

# Briggs At Large

The Voice of the John R. Briggs Elementary School  
"Educating for Success, Now and in the Future"

June 11, 2009  
Volume 27, Issue 18

John R. Briggs Elementary: 978-827-5750

## JUNE

- 10 Overlook MS  
Gr. 5 Parent Night
- 15 Field Day, Gr. 3-5
- 16 Field Day, K-2
- 18 & 22 Rain Dates  
For Field Day
- 24 Last Day of Class  
Early Release, 12:00

### Lunch Menu Change

- June 16<sup>th</sup>:  
Cheeseburger
- June 23<sup>rd</sup>:  
Tuna Sub

### Nurse's Corner

Marcia Sharkey, RN—  
AWRSD Nurse Leader

There have been many updates regarding the H1N1 (swine) Flu these past several weeks. I do post some of them on our AWRSD website and I am just reminding all of you to please check that periodically.

The school nurses need to track illnesses more importantly now and we ask that when you call your child in sick that you please inform us as to the reason why. There have been confirmed cases in neighboring cities/towns and with your help we will not be affected here in this school district.

If you have any questions/concerns, please do not hesitate to call/email me.

Marcia Sharkey, RN  
Nurse Leader  
(978)874-0163

[msharkey@awrsd.org](mailto:msharkey@awrsd.org)

## Last Issue of B.A.L. 08-09

### Dear John R. Briggs Community,

I am writing this note with much reluctance because I will be leaving the Briggs School at the end of this month. I have accepted the principal position at the Major Edwards School in West Boylston. I know it is the right decision for me professionally but personally it was a very difficult decision to make.

The last thirteen years at the Briggs School have been the most fulfilling as an educator. I enjoyed my years as a second grade teacher and then assistant principal. The Briggs' parents have always wanted what's best for all the students. They worked hard on establishing positive relationships with the school community. The endless support of the Briggs PTA has allowed the staff to continue to provide a high quality education and we are very fortunate to have an active group of parents.

I truly appreciate all the support and friendship that you have shown me over the years. Without these experiences, I would have never had the confidence to lead a new school.

Good luck in the future and thanks for the memories!

**Andrea McGrath**  
Assistant Principal

### Field Day 2009

Get ready, because here it comes, Field Day 2009. This year, Field Day is scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup> for grades 3-5 and June 16<sup>th</sup> for grades K-2. Grades 3-5 will start Field Day at 9:00 and end at 11:30. Grades K-2 will start Field Day at 12:30 and end at 2:30. On your child's Field Day they should come to school with a few items such as proper footwear (NO FLIP FLOPS), a water bottle, a small towel (YES THERE WILL BE WATER), and most importantly a smile.

Now if it decides to rain on either of the Field Days the rain dates are June 18<sup>th</sup> and if need be the 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>. If it rains on June 15<sup>th</sup> grades 3-5 will have Field Day on the 18<sup>th</sup> and K-2 Field Day will still take place on the 16<sup>th</sup>. But let's all hope for sunny days so we don't have to think about rain dates. I am really looking forward to Field Day and I hope you are too. Thanks to all the people that have offered to volunteer because without volunteers Field Day would not be able to take place. If you would still like to volunteer I still need a few more people for the 15<sup>th</sup>. You can contact me at [tberg@awrsd.org](mailto:tberg@awrsd.org) if you are interested.

### News from the B.E.S.T. Program

With spring vacation and MCAS math testing behind us it's time to look forward to the long awaited summer break! This time of year is always full of many activities for our students to include field trips, various projects to complete, end of year assessments, as well as preparation for Summer School. Needless to say, we often wonder how we will get everything done but we always manage somehow.

This year's BEST Summer Program will run from July 7 through July 30. It will be in session four days a week, Monday through Thursday, with students attending from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. During this time we will be focusing on individual remedial academics as well as social skills. In addition, we will include various art and science projects for the students to complete. Of course there will be time each day for a leisurely lunch, often picnic style weather permitting, and recess.

The BEST staff wishes each and everyone of you an enjoyable and productive summer season. May each of you have time to spend with family and friends enjoying the season's warm weather activities.

