



The Brier Bulletin

Brier Elementary School — Home of the Bobcats

It's the End of the Year!

It's June, and I can hardly believe that our school year is coming to an end. What an incredible year it has been! The year has been filled with learning, community service projects, and continuous growth. Being a part of your son/daughter's learning and growing is an incredible experience and one that I feel so fortunate to be a part of. June 19th we'll end our school year together with a celebratory assembly recognizing many different students and a fantastic year together. Please join us if you can!

I want to take this opportunity to wish our great Sixth Graders a special goodbye! Next year, you will all move onto middle school where you will continue to do terrific things. Work hard, learn a lot and make sure to come back and visit all of us. We will miss you, and we wish you the best on your new adventures and your middle school years!

If you are moving away from Brier throughout this summer, we will miss you too! Remember, once a Bobcat, always a Bobcat. Wherever you go, take your lifelong learning skills and your Brier Pride with you, and do your best!

Remember, this summer our school parking lot will be under construction! Starting soon after school is out, the 2006 Capital Construction Bond will be put to work here at school as our Parking Lot project gets underway. This project will improve the safety and traffic flow. A separate pick up/drop off area and routes for buses and automobiles will be created and designed through this work. We are looking forward to our new parking lot, a traffic flow that works best for our families, and increased safety. Be sure to watch for new signs and information regarding our project as we head back to school.

Have you had a chance to think about what the weather will be like for the annual Brier Sea Scare Parade this summer? June 5th from 11:30-12:00, we will welcome the board of directors from Brier Park, Firefighters, our Police Chief, and our Mayor to school to help predict the weather for our Brier annual summer parade. Please feel free to join us if you are available! We'd love to have you involved in the fun!

We certainly cannot end our school year without sharing a huge "Thank You" to all of our parent volunteers and our PTA. Our parent volunteers are amazing. Each and every one of you do so much for our school and our students. Your work is appreciated, your energy is unbelievable, and your care and support mean the world to us. Thank you for your continued support of our programs, our students, and the work we do! If you joined our PTA this year, thank you. Our PTA does amazing things for our students. We thank our PTA for providing us school wide assemblies, the artist in residency program, family fun nights, support with the science fair, our author visit, the book fair, and so much more! Our PTA impacts the success of our school, and we appreciate all you do. Thank you!

Brier Families, enjoy your summer! I hope for sunny days, water balloons, lemonade stands, family reunions, swimming, fishing, and sunny days full of fun for all of you! We will see you back Tuesday, September 8th for a new school year! Be on the lookout for more information in August regarding our "Meet the Teacher" event and our upcoming school year. Thank you for a wonderful year. Have a terrific summer!

June Smiles,

Tori Thomas, Principal



Polish your child's manners

Your youngster may not be Emily Post, but she can still have excellent manners! To boost her etiquette skills:

- **Remind her.** When your child forgets her manners, give her a nudge. "What do you say when you need to interrupt someone?"
- **Demonstrate good manners.** Never miss a chance to say *please* or *thank you* in front of your child.
- **Congratulate her when she behaves properly.** "You asked for that cookie so politely. Nicely done!"



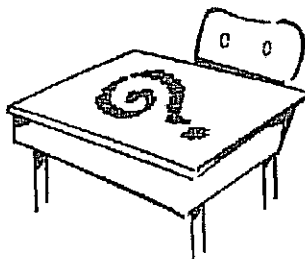
Source: Diane Sonzogni, "Can You Change Your Child? Tackling Kids' Bad Habits," *Kaboose.com*, <http://parenting.kaboose.com/behavior/issues/can-you-change-your-child-tackling-kids-bad-habits-poor-manners.html>.

Questions & Answers

Q: My fifth grader does well in school, but he always has a reason—a headache, a stomachache, etc.—for wanting to stay home. How can I make him understand that attendance matters and he can't skip class whenever he feels like it?

A: It's normal for your child to want to stay home sometimes (especially if the bus stop is cold and his blanket is toasty). But don't let him fall into the habit of thinking it's no big deal to miss school. It is a big deal! Kids can't do their best in class if they're not actually *in* class. To help your child develop good attendance habits:

- **Talk to him.** Make sure there's no particular reason—such as a bully or a tough class—why he wants to stay home. If there is a reason, you'll need to help him tackle the problem.
- **Set a good example.** Do you often call in sick to work when you're feeling fine? Your child is watching. He takes his cues about responsibility from you, so make sure you're sending the right message.
- **Get organized.** Your child shouldn't be scrambling to find his toothbrush, backpack and cereal bowl every morning. Make it easy for him to get out the door by having him organize all the things he'll need the night before. This goes for laying out school clothes, too.
- **Enforce a bedtime.** Overtired kids are especially tough to rouse in the morning. So be sure your child gets to bed at a reasonable hour every night.



Meet the ADHD challenge

Disciplining any child can be tough, but if your child has Attention



Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), the task may be extra challenging. To discipline your ADHD child effectively:

- **Set clear, consistent house rules.**
- **Maintain regular routines.** Give each day a sense of order.
- **Reward his efforts.** Focus on how hard your child tries rather than on what he accomplishes.
- **Catch your child being good.**

Source: Keith Low, "Parenting Children and Teens with ADD/ADHD," *About.com*, <http://add.about.com/od/childrenandteens/a/parentingtips.htm>.

What's your style?

