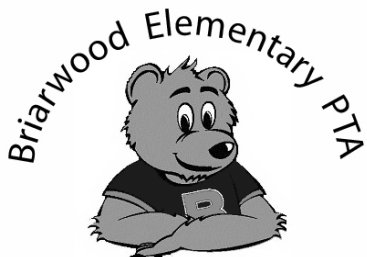


# Briarwood Bear Facts



Making a difference...one member at a time!

Issaquah School District  
Briarwood.Issaquah.Wednet.edu  
BriarwoodElementaryPTA.org

## PTA BOARD

President  
Beth Donahoe

Secretary  
Karen Nelson

Treasurer  
Laila Collins

VP Programs  
Amanda White  
Teresa Fitzpatrick

VP Volunteers  
Leslie Kahler  
Tonya Kezele

VP Fundraising  
Melinda Baggenstos

Other Board Members  
Jenna Thoresen  
Adriana Serna  
Diane Burke  
Jill Johnson

The *Briarwood Bear Facts* newsletter is published monthly September-June. An e-version is available at [www.BriarwoodElementaryPTA.org](http://www.BriarwoodElementaryPTA.org).

Newsletter Editors  
Sarah Dutton  
Karen Nelson

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Beth Donahoe**

There's snow on the ground as I write this, but I'm still fairly certain Spring is just around the corner. It's a time of flower buds, baby birds, and vegetable seeds. Or put another way, photosynthesis, cell division, and germination; a.k.a Science. It's the perfect time, then, to discuss the new K-5 Science Curriculum the district has planned with the help of ISF.

Come to the next general PTA meeting on Monday, March 21, to get an update on the adoption process and learn how you can help with the implementation. And while we're on the topic, read the article below on the upcoming 2011 Science Fair, March 31, and how you can get your child involved and loving science!

## **SCIENCE FAIR – Thursday, March 31**

It's back and better than ever. The 2011 Briarwood Science Fair will take place Thursday, March 31 from 6-7pm in our school gym. Check those backpacks for a kidmail flier or just go to [www.briarwoodelementary.oursciencefair.com](http://www.briarwoodelementary.oursciencefair.com). Only there can you register your child's project, order display boards and get ideas for a great experiment. Also happening again this year, we're hosting a design contest for the Science Fair participant button. Entry forms were sent home and additional copies can be found on the Our Science Fair site.

Mark your calendar with these important Science Fair dates:

Thursday, March 10...Orders for presentation boards

Thursday, March 17...Participant registration closes

Thursday, March 24...Science Fair participant button contest entries due

If you have questions, or want to help, email chairs Beth Donahoe ([beth.donahoe@comcast.net](mailto:beth.donahoe@comcast.net)) or Michelle Whiteley ([whiteley@comcast.net](mailto:whiteley@comcast.net)).

## **COOKIE DOUGH SALE!**

Our Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough fundraiser is happening now thru Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. The best part of this fundraiser is **ALL** the profits go to PTA for school programs. Every student who sells 15 items or more will be invited to a Cookies and Cream Party!

All money must be collected when the order is placed. Please make checks payable to Briarwood PTA and return in the envelope along with the order form **no later than March 14<sup>th</sup>**.

## **IT'S ELECTION TIME - 2011-2012 PTA OFFICERS**

It's Officer Time! Elections for 2011-12 PTA officers will be April 18<sup>th</sup> at the general PTA meeting. But to be ready in time, we need to collect interested parties now! Open positions include: President, Vice Presidents of Fundraising, Communications, Volunteers and Programs, as well as Secretary and Treasurer. A final slate of names will be presented at the meeting although nominations may still be accepted that night. If you are interested, please contact Nominating Committee Chair Leslie Kahler ([lesliekahler@comcast.net](mailto:lesliekahler@comcast.net)).

## **HAVE A 5TH GRADER MOVING UP TO MAYWOOD?**

Maywood PTSA's Nominating Committee is looking for officers for next year. The PTSA is a great way to meet parents from other grade school attendance areas and find out what's happening at Maywood. The PTSA commitment level in middle school is much lighter than in grade school. Please consider joining us; we'd love to get you involved!

Please contact Leslie Neighbor, Nominating Committee Chair at [ldneighbor@comcast.net](mailto:ldneighbor@comcast.net) or see Maywood's PTSA web site for more contact persons: [http://www.maywoodptsa.org/Home\\_Page.html](http://www.maywoodptsa.org/Home_Page.html).