## Make Health Care Coverage Work For You!

Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
Colonial Hotel

- \* Free health screenings
- \* Learn healthy lifestyle choices
- \* Ask about the best health plan for you
- \* Learn how to best utilize and maintain your health care coverage

RSVP: 978-343-5600  
X312

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual ORHS Booster Club Golf Tournament

Mon., June 29<sup>th</sup>  
Westminster Country  
Club  
Support Our Student  
Athletes  
Heather Billings, 874-5900



## Briggs' Running Club

Are you joining the JRB running club with Mr. Berg? The Running Club will meet Wednesday and Friday mornings from 7:45 am – 8:15 am, starting May 8th, for students in grades 3 – 5.

Students should be dressed appropriately; sweatshirts, and sweatpants on cool mornings. Sneakers are a must.

The Running Club will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade field at 7:45 am for check-in. Parents are welcome to volunteer and get in a little physical activity to start their day, too.



## MUSIC News

**BAND, JAZZ BAND, and CHORUS – thank you for a fabulous year!**

If you (or your students) are interested in joining the Spartan Summer Band, please remember to turn in your registration forms to the office as soon as possible! Please have your forms in by **June 19<sup>th</sup>**. We can't wait to see you all, and have a great rest of your year!

## From the Library:

All library books are due back on **Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>**. Please help your children locate any missing library materials and return them as soon as possible.

Please also encourage your children to do some reading everyday during the summer. It helps them so much to become better readers! Stevens Memorial Library in the center of Ashburnham is also open all summer and plans on having a summer reading program there for all children. Hope you can participate!



## Structure Museum

The scientists in 5R, 5H, and 5T recently hosted a Structure Museum. The children displayed and explained castle sketches, home renderings, cityscape pop-ups, index card bridges, straw structures, and recyclable structures. The children spoke to their visitors about compression, tension, symmetry, and geometric figures. Thank you to our special visitors, which included 3B, 3C, 3G, 3M, and KP among others. A special thank you for our greeters: Bethany, Derek, and Luis. **"Science rules!"**



# Oz!

Although the days of "Oz!" are behind us, the children's experiences of our production will, hopefully, last forever. We hope all children and parents are happy with the way the show turned out. Although not perfect, we believe that "Oz!" was a great reflection of the hard work and dedication of so many people, children and adults alike. Thank you to all of those that participated.

In closing, here are a few final details that remain unfinished:

- **DVDs** – Many people have been asking when the DVDs of the show that were ordered will be available. The editing and manufacturing of the DVDs is still ongoing, so we should be seeing them within the next several weeks.
- **DVD Ordering:** Others have been asking if the DVDs can still be ordered. The answer is YES!! It's not too late. The price of a DVD is \$15. Send us a note and a check/cash, and we'll add you to the order list.

- **Props:** If you loaned us anything for use in the shows, and still haven't had it returned, please let us know. You could also drop into the music room and take a look to see if you can find your missing items.

- **Lost & Found:** There were quite a few articles of clothing left at rehearsals & shows. If your cast member is missing something, have your child come to the music room to look for it. Eventually, all collected items will end up in "Lost and Found" in the school's front lobby.

**The End...** If we still owe you anything, or you're missing something we promised you, please let us know:  
kseager@awrsd.org

## BRIGGS FAMILY FESTIVAL

Sat., Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>

Planning meeting:  
July 16, 2009  
12:30 p.m.  
JRB Library  
Bring ideas....and  
ENTHUSIASM!

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## **12<sup>th</sup> Annual ORHS Booster Club Golf Tournament Mon., June 29<sup>th</sup> Westminster Country Club Support Our Student Athletes Heather Billings, 874-5900 Briggs' Running Club**

Are you joining the JRB running club with Mr. Berg? The Running Club will meet Wednesday and Friday mornings from 7:45 am – 8:15 am, starting May 8th, for students in grades 3 – 5. Students should be dressed appropriately; sweatshirts, and sweatpants on cool mornings. Sneakers are a must.

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