



The Grizzly Gazette



Jamie Alexander, Principal

May 19, 2016

Our Mission Statement: To develop life-long learners and globally minded citizens by fostering the academic, creative, and social skills needed to achieve excellence in a multi-cultural environment."

Dear Greenbriar Families,

It's hard to believe we're at the end of our 2015-2016 school year. It's been a pleasure being part of a team that works so hard to ensure every child gets a high quality education. As we close the end of the school year, I would like to thank all of our families who offered their support in so many ways. Whether you were a part of the PTO, a classroom volunteer, one of the many who attended our school events, or simply read daily with your child, please know how much your efforts are appreciated as we work together to maximize learning. Please continue this work every day this summer! Students should read daily; it has been proven that reading is the most important thing students can do to prevent regression over the summer. Math facts should also be practiced, whether with flashcards or by using every day activities to reinforce math concepts. Students that continue learning this summer, will earn a special surprise when we return in August!

An additional word of thanks is due to our PTO, without whose financial and volunteer support we would not be the school we are. Thank you to our PTO Board: Mrs. Toumi, Mrs. Aguilar and Mrs. Schumacher for all your hard work this year. Thank you to our PTO chairs Mrs. Sexson, Mr. Hale, Mr. Conner, Mrs. Zwald, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Peck for supporting Greenbriar in many different ways. The events they sponsored drew our school family together often, and the wonderful teacher appreciation week was amazing!

The back-to-school ice cream social is tentatively scheduled for August 1st, from 4-6pm at Greenbriar to check class lists, see which friends are in your class, meet your teacher, and of course enjoy ice cream! Check the school website to confirm this date mid-summer and look for other upcoming events.

Thank you to Dr. Nikki Woodson, Dr. Milleman, Dr. Hill, Mr. Dzwonar and Mrs. Piper for coming to our Personal Best ceremony last week. It was a great way to celebrate all of the hard work our students do each and everyday at Greenbriar all year!

Have you registered to vote? Are your neighbors registered to vote? Stop by Greenbriar to pick up a voter registration form. It is important to stay up to date on upcoming changes in the district. Check out the link noted here to learn more about Future Facility Planning: <http://www.msdtw.k12.in.us/2016/01/master-facility-planning/>. Call Greenbriar if you are interested in a facility tour.

Please be certain to clear any cafeteria accounts, return library books, and pay any overdue fees to receive report cards in a timely manner. Also, if any information, such as address or phone numbers change over the summer, please notify the office, which will be open until June 16, and will reopen for the 2016-17 school year on July 13. I hope you have a restful and interesting summer. Thank you for an amazing year!

Jamie Alexander
Greenbriar Elementary Principal



Fifth Grade Celebration

May 20 9 AM

	MAY
20	FIFTH GRADE CELEBRATION, 9 AM
20	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
20	LAST DAY TO PICK UP MEDICINE
	CLAIM ITEMS IN LOST & FOUND BY 3:30 PM
25	FIRST DAY OF SUMMER SCHOOL, 8AM-1PM
	LOOKING AHEAD
	JUNE
10	LAST DAY FOR SUMMER SCHOOL
	JULY
28	KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE 5:30-7 PM
	AUGUST
1	ICE CREAM SOCIAL, 4-6 PM
3	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, 8:15 AM
	EVENTOS DEL FUTURO
	MAYO
20	CELEBRACION DEL GR 5, 9 AM
20	ULTIMO DIA DE ESCUELA!
20	RECOGER MEDICINAS DE LA CLINICA
20	ARTICULOS PERDIDOS, ÚLTIMO DIA PARA RECOGER ANTES DE LAS 3:30PM
25	PRIMER DIA DE ESCUELA DE VERANO8-1PM
	MIRANDO HACIA EL FUTURO
	JUNIO
10	ÚLTIMO DIA DE ESCUELA DE VERANO
	JULIO
28	SOLAMENTE EL KINDERGARTEN CASA ABIERTO 5:30-7 PM
	AGOSTO
1	DIA FAMILIAR CON HELADO, 4-6 PM
3	PRIMER DIA DE ESCUELA, 8:15 AM



Music Notes

Mrs. Perry

What will you do that includes Music this summer? Check out the free concerts throughout the city! There's a lot going on at Conner Prairie, on the 'Circle,' the Indianapolis Children's Choir, and much more! Check out this website for more information.

