



# Brier Park Public School



## December 2016

Issue Four

Newsletter Date: December, 2016

# From the Principal's Desk

As we prepare for the last few weeks before our Christmas holidays, we have a busy December schedule ahead of us. As a school, this month's character trait is **compassion**. We will continue to show students compassion by doing the **fill-a-bus** campaign and we encourage everyone to bring in a non-perishable item. With the holidays around the corner, it is a good time to step back, reflect and talk with your children about the importance of being grateful for everything they have been given. By learning to be grateful, children develop a better sense of the world around them. They learn to put things into perspective and to look beyond themselves to understand and become sensitive to the feelings of others.

As we move into December, we are asking for your help to fill our **Class-Themed Christmas Baskets**. We are hoping that you can also assist us in selling **raffle tickets** to assist in our fundraising efforts and to bring a small donation for the class baskets. A letter with tickets attached was sent home. Tickets will be drawn on December 21st, after our Christmas Evening.

Our annual **Christmas Open House** is on **Tuesday, December 20th from 5:30-7:30**. We will have activities in classes for you to enjoy doing with your children.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year To All Of You !**

### Dates To Remember:

- Dec. 1st      Fill-A-Bus Campaign begins
- Dec. 2nd      Pita Pit
- Dec. 9th      Subway
- Dec. 13th      Fill-A-Bus Campaign ends
- Dec. 14th      **Basket Donations due**  
School Council Basket Wrapping 3:00-5:00
- Dec. 15th      Basket Pictures on school website
- Dec. 16th      North Park Band visiting  
Pizza Day
- Dec. 20th      Christmas Activity Night 5:30-7:30
- Dec. 21st      Draws for Themed Baskets
- Dec. 23rd      Assembly - Compassion  
Dance for gr.6-8  
**Last School Day**  
Turkey Christmas Lunch
- January 9th      Back to School - Happy New Year !



# School Council News



Our next meeting will be a brief “wrap & meet” on December 14th. We will briefly be discussing our volunteer schedule for the Christmas Open House Night while we wrap up the Raffle Christmas Baskets. If you’d like to give us a hand wrapping, please join us then! Thank you to everyone who has donated items to our baskets. Tickets are \$2 and will be sold until December 20th. Draw for the baskets will be on December 21st. If you are able to help out with our events, please email [Jennifer.ciere@gmail.com](mailto:Jennifer.ciere@gmail.com)

## Student Illnesses

With the flu and the cold season in full force, we remind parents that children need to stay home when they are ill. This is not only the best way for your child to heal but it also stops the spread of illnesses within the school.

We also want to remind parents that if your child needs to stay in during recesses, this is a sign that they are too ill to be at school and they should be at home. The school does not have the necessary personnel to supervise children who are too ill to go outside for recess. Please assist us with this and keep your children home when they are ill. Please call **519-759-8682 and press 1** to leave an attendance message.

Also, we ask that each child in the primary division bring to school an extra set of clothes. During this time of year, some students get wet during recess and need something dry to be comfortable in class.



## Lunch Drop-Off

Please make sure to pack a lunch in the morning with your child every morning so that they have a lunch for their nutrition breaks. We understand that sometimes people forget lunches and they need to bring them to school.

If you do need to bring a lunch for your child during the day (hot lunches), make sure your child is aware that you are bringing them a lunch. The office will **not** be disturbing classes to let your child know their lunch is at the office.

Hot lunches being brought to the school need to be left on the front desk with the child’s name clearly written on it. Make sure your child knows to pick their lunch up at the office.

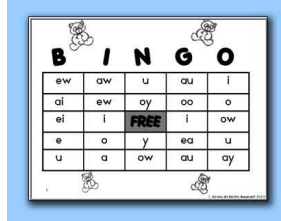


# Christmas Celebrations at Brier Park

We are pleased to announce our many activities during the Christmas Season. Our school is currently selling raffle tickets for only \$2 each towards some beautiful baskets which classes donated and school council has put together. We will also be selling raffle tickets the night of our Open House. Baskets are now on display at the school.

On Tuesday, December 20th, we will have our Open House with many activities from 5:30 - 7:00. The choir will also be singing carols for us that evening. At 7:00, the reading of "T'was the Night Before Christmas" story will take place before we close for the night. Please make sure to come and enjoy a fun family night. Our activities for December 20th are as follows:

**Holiday  
Ornaments  
(McGrath)**



**Christmas Bingo  
(Vanka & Piovesan)**

**Reindeers  
(Genge, Coulis)**



**Decorate Christmas Cookies  
(Herron)**

**Visit from Santa**



**Christmas Basket Raffle**

**Hand Puppets  
(Dietrich & Martynuik)**



**Handprint Wreath  
(Sturgeon)**



**Apple Cider Station  
(School Council)**



**Choir  
(Turkoski)**



**Tree Cards  
(Halabecki)**





# WEB

## Homework Helpers and Websites

### Useful Links for Parents:

The Ontario Curriculum Document: Check this site to read the curriculum and access other information from the Ministry of Education

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca>

This site provides guided help for a range of school subjects organized by grade levels:

[www.2learn.ca/kids](http://www.2learn.ca/kids)



### HELP WITH MATH HOMEWORK

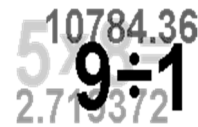
Sometimes it helps to use manipulatives to figure things out....Here is a website with 'virtual manipulatives': <http://www.shodor.org/interactivate>

NCTM Family Corner: The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics is the largest mathematics education organization and aims to ensure a mathematics education of the highest quality for all students. On this site, parents will find information for helping children learn mathematics. Students will have the chance to try online resources for activities and mathematics help.

<http://www.nctm.org>

This site includes suggestions for methods to link everyday math activities to math. Excellent for 'primary parents'.

[www.edselect.com/math\\_at\\_home.htm](http://www.edselect.com/math_at_home.htm)



This is a glossary of math terms for students in grades Kindergarten to grade 6.

[www.hbschool.com/glossary/math2/index\\_temp.html](http://www.hbschool.com/glossary/math2/index_temp.html)

### For Parents:

Through conversations, you can help your child build mathematical vocabulary and strengthen mathematical concepts. Math talk promotes mathematical thinking and fosters curiosity. When a child explains the way they solve a problem, they in turn gain a better understanding of the mathematics they are learning.

### Questions you can ask your child:

- How did you get your answer?
- Does your answer seem reasonable?
- Can you solve the problem a different way?
- What do you think will happen if ...?
- What was challenging? What was easy?
- Use pictures and words to make your ideas clear.
- How does this relate to...?
- Why did you choose to use that particular strategy?
- What made you think of that?
- I'm not sure if I understand, could you help me figure it out?
- Is there an example in the book like this?
- Do you have an example like this in your notes?
- Can you work backwards from the answer (Junior)?

