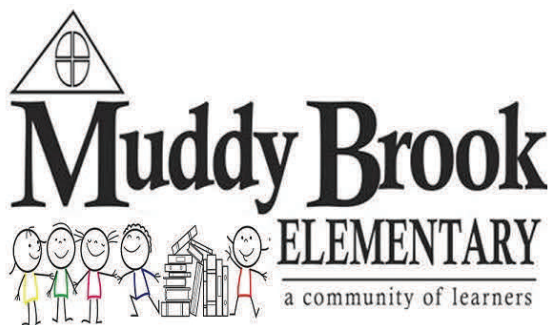




Dear Families,

Today we created a *Muddy Brook Kindness Surge* with every student and staff member in the building noting acts of kindness from the last few days and thinking about kindnesses we can bestow on others over the break. During our All School assembly, we created a bulletin board with a contribution from every one of us. Fourth graders led reflections on taking care of ourselves and each other with younger students listening to every word.

Many students can share stories, five years later, about kindnesses and/or injustices from their earliest experiences together at school or in community activities. Each of us has a personal story and narrative that we add to over time. While we are all working hard to be kind, be responsible and work hard every day there is also room for making mistakes, learning from them, and forgiving each other. We have opportunities to make our own stories positive.

We have many events to look forward to in the upcoming weeks. Here are some highlights:

Things to Know About

April 20	Third graders who are able to meet Denny Alsop in Boston at the end of his canoe trip
April 25	Family Feedback Form for Class Placement goes out
May 12	Author Visit – Jim Arnosky every grade will participate
May 13	Half Day—No Lunches Served; Dismissal 12noon
May 16—20	Scholastic Book Fair
June 10	Volunteer Luncheon 11 – 1 in the Community Room

CONCERTS

May 25	PK, EK, K, 1 Spring Concert at 1:30
June 3	Grade 2 Concert – 2 p.m.
June 10	Grade 3 and 4 Concert 1 – 2:30

FIELD TRIPS

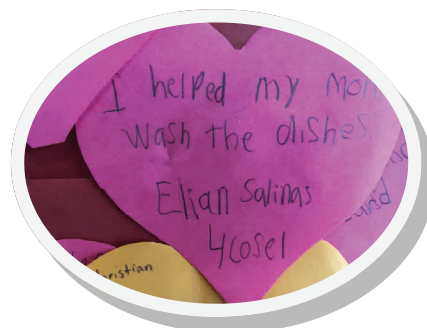
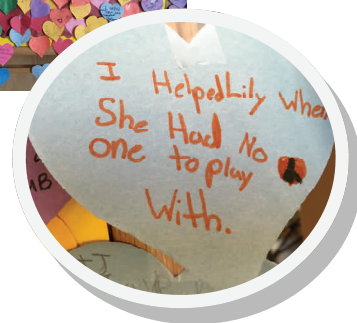
April 27	Grade 3 and 4 Field Trip to the Mahaiwe
May 4	SPECIAL OLYMPICS and Grade 1 field trip to Hancock Shaker Village
May 6	Grade 4 field trip to CT Science Center – full day
May 27	Berkshire Theater Festival Fourth Grade performance for parents
June 1	Grade 3 field trip to Ashley House
June 2	Grade 1 field trip to Berkshire Botanical Gardens (Mr. Chamberlin and Ms. Silk classes)
June 3	Grade 1 field trip to Berkshire Botanical Garden (Mr. Kennedy and Mrs. Groeber classes)
June 3	Grade 3 Field Trip to Ashley House

ASSESSMENTS

April 26	Beginning of PARCC testing for grade 4
April 29	PTA Grade 3 and 4 potluck and family dance
May 3	Beginning of PARCC testing for grade 3
May 10 - 11	Kindergarten Screening in the community room Call Christine Kelly for an appointment

Best wishes for a wonderful break,

Mary Berle, Principal



MUDDY BROOK WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 18-22 - VACATION

MONDAY, APRIL 25

8:00-8:30 a.m.	Chess Club
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Magic Club

