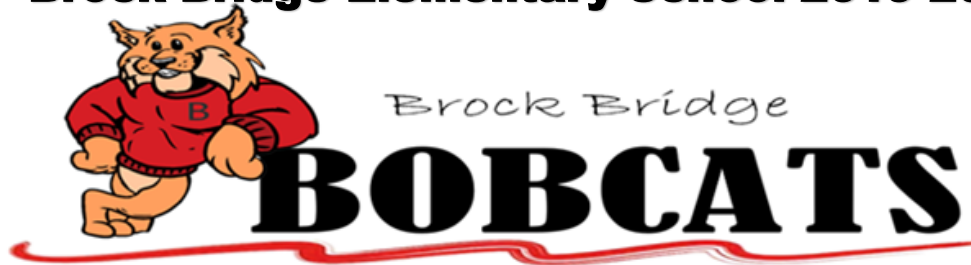


BBES Blast

Brock Bridge Elementary School 2019-2020



405 Brock Bridge Road, Laurel, Maryland, 20724
Phone: 301-498-6280 Fax: 301-776-1028

Amy Shandrowsky, Principal
Jessica Kallon, Assistant Principal

SCHOOL YEAR 19-20

JANUARY / 2020

Assistant Principal's Message

Hello Brock Bridge Families,

I wish you all a happy and healthy New Year. It was a joy seeing all our students and staff return after a well deserved winter break. We have entered state testing season. Please see below to review testing dates and tips to prepare your student for success. I cannot wait to see what the second half of the school year has in store for our Brock Bridge scholars.

Jessica Kallon
 Assistant Principal

Upcoming January Testing Dates:

Dates	Test Name	Grades
January 7 th -10 th	CogAT Testing	2 nd and 5 th grade
January 8 th - February 11 th	ACCESS for ELLs Testing	ESOL Students k-5 th grade

8 Tips for Parents to Help Your Child Prepare for High-Stakes Tests

Prioritize attendance and homework: Tests are ultimately intended to be a measure of how well students have learned the material being taught in class.

Communicate with your child's teacher: Regular communication with your child's teacher can help you gain insight into his or her progress.

Talk to your child about test taking: Have open, ongoing conversations with your child to explain the benefits of testing.

Offer positive reinforcement: A little encouragement can go a long way in helping students walk into testing days feeling confident.

Support healthy habits: Sleep and nutrition can have a huge impact on your child's ability to focus and retain information..

Give your child a study space: A comfortable, dedicated space for homework and studying can work wonders for your child's productivity.

Keep testing in perspective: Avoid putting too much emphasis on your child's test scores.

Debrief after the test: By discussing his or her answers, thought processes, and feelings, you can gain further insight into what he or she is struggling with and excelling at and then help him or her better prepare next time.

Link for the full article: <https://blog.edmentum.com/8-tips-parents-help-your-child-prepare-high-stakes-tests>

Additional Resources: <https://www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/succeed/part9.html>

<https://www.edutopia.org/assessment-testing-parent-resources>

Administration

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 vpicciano@aacps.org

Office Staff

Annika Anderson,
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Patricia Braga,
 Attendance & Discipline

Tammie Mason,
 Registrar

Scan to follow us
 on Twitter!





FRONT OFFICE MESSAGE

Table of Contents

Page

1	Assistant Principal's Message
2	Table of Contents Front Office message: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance • Returning calls • Emergency Cards
3	Calendar
4	Seasonal Reminders School Camera AACPS Non-Discrimination Disclaimer
5	Accidents Can Happen Cell Phones Changes in Transportation Home
6	Math Corner
7	No Parking
8	Healthy Habits = Healthy Children
9	Read With Me challenge



Attendance

Please send a note stating why your child was absent. When your child has been absent more than 3 days, we need a doctor's note stating the child was under their care. If no absence note is received at school, your child's absence will be coded as truant/unlawful. Excessive absences, tardies, and early dismissals will be reviewed by the Attendance Committee each month.



Someone called from our number and you don't know who called you?



If you get a call from the school, please take a minute to listen for any messages. This will allow us to assist you quicker when you return the call.

