residence.



*The Magic of African Rhythm*

In December, we'll hear from the Sanderson High School Chorus. More exciting performers are coming in the Spring. Also in the spring, our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will work with their Writers in Residence.

We're very proud to offer these extra opportunities to our students, and seeing their excitement at the performances and in the classrooms during their writing workshops tells us it's well worth it!

## Notes from the Music Room by Anne Goldfinch, Music Education

The music room is busy! Kindergarten is exploring their voices and learning to share personal reactions to music. 1<sup>st</sup> grade is singing and playing music games from many countries to discover how people use music in their communities. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is learning all about the instruments of the orchestra while studying instrument families. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is studying singing styles and learning how their voices work and to become great singers. 4<sup>th</sup> grade is preparing for a field trip to hear a concert by the

NC Symphony and learning about elements of music, such as dynamics, tempo, and form. They have learned to sing the Mexican Folk Song "De Colores" in English and Spanish to sing with the symphony. 5<sup>th</sup> grade is busy exploring their singing voices. They observed a model of the vocal cords to discover how they work and to care for them so their voices last a lifetime! They will be recording their singing and putting it into their 1<sup>st</sup> quarter coached project. The entire 5<sup>th</sup> grade is involved in the

Metropolitan Opera's Creating Original Opera program, as well, and will present an original opera in February. Stay tuned for more information. In addition, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade chorus is over 80 voices strong. They are preparing for their first concert, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Brooks multi-purpose room. A small group of chorus students is rehearsing before school to prepare for county Pieces of Gold auditions. As you can see, the music room is a busy place! Visit the

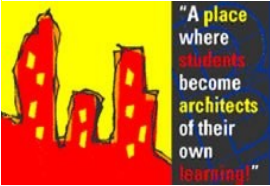
music blackboard for more information, including quarterly assessment objectives and things you can do at home to help your child grow as a musician. The music blackboard site has links to cool websites, announcements about music happenings, and copies of notes sent home. You can find the site by going to the Brooks webpage, clicking on the "staff" button and clicking "Museums Integration Team (MIT)." Then, click on my picture!

## Here's to Our Heroes! Reading Saves the Day!

The week of October 18-25 our media center was transformed by the Scholastic Book Fair. The event was a huge success! The students loved browsing the titles and selecting books to purchase. The

teachers got in on the action, too, and received books for the classrooms thanks to the donations of so many families. Thank you to the volunteers (a.k.a. Hero's) who helped make the event so successful.





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**Fundraiser Update**

The **Spirit Night at Zoe's** was a success with \$250 raised for Brooks. Zoe's has done fundraisers for other schools in the area and has never seen a turnout as big as ours. Hence, the long lines and slow service, but we appreciate everyone that hung in there to support our school.

If you have any recommendations for Spirit Nights at Zoe's or other venues, please send an email to Jamye Donovan  
jamyed@earthlink.net

If you have any questions or comments about the Artifact, please contact  
Stephanie Sobol  
(Artifact Editor)  
stephanie.sobol@gmail.com  
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(VP of Publicity)  
tracy.pilson@gmail.com  
or Lisa Moore  
(Brooks PTA President)  
lisamoore@nc.rr.com

**No Fuss Fundraiser Update** by Lisa Moore, PTA President



Brooks Families,  
It has been a wonderful start to the school year. We had a phenomenal response to our "No Fuss" fundraiser and surpassed our \$12,000 goal by raising more than \$14,000! Thank you so much for your contributions and support of Brooks and the PTA. The funds raised will be used to purchase new computers for the media center and also help fund field trips and Cultural Arts events.

Even though the Fall Picnic was canceled, Mrs. Locklear and Mrs. Taylor will still be getting a pie in their face. We are still working out the logistics and will let you know when the big event will happen.

Thanks again for all of your support and for making Brooks a great school.



Lisa Moore  
2010-2011 PTA President  
lisamoore@nc.rr.com

**2010-11 PTA Meetings**  
**6:30pm (media center)**  
*\*all meetings open to everyone*

- November 18<sup>th</sup>
- January 20<sup>th</sup>
- February 17<sup>th</sup>
- March 17<sup>th</sup>
- April 7<sup>th</sup>  
Variety Show & General Membership
- May 19<sup>th</sup>

**FAMILY SKATE NIGHT**

**WHEN: Monday, November 8, 2010**  
**WHERE: Skate Ranch**  
**2901 Trawick Road**  
**TIME: 6:00 - 8:30 pm**  
**COST: \$5.00 (includes skates)**



**Brooks Receives \$2.50 back from each admission!!!**  
**PLEASE COME JOIN THE FUN & SUPPORT BROOKS**

**2010 Wake County PTA Council Healthy Lifestyles 5K**

Sunday, November 21st @ 3:30 PM Wake Med Soccer Park (Cary)  
(Packet pick-up 12:30-3 PM)

The over-all school, as well as, the single elementary, middle and high school with the most registered participants will win Healthy Lifestyles funding from the Wake PTS Council. Registered participants can be runners, walkers or volunteers.

**Register online**

[www.fsseries.com/index.php?action=event&event\\_id=87](http://www.fsseries.com/index.php?action=event&event_id=87)

**Print mail-in Registration**

<https://docs.google.com/document/edit?id=1o5i2D2YrRklVjXYq6i0HDHq7560Qs4BRNpkkCpi3wpo&hl=en&pli=1#>

Registration Fee is \$20 until November 8, 2010 (includes t-shirt)

Registration Fee is \$25 on or after November 9, 2010 or day of event (t-shirt not guaranteed)

Volunteers Needed! Non-racing volunteers register for free (includes t-shirt for registration before November 9, 2010. Visit <http://www.pta5K.org/>



*"The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives."*  
*Robert Maynard Hutchins*