### **THANK YOU GIFT-A-BOOK DONORS!**

During the first half of the 2010-2011 school year, the following families have gifted the Briarwood library with fabulous books in honor of their children's birthdays. Donations are still being accepted. If you would like more information, please contact Gift-A-Book chair Katie Breuel ([breuel422@comcast.net](mailto:breuel422@comcast.net)).

Loagen S.	The Siegfried Family	Shyanne E.	Hannah N.
Victor S.	Nicholas H.	Jordy R.	James W.
Kasten D.	Nicholas M.	Shelby P.	Amber D.
Patricia B.	Shallen P.	Sarah H.	Lauren C.
Elizabeth H.	Michael C.	Lizzie C.	Sarah S.
The Johnson Family			

### **MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE-IT'S A PIRATE THING TO DO!**

Missoula Children's Theatre residency week culminated with a wonderful kick-off song from our Opening Night Players (ONP) and a rousing rendition of "Treasure Island" performed by Briarwood's own K-5 students. There was an assembly for the whole school as well as an evening performance for families. We had 102 students audition this year – the most ever! 55 students participated in the play, 19 in Opening Night Players and 20 signed up for the drama seminar.

Special thanks go out to the staff at LHS for allowing us to use their auditorium and the transportation department for providing some bus transportation. A huge thank you to Briarwood's staff, ONP leader Miss Morgan and parents/families for supporting this big undertaking. From playing the piano to hosting directors, selling tickets, making dinners, supervising rehearsals, and walking kids to and fro - Many hands make light work and were necessary for the successful completion of this week. This program has been made possible through the support of Briarwood Elementary and funding from the Briarwood PTA, a generous grant from The Issaquah Youth Theatre Foundation (who is supported by the City of Issaquah, and the Issaquah Arts Commission), along with associated student program fees and ticket sales.

### **BAM COMES TO BRIARWOOD!**

It's tough to bring an entire elementary school to an art museum – so instead the exhibit is coming to them! Later this month, Briarwood students will explore original works of art by several Northwest artists – right in our own library. The artwork is being loaned out by the Bellevue Art Museum as part of a program called "The Art of Discovery." All classes will get an up-close look at the paintings and sculptures – and share their own impressions of the art. The exhibit will be at the school March 14-18 – thanks to BAM, the Junior League of Seattle, and the Briarwood PTA. For more information, contact Karen Nelson ([karenandgeoff@comcast.net](mailto:karenandgeoff@comcast.net)).

### **SPIRIT SALE TIE DYE T-SHIRTS**

Spirit sale orders have been processed – thank you to everyone who ordered a shirt! Watch for shirts to go home in the next two weeks. Please check over your order immediately and report any questions or concerns to Leslie Kahler, Spirit Sales Chair at [lesliekahler@comcast.net](mailto:lesliekahler@comcast.net).



**Nourish Every Mind Luncheon – Thursday, April 28 11a-1p.** Contact Michelle Weldon, ([mweldon@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org](mailto:mweldon@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org)), to add your name to the invitation list.

**We're Looking for Table Captains!** If you'd like to perform this fun, yet critical job to support the luncheon, please join us for our **Table Captain Kick Off on Friday, March 11 from 11:30a-1p** at the Administration Building. Please contact Table Captain Chair, Cathia Geller ([Cathia@cathiageller.com](mailto:Cathia@cathiageller.com)) for more information.

**Donor Dollars Making a Difference** - Your contributions made it possible for the Foundation to contribute \$1500 toward program fees for 30 teachers who achieved National Board Certification status in December. Thank you for making a difference!

#### February 28- March 14

Cookie Dough sales

#### March 14-18

Bellevue Arts Museum residency @ Briarwood

#### March 21

PTA General Membership meeting, 6:30 pm

#### March 31

Science Fair, 6-7p  
Briarwood gym

#### April 18

PTA general membership meeting & officer elections, 6:30p  
Briarwood library



### **Check Out Our Website!**

[BriarwoodElementaryPTA.org](http://BriarwoodElementaryPTA.org)

- E-version of our newsletter
- Information on upcoming PTA events
- Legislative news
- Parent Education seminars
- Info on upcoming fundraisers
- News & information from the 4 Creeks Sheriff's Station