<http://www.aroundindy.com/music.php>

Looking ahead to next year as the 5th graders will be the participating in the bi-annual Choral Festival. It will be held on April 4, 2017, at North Central High School.

All 4th graders that were in hand bells this year will advance onto 5th grade "Ringers" hand bell Choir. More information will come home at the beginning of the school year.

Have a wonderful 'musical' summer!

Greenbriar's Giving Garden

We would like to say a special thank you to the first grade teachers, students, Dawn Berger, and Mr. John Hunter for helping with Greenbriar's Giving Garden. As part of the first grade IB learning profile, the students learned how to grow plants from seeds as well as farm to table.



The students directly sowed carrots and beet seeds into the garden in March. They also grew tomato plants, green peppers, and lima beans in the classroom which were planted in the giving garden on May 16. Mr. Hunter built an additional raised bed that will be used for strawberries.

The produce harvested from the garden will be donated to a local food pantry.

For any information regarding Greenbriar's Giving Garden, please contact Dawn Berger at (317)757-5747 or email dawnickie@yahoo.com.

GNO A Fun Event For Everyone!

Students meeting criteria for the Girls & Guys Night Out Event had a great time! Boys and girls truly enjoyed snacks, open gym, crafts and a movie.

Thank you to Mr. Blythe, Mrs. Alexander, and the rest of the staff for supporting and encouraging our students to do their very best.

Watch for more activities like this next year!

We Appreciate First Books Partnership M.S.D. Washington Township is excited to have partnered district-wide with Vincennes University and First Books for the second straight year. As a result of this partnership, every kindergarten student in our district received a collection of 3 to 5 books to take home. These books were donated and will help support the ongoing development of our students as proficient readers. Having books at home for summer will support our kindergarteners as well as their family members having access to books to ensure daily reading practice.

First Books provides access to new books for children. To date, they have distributed more than 125 million books and educational resources to programs and schools serving children from low-income families throughout the United States and Canada. First Books is transforming the lives of children in need and elevating the quality of education by making new, high-quality books available on an ongoing basis. They continue to celebrate their success and are excited about the future.

Books were delivered to the district during the month of May. Each school had their own date and time to distribute the books to kindergarten students. Thank you First Books and Vincennes University for supporting our students and our community in their development of readers.

Lease Updates Due Now!

The 2015-16 school year is coming to a close. Expired lease notices were sent home over the last several weeks. If you did not receive a notice and your lease is expired or you have changed residences you must contact Greenbriar immediately with an update. Please do not ignore as Greenbriar students must have valid residency information on file.



Families must bring a copy of their current lease showing the expiration date and the page with management signature and a utility bill no later than May 20. Students with expired leases will be withdrawn after this date!

Students will not be assigned a classroom placement until expired leases are updated. As administration plans for the 2016-17 school year, all residency issues must be in place. If you are moving outside of the Greenbriar district please contact the office as soon as possible so we may forward student records.

In addition, all contact/phone numbers must be up to date. In the event of an emergency, office and clinic personnel must be able to contact parents or guardians as soon as possible. If any contact numbers have changed or will change over the summer please update this information on the website or inform the school of any changes before the start of school August 3. Questions or concerns? Call the office, 259-5445.



ART NEWS

Ms. Parkison

Dream! Imagine! Create! As the school year comes to an end, what will YOU will do to stay creative this summer break? Check out a few of these fun summer art programs:

1. **Indianapolis Arts Center**, located in Broad Ripple, offers art classes for kids AND adults. <http://indplsartcenter.org/artclasses/camps/>

2. **Herron School of Art and Design**, located on IUPUI's campus, offers art classes for all ages. <http://www.herron.iupui.edu/community-learning/youth-art-camp>

3. **YMCA**, with multiple locations, offers a variety of amazing summer programs to stimulate your creativity. <http://www.indymca.org/classes-programs/camps/>

4. **Indy Art Lab**, located in Carmel, offers classes and parties for all ages. <http://www.artlabindy.com/classes/>



5. **Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA)**, located at 38th & Michigan Rd., offers art camps and fun events for the whole family all summer long. Mrs. Parkison also teaches art camp at the IMA in the summers! <http://www.imamuseum.org/class/summercamp>

Mark your calendar for 2 a FREE IMA DAY:

Don't miss this free admission day this summer! Summer Solstice: Saturday, June 18.