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

8:00-8:30 a.m.	Unicycling
9:00-11:00 a.m.	Grade 4 ELA PARCC

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

8:00-8:30 a.m.	Chess Club
8:30-9:40 a.m.	Wednesday Walkers with PTA
9:00-11:30 a.m.	Grades 3 & 4 Field Trip to Mahaiwe Performing Arts

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

8:00-8:30 a.m.	Ukulele Club
9:00-11:00 a.m.	Grade 4 ELA PARCC

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

8:00-8:45 a.m.	Select Chorus Rehearsal
8:00-8:30 a.m.	Unicycling
8:00-8:40 a.m.	YOLK Project
9:00-11:00	Grade 4 ELA PARCC
6:00-7:30 p.m.	Grades 3 & 4 PTA Potluck w/Family Dance Night



CHESS CLUB NEWS

Chess Club Parents:

Do you want The Chess Club to exist in the future? Come to the PTA meeting next Monday at 3:45pm and share your ideas for how we might best continue the chess club next year. If you can't make it to the meeting, write to the PTA and share your thoughts. The Chess Club is run by parents, not by Muddy Brook employees. It will not happen without parental input.

I have been supervising the Chess Tournament for the last two months, and it has been a beautiful thing to watch. Children from kindergarten to fourth grade playing each other, showing respect for each other, each with his/her own intellectual style, each with his/her unique personality and way of thinking. Every time I see a child play, I am reminded there is no one way to win at chess, and I am reminded to cherish the unique personality of each child.

One final note: We do not have enough chess boards at chess club at the moment. Hopefully we will be able to order more, but in the meantime I would appreciate it if someone would be willing to lend the Chess Club a few more boards to use in the morning. It would be greatly appreciated. I am happy to say there are more students wanting to play chess now than the number of chess boards we currently have.

Gene Kalish

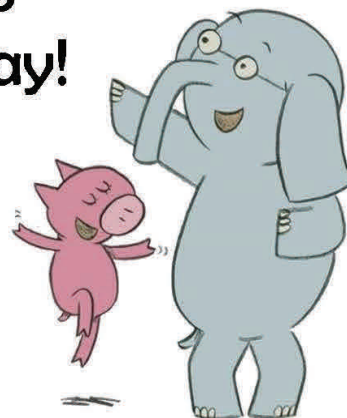
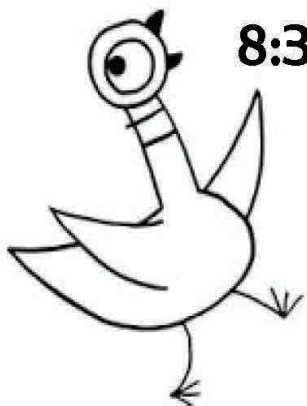


BUY ONE GET ONE FREE Scholastic Book Fair

Is coming to the MBE library soon...

May 16-20, 2016

8:30-4pm each day!



This fair is a PTA sponsored volunteer effort to reward our MBE families with double their money for books, and get a head start on summer reading!
5% of the proceeds go towards library book rewards from Scholastic.

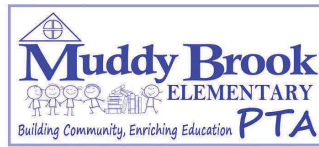
Students will be able to shop at the fair during their regular library visits.
Students who are not shopping will be engaged in reading activities.

If you wish, you may send your classroom teacher a sealed envelope marked with your child's name and 'book fair', with shopping money in it, for your child's use when he or she visits.

Parents and community members may shop at the fair. This is a great opportunity to purchase books for special events and summer reading!

*******VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITES ALL WEEK*******

Please contact patty.melville@bhrs.org to lend us a very needed hand!



***“Mark your calendar, plan in advance—
It’s time for the Muddy Brook Family Dance!”***

**Friday, April 29th
6pm-7pm in the gym
Free! (But donations gladly accepted.)**

Enjoy an evening of traditional American dances and songs. Come as you are—no need to dress up or know the steps. We’ll teach you everything you need to know!



