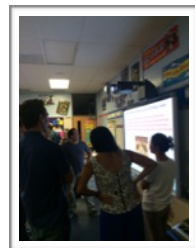




## Back-to-School Night Was a Success!



Thank you for spending your evening with us last week to learn about your children’s teachers and classes and to stay up-to-date on the happenings at Brookside! Seeing a packed house at the welcome meeting in the MPR showed me that parents are truly invested in being members of the Brookside team in educating our children. I am proud to be a member of this community and look forward to so many events that are yet to come!



Sincerely,

*Sara Ahl, Principal*



## Gift Wrap Sale

The Brookside PTA’s Annual Gift Wrap sale begins on Monday, September 15! Please look for catalogs coming home in your student’s backpack! You may order online or orders can be turned into your child’s teacher or in the office workroom. Purchases will be delivered in early November - just in time for holiday gift giving. Students can earn prizes for their sales only for orders that are turned in by the flagpole, BEFORE SCHOOL , beginning at 7:45am, on Monday, 9/22, Wednesday, 9/24 and Friday, 9/25 (while supplies last). Also, a gift basket will be raffled off containing \$150 worth of Charleston Gift Wrap items in October. Any student that sells at least 5 items from either catalog will be automatically entered in the raffle. Thank you for your support.

## Law Enforcement at Brookside

Many of you have noticed the sheriff here at Brookside on occasion during drop-off time and have naturally wondered if there is cause for concern. Please do not be alarmed. The local deputy has simply expressed an interest in having a regular presence at all Oak Park Schools, and will occasionally park in our parking lot when he is not needed elsewhere. We appreciate the support and feel that his presence is valuable. Just as our new security cameras serve as a deterrent, the presence of law enforcement is another component of the comprehensive efforts in place to maintain safe schools throughout Oak Park. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Ahl.

## Design Directory Cover Contest

Calling all Brookside Tigers who love to draw. Show off your talent and design the cover of the 2014-2015 BROOKSIDE PTA DIRECTORY. Student submissions must be original artwork designed on 8 1/2 x 11 white paper. Use colored markers or colored pencils only. Drop off entries in the office workroom. Please make sure student name and grade are written legibly on the BACK of the drawing. **ENTRIES ARE DUE September 19th.** If you have any questions, please contact Michele Abdulaziz at [michii@allaboutjoey.com](mailto:michii@allaboutjoey.com).



## Enter The Reflections Art Contest

Show your child's creative side by entering the PTA Reflections arts contest. This year's theme is "The world would be a better place if...".

The world would be a better place if...what? Explore this question through the arts! Choreograph a dance, produce a film, write a poem or story, compose a song, take a picture or create a piece of visual art and tell us your interpretation of the theme: "The world would be a better place if...".



Reflections is a National PTA program designed to enhance the quality of arts education for students in Pre-K through grade 12. As participants in the program, students are encouraged to create and submit works in the following art categories: photography, visual arts, literature, dance, musical composition or film production.

**Entry deadline is October 13th and 14th . Students can enter up to 4 submissions for each category.**

### HOW TO ENTER

1 Read the guidelines and information for each category at:

<http://www.oakparkusd.org/Page/7731>

2. Download an entry form for EACH submission

3. Turn in the child's art work and forms on Oct. 13-14th from 8am - 8:45 in front the school.

Make sure you follow all of the guidelines and rules and complete an entry form for each work of art that you submit! If you have questions please email Heather at [maxhipcat@gmail.com](mailto:maxhipcat@gmail.com).

For those who have not volunteered to help with the Reflections art program, we still need help!. Please sign up at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b054ca5aa2da75-brookside1>



## COLLECT BOX TOPS!

Please check your everyday purchases to see if they are items with a “Box Top.” Box tops are pink and look like the logo to the right. Every Box Top collected earns money for Brookside. The Brookside PTA collects Box Tops all year (until the last day of school), but we make submissions November 1st and March 1st, annually. So, keep collecting and if you can turn your Box Tops in to your child’s teacher (or office workroom) before those two dates— even better! For more info, please contact Gale Saul at [gale.saul@gmail.com](mailto:gale.saul@gmail.com).

## PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN RESERVED PARKING

Please pay attention when you are parking in the Brookside parking lot not to park in the space designated for our PTA auction winner. The reserved parking space is in the front row near the office and a sign is posted on the chain link gate above indicating that the spot is reserved. This space is reserved 24/7— including nights and weekends— and especially important during PTA events. Thank you!

## It’s Not Too Late To Join The PTA!

The easiest way to become involved in your child's education is to have a voice. The Brookside PTA gives you that voice. It allows you to be a part of decisions affecting over 40 programs currently being funded by the PTA. Membership is \$10. Membership envelopes were included in your first day packets, and if you already joined we thank you! If you did not get a chance to join please go here, <http://www.oakparkusd.org/Page/7095> , to download the form.

## Great news: Fresh and Easy has joined eScrip!



Support Brookside with the Fresh and Easy Shop for Schools program! Register your Fresh and Easy Friends Reward card at [www.escrip.com/freshandeasy](http://www.escrip.com/freshandeasy) Don’t have a card? Pick up a Friends Reward card at any Fresh and Easy location. Then go to [www.escrip.com/freshandeasy](http://www.escrip.com/freshandeasy) to register your new card.

## The Brookside Spirit Wear Webstore is Closing September 16th! Get Yours Ordered Soon!

Brookside's spirit wear store is completely on-line this year! We have a wide variety of attire and styles for both kids and adults. To order, please go to [zimzang.com/brookside](http://zimzang.com/brookside). The Brookside spirit wear webstore will be open until September 16, 2014. Place your order before the 16th and then your spirit wear will be delivered at school to your child's classroom approximately two weeks after the close of the webstore.

## DK/K LEAD IN THE “JUST FOR THE KIDS” GIVING CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CONTEST

This year, we are looking to break a new school record by achieving 100% participation in the JFTK Giving Campaign. Every grade that has 100% participation will receive a party. Currently— DK & K are in the lead with 50% grade level participation! C'mon all you other grades— catch up! **ANY** monetary amount (even \$1) counts towards participation. We want all grade levels to be able to celebrate the fact that every single family at Brookside came together and acted for one common purpose- improving the educational program of our children. Forms are still available on the Brookside website at <http://www.oakparkusd.org/page/857>. Please act now and turn in your donation, along with the form, into your child's teacher or the office workroom by October 15, 2014. As always, thank you for your support.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Coming Soon

District Calendar Parent Information Session (Morning) - September 22 @ Brookside

District Calendar Parent Information Session (Evening) - September 30 @ Red Oak

General Association PTA Meeting - September 24 @ 8:30am

No School - September 25

School Picture Day - September 29

Walk to School Wednesday - October 8

Movie Night - October 25