Emergency Cards

The information on the emergency cards that the office requested at the beginning of the school year is invaluable to us. Please report any changes in address or telephone numbers (home or work) to the school office.

If during the school year there are any changes regarding who you would like contacted in the event of an emergency (and we are unable to contact you), please provide us with the updated information.

January 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 No School	2 Students return to School	3	4	
5	6	7 Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) 2nd and 5th	8 Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) 2nd and 5th	9 Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) 2nd and 5th	10	11	
12	13	14	15 PTA Spirit Night Chipotle 5–9 pm	16	17	18	
19	20 School Closed	21	22	23	24	25	
<div data-bbox="235 1585 571 1732" data-label="Text"> <p>Martin Luther King "I have a dream"</p> </div>		26	27	28 2 h Early Dismissal No pm PK	29 2 h Early Dismissal No pm PK	30 No School for Students	31 Beginning of 3rd Marking Period



Seasonal Reminders

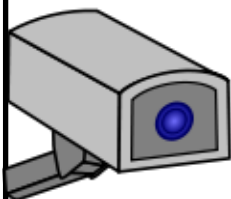
Cancellation of school takes place only during extraordinary circumstances such as extreme weather, equipment failure, or public crisis.

The school board and administrators are aware of the hardship which can be caused by an abrupt cancellation. Therefore, school will not be canceled unless a significant safety risk has been created by an unusual circumstance. In the event that conditions cause school to be closed, announcements will be posted on the Board of Education's web page (www.aacps.org), and a Connect-Ed message will be sent. Television and radio stations in the Annapolis, Baltimore, and Washington areas are notified one hour before normal bus runs. More than likely a Connect-Ed message will be sent out by the Board Of Education.

Breakfast is offered to all students when schools are delayed for 2 hours.

There are times when schools will close earlier than normal. Please have a plan for your child to follow in case this happens and you are not at home.

School Camera System



Brock Bridge Elementary School is equipped with a video camera system. It covers selected interior and exterior public portions of the building and grounds. It is NOT monitored constantly, but it is monitored during emergency situations.

During certain events, when the safety or security of students may be in questions, authorized personnel from local, state, or federal police or fire emergency units may be given access to view images projected on the camera system. If you have any questions about the system, you should call the Supervisor of School Security at 410-222-5083.

AACPS Non-discrimination Disclaimer



The Anne Arundel County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation or familial status in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs. Questions regarding nondiscrimination should be directed to Mr. Leslie N. Stanton, Specialist in Human Relations, AACPS, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 222-5318, TDD, 410-222-5500 or www.aacps.org.

ACCIDENTS HAPPEN

From playground puddles to tummy troubles, there may come a time when your child needs a change of clothes. Please send the following items in a gallon-sized ziploc bag, with your child's name on it, to be kept in their locker: SHIRT, PANTS, UNDERGARMENTS, and SOCKS.

Thank you for your help!

-The Health Room



Cell Phones



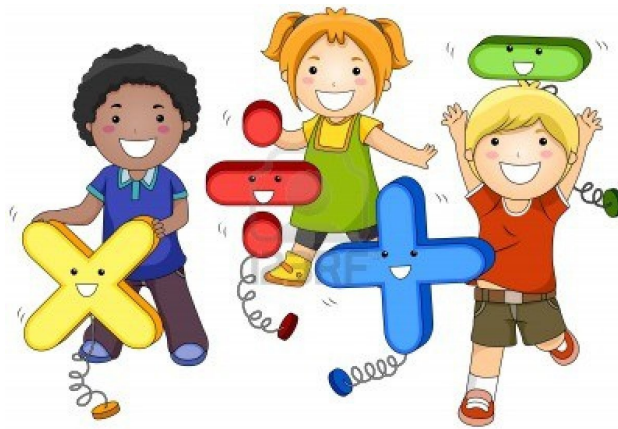
Cell phones that are brought to school by students must be turned off during the instructional day and kept out of sight. Students are not permitted to use cell phones during the school day. Students that need to contact a parent during the day should ask to go to the office. The school is not responsible for phones that are brought to school.