Live music ♦ Group dancing ♦ Fun for all ages

3rd- and 4th-grade families are encouraged to join us before the dance for a potluck dinner in the cafeteria from 5-6pm!

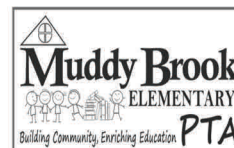
This dance made possible through a generous grant from the Country Dance & Song Society.



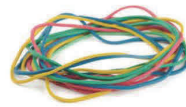


Community Partners

- *Audubon*
- *Berkshire Botanical Garden*
- *Berkshire Co-op Market*
- *Flying Cloud*
- *Flying Deer*
- *Greenagers*
- *MMRHS PATHways*
- *MMRHS People in their Environment*
- *The Scoop*
- *Trustees of Reservation*



Donations Needed for Mud Day



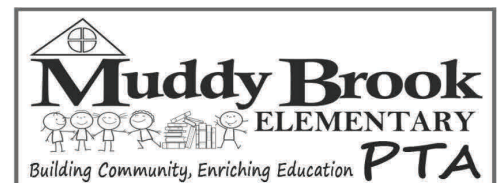
Camping
Backpacks

Tents with
working
poles

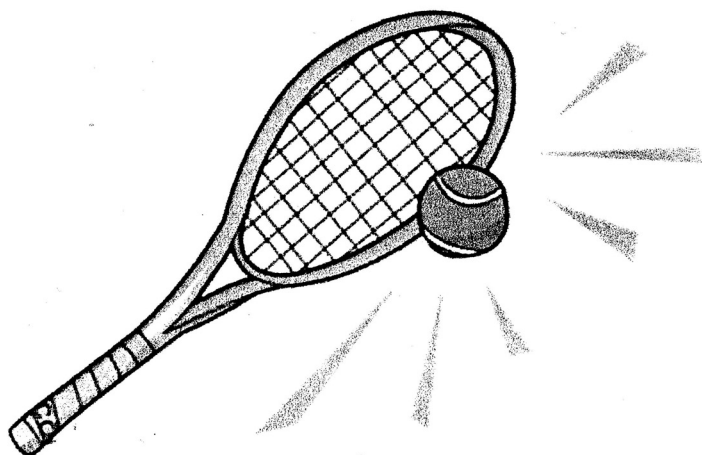
Tarps

Rubber
bands

If you would like to donate any of these items, please contact Randi Craft at randicraft1711@gmail.com



INDOOR JUNIOR TENNIS



After-school junior programs for the spring are starting now. Both intro-to-tennis and advanced classes available.

Focus on fun and fundamentals!

World-class instruction right here in Great Barrington.

6 week classes are only \$149!!!
Call 413-717-8724

Or

Email gbtenniscenter@gmail.com

STORY WALK at the
BERKSHIRE BOTANICAL GARDEN
Wednesday April 20th
10am – 11am

.....
Clap Your Hands



Lorinda Bryan Cauley

.....

10-10:30 Follow the Story walk outside, *rain or shine*
10:30 – 11:00 Ed Center opens for activity

5 West Stockbridge Road Stockbridge, MA 01262
Phone: 413.298.3926



BERKSHIRE BOTANICAL GARDEN



Community Health Programs

Improving the health of Berkshire County residents



PARENT-CHILD HOME PROGRAM

A PROVEN BEGINNING FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS SINCE 1965

**FREE home-based school readiness program
for children 18 months to 3 years old!**



Did you know...

**Your Home is your Child's First Classroom?
You are your Child's First, and Best, Teacher?
Young Children Learn Best through Play?**

What you will gain:

- ♦ Two weekly home visits with a trained educational mentor!
- ♦ A FREE book or educational toy each week!
- ♦ Fun and creative activities to help prepare your child for school!

For more information or to sign-up please contact:

Cynthia Segui
Program Coordinator
CHP Parent-Child Home Program
(413)644-0104 x1160
csegu@chpberkshires.org