Your brain is a muscle. Keep it strong! You can also stay creative in your own backyard. Have fun, stay safe, and exercise that noggin'. I'll look forward to seeing you in the fall and hearing about your summer adventures! -Mrs. Parkison, Greenbriar's Art Teacher

News from the clinic:

May 20 Last Day for Medication Pick Up

Attention to all parents who have children with medication in the clinic! All medication must be picked up on or before May 20, which is the last day of school. Medication not picked up by this date will be discarded.

If your child is returning to Greenbriar next year, please be proactive in filling out and turning in all appropriate paperwork so your child receives the medication and special care they need.

Remember: All asthma, allergy, seizure and diabetic students must have a Medical Plan Of Care on file in the clinic. It is parent responsibility to arrange an appointment to fill out all appropriate forms. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Angela Stephens, LPN



PTO HAPPENINGS



The PTO would like to thank all the volunteers who came donated time, food, or both for Staff Appreciation Week. Because of your contributions, we were able to spoil the teachers and staff last week, which they deserve! While our staff is the best, our volunteers are pretty special, too! Thank you!

Our last PTO Meeting was May 12. We had our 2nd ever G.R.O.W.case, featuring Art Camp, Cheer class, and Zumba class. This has turned out to be a very special addition to our meetings. If you have not taken advantage of our afterschool enrichment classes, we encourage you to try them next school year. We offer a variety of fun, inexpensive recreational and educational options each Fall & Spring for our students. Please seriously consider how you will be able to help out next school year. We cannot do it without the support of our parents and teachers. We need YOU!

We are still seeking officers for the 2016-2017 School Year, as well as filling Event Chair positions. Please consider joining the PTO Board or chairing an event. Open positions are: President, Vice President

Event Chairs needed for next school year are:

- Treasurer (filled: Beth Schumacher)
- Secretary (filled: Adrienne Peck)
- Back to School Staff Breakfast (filled: Anne Wilson)
- Kindergarten Block Party (filled: Tracy Toumi)
- Ice Cream Social
- Spirit Wear
- Mini Fundraisers
- Fall Fundraiser
- Box Tops Coordinator
- Book Fair (filled: Heidi Sexson)
- G.R.O.W. Coordinator
- Spring Fundraiser
- Spring Fling
- Staff Appreciation Week (filled: Tracy Toumi)
- 5th Grade Celebration

Upcoming Events:

5/20: 5th Grade Celebration, 9 am

On a personal note, it has been my pleasure to serve as your PTO President 2014-2016. I look forward to volunteering alongside you at next year's Greenbriar events.

Volunteers: Please visit our page at www.signupgenius.com to enter your email address to be notified of volunteer opportunities. Or, you can contact us to learn more about our volunteer opportunities. You can also LIKE us on Facebook @ Greenbriar Elementary School PTO page.

Tracy Toumi, President

GreenbriarPTO@gmail.com

Words of Wisdom

"The little unremembered acts of kindness and love are the best parts of a person's life."

~ William Wordsworth





IB @ GB!

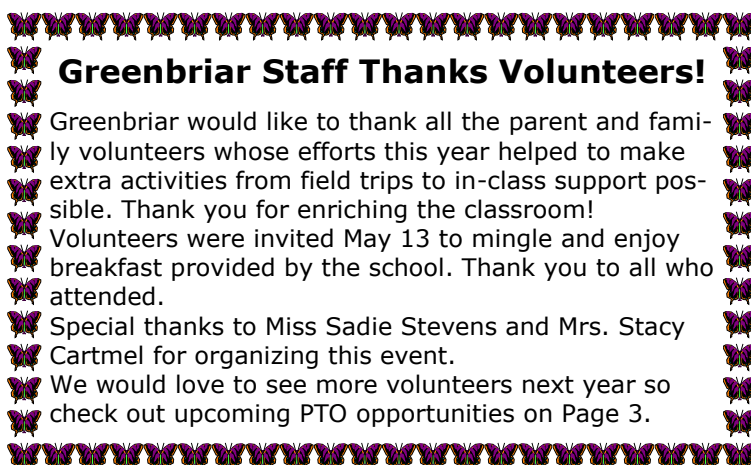
Summer is coming! And that means another summer of the Indianapolis Public Library and their fabulous summer reading program to keep kids engaged and active. The program runs from June 6-July 30, and EVERYONE can participate! This year, the IMCPL is celebrating Indiana's 200th birthday with Garfield, the comic strip cat. You can earn points for every book you read, and then exchange points for FREE prizes.

