

# The Briarwood Buzz

## From the principal...

December brought upon many fun activities! The Second Grade Chorus and Orff Ensemble executed a wonderful performance during their Winter Concert on December 7<sup>th</sup>! The songs, movements, and musical accompaniment were spectacular! Thank you to Mr. Serfozo for his work with the students!!



Our Briarwood Buddy monthly events have proven to be a success! Children enjoy the monthly activity of working with one specific buddy in an organized format each month! December BWD Buddies is Puzzle Day! Children will work to put the pieces together as we head into 2017!

As we enter into the second half of the year, I worked with the students and staff to review our school expectations. As the winter months are upon us, we look for opportunities to go outside. I ask the families to help support the conversations that have been occurring here at school. While in and out of the lunchroom, in the hallways, and out at recess, I ask the students to work as a team to foster an appropriate school atmosphere.

1. When our lunch and recess staff looks to gain attention, please be respectful and remain silent.
2. When moving about the school, please be quiet.
3. Please walk in the hallway.
4. If you see a friend not making the right choice, please feel free to use our non-verbal reminder (quiet symbol) or look for adult assistance. The adults are here to help.
5. When we go outside, if there are puddles or snow, please do not go near them.



The conversations you have with your children are so important as both home and school are clearly communicating the same message!

Wishing everyone a delightful winter break. During this time, please enjoy time with family and friends!

See you in 2017!

Warm regards,

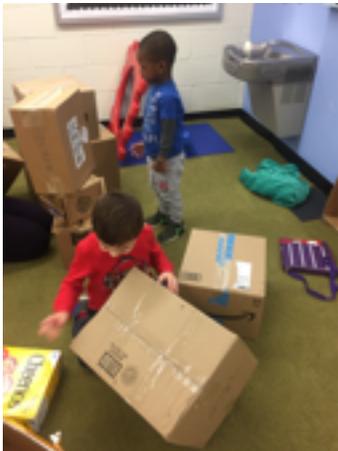
*Mrs. Glaab*

Mrs. Glaab  
Principal



## What's Happening in Preschool?

### Preschool Box Study!



For the last few weeks Preschool has been exploring boxes! As a class, we collected boxes of all different sizes, shapes, colors and uses. We collected food boxes, packaging boxes, shoeboxes, tissue boxes, crayon boxes, and many other kinds of big boxes, and small boxes!

As we studied boxes, we learned important concepts and skills in literacy, math, science, social studies, the arts, and technology. We learned how to sort boxes

into categories, like size, shape, color, and use. We lined up boxes from very big to very small, and developed spatial awareness and geometric sense while we built structures with boxes. We also used thinking skills to investigate, solve problems and make predictions. We even set up a



gift-wrapping station in our classroom, where we practiced using two hands and different materials to wrap boxes to get ready for the holidays!

We have had so much fun exploring boxes in Preschool. Up next... imaginative play using our boxes!

## Winter Concert

On Wednesday, December 7, 2016, the Briarwood Chorus and Orff Ensemble performed in concert for everyone to enjoy! The students in the music ensembles worked very hard and put on a fantastic show.

The evening began with the Orff Ensemble playing on hand bells. They played "Jingle Bells" and "Beethoven's Ninth Symphony." The Orff Ensemble was then joined by the Briarwood Chorus to sing "Play the Bells to Celebrate."

As the Orff ensemble switched to their usual instruments of xylophones, metallophones and glockenspiels, the children continued with the concert. The

next song was a real "Kodak" moment as the chorus performed "Dancing Snowflakes" and threw "snow" in the air during the performance. The concert also displayed the creativity of the chorus in the song, "Wintery, Wintery Day." The song was partially composed by the Briarwood Chorus! Also on display was the fabulous accompaniment skills of the Orff group as they performed more



songs about snow, winter, Christmas, Hanukkah and the Winter Solstice.

The evening culminated in fun version of "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" with the Orff Ensemble playing the part of Santa's reindeer. It was a fantastic ending to a fantastic

evening. We hope you enjoyed the concert and wish you a Happy Holiday season!



## Important Dates:

1/3 Back to School

1/13 Early Dismissal (12:50)  
Teacher Inservice

1/16 Schools Closed (Martin  
Luther King, Jr. Day)

1/18 Grade 1 Fun Night (6:15pm)

Wishing everyone a  
wonderful holiday  
season! See you 2017!