Is your discipline style:

- **Authoritarian?** Do you demand obedience from your child—no matter what?
- **Permissive?** Does your child always get what she wants?
- **Authoritative?** Do you set and enforce fair rules consistently?

There's no one "right" way to approach discipline. Still, authoritative parents may have more success in the long run. To borrow from Goldilocks, *authoritarian* parenting may be too hard. *Permissive* parenting may be too soft. But *authoritative* parenting might be just right!

Source: "Parenting Styles," *KeepKidsHealthy.com*, www.KeepKidsHealthy.com/parenting_styles/discipline/parenting_styles.html.

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Guiding Students for School Success

Publisher: John H. Wherry, Ed.D.

Managing Editor: Pat Hodgdon.

Editor: Erika Beasley.

Writers: Susan O'Brien, Holly Smith.

Illustrations: Alabar & Mignella, Cherry Hill, NJ.

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P.O. Box 7474, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7474

1-800-756-5525

www.parent-institute.com • ISSN 1541-437X



News Flash

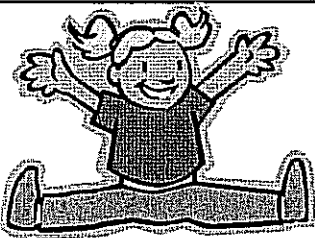


Open House & Arts Festival

We want to say a big thank you to Debbie Dunne for her help with organizing the art walk and the clay sessions with Artist Jane Meagher. We appreciate all of the hard work you put into making this a great event for our school. Thank you to the numerous volunteers that helped with hanging the student art and helping out with the Book Fair. We appreciate you!

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS! In these challenging and difficult times our volunteers are more important and valuable to us than ever before. In appreciation of the many hours of volunteer service given to the Edmonds School District, the School Board would like to honor our generous volunteers at a reception of refreshments and an opportunity for the Board to share their sincere gratitude. **June 2nd at 6:00-6:30pm** at Educational Service Center Rooms 101/102 20420 68th Ave. W. Lynnwood

Brier Pride Pledge...
**At Brier, we are Responsible,
Kind, Respectful and Safe.**
**I am ready to learn and
will encourage others
to be successful because
learning comes first!**



FIELD DAY is June 12th. Students need to bring a water bottle.

Field Day will be set up in two separate sessions. Intermediate classes will go in the morning and Primary classes will go in the afternoon. We are looking for at least 10 volunteers for each field day

session. The morning shift will be from 9am-12pm and the afternoon shift will be from 1pm-4pm. If volunteers want to stay for the entire time that would be great. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mr. Hooper at Hooperm@edmonds.wednet.edu or call

(425) 431-2115. We are also looking for donated otter-pops for one of our stations. Thank you!

ATTENTION MAY BE NEEDED! For the Fall: 6th graders will need immunizations before they can start school in the Fall.

They need to get: Tdap, varicella (or have had chicken pox).

Please contact the school with the dates. (425)431-7854

Yearbooks will be distributed on Tuesday, June 16th. If you forgot to pre-order your yearbook, we will have extra copies available to sale for \$12.00 on Wednesday, June 17th.

GOODBYE TO OUR 6TH GRADERS

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for being a Brier Bobcat. We wish you all the best as you enter the next phase in your life and enter middle school. It has been fun watching you grow up before our eyes. We will miss you and please come back to visit us.



Good luck!

Reminders:

Please remember to fill out an absence request form in advance if you know that your child will be absent for two or more days. Blank forms are available in the Office.

Important Dates



LAST DAY OF SCHOOL: JUNE 19TH—early dismissal at 12:20pm

Cantare field trip to Seattle Veteran's Hospital - Tuesday, June 9, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Graduation: June 17th at 7:00pm Gym

Release of the 2009-10 School Year Calendar Still on Hold

We appreciate and understand the desire and need for the 2009-10 full school year calendar, however, we are unable to release the calendar at this time. Traditionally we have been able to provide it by the end of April. The unprecedented funding shortfall requires us to bargain with our employee groups aspects of our negotiated agreements and contracts. The calendar is part of those conversations. Bargaining is expected to continue through sometime in June.

It is not likely we will be able to release a calendar until late June and will post it to the district website and email to Key Communicators as soon as it is available. You can view the [key dates](#) already available on our website at www.edmonds.wednet.edu/about/news/keydates.cfm

Future Dates:

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IS SEPTEMBER 8TH





JUNE



Sun.

Mon.



Tues.

Wed.

Thur.

Fri.

Sat.

	1	2 Volunteer Recognition 6:00-6:30 at ESC Rooms 101/102	3	4 Parade of States 6:30pm	5 Seascare Assembly 11:30 BTMS visit 1:30pm	6
7	8	9 Cantare Fieldtrip to Veteran's Hospital 9:30-1:00pm	10	11 Student Appreciation Celebration 3:50pm Site Advisory Council 8:10am	12 Field Day	13
14	15	16	17 6th Grade Graduation 7:00pm Gym	18 6th Grade Picnic in the Park 9:30-2:30pm	19 Last day of school School Spirit Day Report cards go home Early dismissal at 12:20pm Assesmbly 9:45am	20 Edmonds Art Festival At Francis Anderson Center
21 Edmonds Art Festival At Francis Anderson Center Father's Day First day of Summer	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 	29	30				

Enjoy your summer and we'll see you September 8th!

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL IS JUNE 19TH
(dismissal is at 12:20pm)

