

Briarcliff Elementary

December 2014

Briarcliff is a community that nurtures strong relationships, which inspire confident, responsible, life-long learners.



Inclement Weather and School Cancellations

School Cancellation Policy Our school closing policy has one aim — to ensure the safety of your child. School may start two hours late; students may be released early; or classes may be canceled entirely due to inclement weather. Please be familiar with the following information sources in the event of school cancellations, early release or late start.

Communication Channels:

North Kansas City Schools provides several ways for you to get the latest information on district school closings, including early release or a two-hour delayed start on days when weather looks hazardous:

1. **District Website:** www.nkcschools.org provides the first notification of school closings and other cancellations within minutes of a decision.
2. **School Messenger:** Phone, email and text messages are sent to school families when classes are canceled, delayed or students are released early.
3. **District Information Line:** Call (816) 413-6000 extension **8000** for a recorded message regarding school closings.
4. **Social Media:** We will post information at facebook.com/NKCSchools and twitter.com/NKCSchools.
5. **Radio & TV:** Local stations share announcements on-air and on their websites.

Two-Hour Delayed Start Option:

NKC Schools has another option for inclement weather days to reduce the need for makeup days. The two-hour delayed start will be used for days when daylight and additional time to treat roads mean safe passage is possible for students. Essentially, the school day will begin two hours later. On a two-hour delayed start day, all buses will pick up students two hours later than the regular pickup times, but the drop-off times will NOT change. All schools will end their day at the regular end time with one exception. On Thursdays, high schools, middle schools and elementary schools observe an early release schedule. If the district activates the two-hour delayed start, the early release would be canceled.

Alternate stops for buses will be in effect on two-hour delayed start days. Transportation Services communicates directly with all families affected by alternate stops.

Early Release or Cancellation:

There will be **no evening activities** including Community Education classes. Exceptions will be posted on the district website at www.nkcschools.org

Adventure Club will operate on snow days, but at their **combined snow day sites**. Hours of operation will be 7:15 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Two-Hour Delayed Start:

When the district follows a two-hour delayed start, **Adventure Club** will be open at ALL SITES from 7:15 a.m. to 6 p.m.

If school is OPEN on a wintry day:

Dress your child to protect against wind and cold. Buses may be a few minutes late. Please wait as we try to run every route.

Alternate bus stops may be in effect due to road conditions. Bus riders on alternate routes are notified directly by Transportation Services via School Messenger. To see the current list of alternate bus stops, visit the district website at: www.nkcschools.org. We respect your decision to keep your child home when the weather is questionable.



Calendar of Events

December 2014

- 2 PTA Board Mtg, 6:00
- 3 5th Gr Field Trip to the Nelson
- 5 Breakfast and Books
Gr 3-5 provide the potluck breakfast
- 9 Papa John's Pizza Night
- 11 Winter Program
1st Gr, 6:00
3rd Gr, 7:00
- 15-19 Penguin Shoppe
- 16 Northgate Band
- 18 BR BEAR Triathlon Announcement
- 19 Winter Party 11:30
- 19 Early release-12:30
Winter Break Begins
End of 1st Semester

January 2015

- 5 School resumes
- 5-16 BR BEAR Triathlon
- 6 PTA Board Mtg, 6:00
- 9 Grade cards go home
- 13 Papa John's Pizza Night
- 13 Awards Assembly-time TBA
- 16 KC Gym Night, 7:30-9:30
- 19 No School-Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**EARLY RELEASE
EVERY THURSDAY AT
3:35 P.M.**

Attendance Matters

Briarcliff is committed to partnering with families to ensure that student attendance supports learning for ALL students. Our CARE team monitors attendance weekly and works with students and families to set goals and increase time at school. We consider excellent attendance to be 98% or greater and expected attendance is 94% or greater. Anything less than 94% is marginal and is reason for concern. Along with maintaining healthy routines at home, you can support strong attendance by planning vacations and out of town trips during non-school days and you can also try to schedule dentist/doctor appointments outside of the school day. When that is not possible, make plans to return to school after appointments. Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Wheeler to Compete in District Spelling Bee

Six Briarcliff students (Alyssa Burkett, Duy Lam, Kelley Moellmer, Daniela Rivas, David Steel, and Hannah Wheeler) participated in North Kansas City School's District Spelling Bee on November 8th. Hannah Wheeler was named our building champion and David Steel was named alternate. Wheeler will move on to the division-level bee in February. At the county bee, a single champion is identified, and that champion moves on to compete in the national bee in Washington, DC.