Prizes include: Pool passes, milkshakes, Play Kits, and more! This program is for preschoolers, school-aged children, teens, and even PARENTS (Adults earn points for reading out loud to children). Make sure you visit Garfield at the library this summer. Our closest location is the NORA branch at 86th Street and Guilford, just east of College Ave. on the north side.

Your child should have brought home a flyer detailing this awesome program!

Also, don't miss the many **FREE** events (movies, art classes, animal shows) that the NORA BRANCH has planned for the summer. Visit the branch for a complete list of titles and activities which include: *Minions*, *Goosebumps*, gardening, pottery, and comic strip workshop, art classes, and more.

Jessica O'Neill Casas
IB PYP Coordinator/Media Specialist



Greenbriar Staff Thanks Volunteers!

Greenbriar would like to thank all the parent and family volunteers whose efforts this year helped to make extra activities from field trips to in-class support possible. Thank you for enriching the classroom! Volunteers were invited May 13 to mingle and enjoy breakfast provided by the school. Thank you to all who attended. Special thanks to Miss Sadie Stevens and Mrs. Stacy Cartmel for organizing this event. We would love to see more volunteers next year so check out upcoming PTO opportunities on Page 3.

Gr. 5 Track Team Excels At Meet!

Mr. Joe May and the Track Team competed in the district 5th Grade Track Meet at North Central High School May 13. Congratulations to the team members chosen to represent Greenbriar! Thank you to Mr. May for his leadership!

Track Team 2016

Boys: Jonas Burris-Bunch, Devin Butler, Evan Hamiter, Bryson Hobbs, Terrell Thomas, Tyriq Slutsky, Hubert Williams, Charlie Ordaz, Cameron Travis, Garrett Jones, Kareem Fowler, Jesse Miller, Quindarus Paige, Kiandre Perkins, Guy Williams, Carlos Granados
Girls: Sunni Dickerson, Amara Berger, Julissa Deralus, Eliza Halper Grace Kelly, Madyson King, Katherine Sanchez, Vanessa Perez, Alani Miolan, Amari Ivy, Alyson Downard, Anaica Mares, Jade Carlson, Kirstan Peterson, Diana Aquilar, Antionette Frazier
Managers were Dariana Perez and Jasmine Bonilla.

Spotlight on New Staff Stars

Mrs. Brande Lewis ~ Behaviorist

My name is Brande Lewis and I am new to Greenbriar just in the past 3 months as a Behaviorist. Mr. Reggie Johnson is awesome to work with and has been showing me the ropes. What a busy job but I appreciate the warm smiles and help I have received from Greenbriar Staff. I look forward to playing a big part in helping students become life-long learners. I attended Purdue University and was born and raised right here in Indianapolis! My hobby is all things Stephen and learning about my son keeps me busy!
My favorite book is *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats
My favorite movies are action ones! TMNT or any *Avenger* movie
I don't have a favorite song but I love music, anything with a good beat and meaningful words!
My favorite sport is football. Go Colts!
My favorite food is Italian and Soul Food!
I would love to vacation on the Virgin Islands!
If I wasn't in education, I'd be a social worker or child advocate.
If I could have dinner with anyone it would be my great aunt. I would love to show her pictures of her great great nephew and have just a simple conversation! Miss her dearly!
And one thing that the Greenbriar staff doesn't know about me is that I am the first in my family to graduate with a college degree!



Mr. Reginald Johnson ~ Behaviorist

I am one of two Behaviorists at Greenbriar working with students to help them emotionally, academically, socially and personally within the school. I received my bachelors from Marian University (Marian College) and my Master's from IUPUI in education. I was born in Indianapolis, but raised in Birmingham, AL. My hobby is life. I love people and being a positive force.
My favorite book is *Malcolm X*.
My favorite movies are *When Harry Met Sally* and *Cornbread, Earl and Me*.
My favorite song is Prince's "*When 2R N Love*"
My favorite sport is football. Basketball is close second.
My favorite food is whatever is being served. Remember, I was raised in the south.
If I wasn't an educator I'd be a professional sports coach or scout.
If I could have dinner with anyone it would be Medgar Evers. He is the forgotten leader of the civil rights movement. I would love to hear his view on the movement back in the day and his opinion of where we as a people have gone wrong or right.
Something staff may not know is it that I was instrumental in forming the first Black Student Union at Saint Joseph's College.