**1ST AND 3RD GRADE
WINTER PROGRAM
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11
6:00 AND 7:00 PM**

Come check out your child's work in the classroom before the performance! Second graders are learning all about the half note as well as measures and barlines. Fourth graders have begun playing recorder and will be studying the musical staff. Fifth graders are completing a cross-curricular project based on Modest Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition," their featured composition for the year. We will all be learning "Jingle Bell Rock" as our December Song of the Month!



www.BTFE.com

We are off to a fantastic start with Box Tops this year! We have collected over \$450 dollars in Box Tops thanks to your help. We still have our \$1000 goal so please keep clipping. I will include more information in January, but the Box Tops for Education program will provide additional bonuses on their products at the beginning of the year. Specially marked packages of box top products will be on store shelves with codes that can be entered at www.BTFE.com/BigMoney for a chance to win 10,000 instant win

prizes and a grand prize of 1 million box tops. And don't forget, we can also earn additional money with eBoxTops by signing up for special bonus opportunities at www.btfec.com. They are available everyday. Our next collection period for **Box Tops** will end **December 12th** and the classroom with the most Box Tops will earn a **Pringles Party**.

The **Labels for Education sheets** are also due on **December 12th** for this collection period. The class with the most points collected will earn a **"Twisting with Twizzlers Dance Party."** We have had a wonderful response with our labels this year. Don't forget to look for labels for education on *Campbell's soups, Swanson's broth, Pepperidge Farms goldfish, breads and cookies, and Post Cereals, Emerald Nuts, Prego, Bic, V8, Pop-Secret, and Danonino* and many more products. PLEASE make sure you include the UPC code or they cannot be accepted. Keep clipping and saving! If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 816-842-1669 or contact me at acomer@linkcity.org.

Thanks for your support!

Amy Comer



Check out our video about Briarcliff students, families, and celebrations!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRIU9JK5J-w&rel=0>

Look for coming information about screenings for Pre-K students.

Winter Class Parties Coming Soon

The Winter Class Parties will take place on Friday, December 19, 11:30 am. Please keep an eye out for communication from your child's Room Parent on ways you can help with the fun. Room Parties are not underwritten by the school or PTA, so parent help & contributions are vital!

Yearbook Pictures Needed

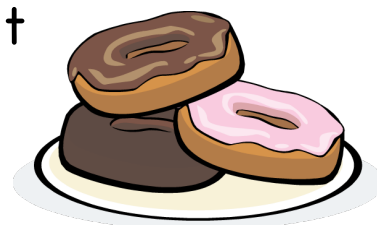
Please send pictures of school activities to Amanda Skaggs. You can bring them on a jump drive to school and Amanda will return the jump drive to you. You can also email pictures to askaggs1@kc.rr.com.





Breakfast and Books Friday, December 5th 8:15 in the Gym

ALL Families are invited to Breakfast and Books on Friday, December 5th at 8:15 in the Gym. **Families in 3rd-5th grade are asked to provide the potluck breakfast.** Some breakfast ideas include pastries, fruit, cereal, cereal and granola bars, or yogurt.



Penguin Patch Holiday Shoppe Coming Soon!

Mark your calendars and encourage your child(ren) to begin saving money to shop at our PTA-sponsored holiday gift mart. Students will have a opportunity to shop during the day to purchase small, inexpensive gifts for family members.

Monday, December 15 - Thursday, December 18

Please be looking for parent communications about opportunities to volunteer in our Penguin Patch Holiday Shoppe, as well.

**Mark Your
Calendars**

4th and 5th grade students, mark your calendars now for our Math Club. We will meet Mondays and Thursdays before school at 8:15 a.m. in the Library Media Center. Math Club is for ANY student who enjoys math or wants to enjoy math!



THANK YOU!

To all the parents, scouts and alumni who volunteered to help out during the book fair. It wouldn't have been as successful without all the amazing people who gave their time. Also, thank you to everyone who came and shopped the fair and supported our school.

Miss Allen's 2nd grade class had the most votes for books bought and will be celebrating with a popcorn party!

We sold 857 books of our 1000 goal, and raised **\$2,144** in Scholastic dollars to purchase new books for the library!