Changes in Transportation Home



There has been an increase in request for changes to transportation at the end of the day. Calls into the classroom at the end of the day are for emergency situations only. If you know your child will be going home differently, please write your child's teacher a note in the morning to avoid any misunderstanding of what your child is to do at dismissal. This will allow the office to get the emergency messages to students without holding up buses or having confusion at the end of the day. Thank you so much for helping.

Math Corner



How can you help your child be successful in mathematics?

Children learn math best when they can connect math concepts and procedures to their everyday experience.

- Be positive about math! Let your child know that everyone can learn math.
- Point out how math is used in daily activities.
- Include your child in activities that involve math, such as making purchases, measuring ingredients, and determining elapsed time.
- Play math-related games with your child.
- Encourage your child to explain his/her thinking when solving problems.
- Count everything with young mathematicians.
- Make connections between real world objects and multiplication and division.

When a math moment presents itself, make the most of it!

Play First in Math

Math fact fluency is the ability to recall the answers to basic math facts automatically and without hesitation. Fact fluency is gained through significant practice, with mastery of basic math facts being a goal of both teachers and parents. Luckily our students have access to "First in Math," a program that provides tools for students to hone their fluency skills at school, home, or anywhere with an internet connection. Teachers have access to student progress towards mastery of basic fact skills and this information can be shared with families. Students now have access codes to First in Math and should be able to log in from home. We encourage the students to practice 7-10 minutes a day to strengthen their fluency skills.



No Parking at Fire Lanes and Bus Loops

Parking in designated **fire lanes** and/or **bus loops** is prohibited. This prohibition extends to staff, students, visitors, spectators at athletic events, day care vans, and after school activity vans such as karate centers, clubs, etc. Any vehicle parked in a fire lane or obstructing a fire hydrant must be moved to an authorized parking space.

Maryland Motor Vehicle Law §21-101.1(b)2,3 states:

A person may not drive a motor vehicle in violation of any provision of this title on any property that is owned by or under the control of this State or any of its political subdivisions, county boards of education, or community colleges and that is open to vehicular traffic and used by the public in general. Any person who violates any provision of this subsection is in violation of the law to the same extent and is subject to the same penalty as if the motor vehicle were driven on a highway.



Source: Geniemove

Please use the designated parking lots. Parking is not permitted by the playground or in the staff designated lot.

Please use the designated lower parking lot for car rider drop off and pick up. Double parking in the staff lot is not permitted, at any time.

Vehicles with handicap tags or plaques are permitted to park in the designated handicap spots in the front parking lot.

Healthy Habits = Healthy Children



Healthy Habits Decrease the Spread of Germs & Help Keep Children and Families Well

1. **Handwashing** is one of the best ways to keep from getting sick. If soap & water aren't available, use an alcohol based hand sanitizer.
2. **Cover that sneeze and cough**—Coughing and sneezing spread germs. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or the inside of your elbow to prevent spreading germs to your hands.
3. **Get Moving**—Exercise helps the body fight off simple illness. Include active play in your child's schedule.
4. **Sleep**—Getting the right amount of sleep will help fight off colds and infections.
5. **Healthy Eating**—Good nutrition is Vital for good health. Provide a variety of foods, including plenty of vegetables, fruits and whole grains at meal and snack times.
6. **Keep Your Child Home When Sick**—Children should stay home until they feel better!



When Do I Keep My Child Home From School?

(Although no comprehensive list is possible, the following conditions may be appropriate reasons to keep a student home or seek medical advice)

Temperature 100 degree or greater

Vomiting, Diarrhea

Shortness of breath, Wheezing

Abdominal Pain

Suspected Fracture


Severe pain

Undiagnosed rash

Productive Cough/Fever



#AACPSReadWithMe Elementary School At-Home Reading Challenge

Read in the car or on the bus _____	Read for 15 minutes _____	Read while eating a snack _____	Read on a rainy or snowy day _____	Read for 10 minutes _____
Read to a sibling or neighbor _____	Read with a friend _____	Read while on the floor _____	Read outside _____	Listen to someone read to you _____
Read to a senior adult _____	Take turns reading aloud with a friend _____	 Use your AACPL SAIL account to check out a book! _____	Listen to an audio book _____	Read after school _____
Read to a parent or family member _____	Turn out the lights and read by flashlight _____	Read in bed _____	Read for 20 minutes _____	Read on a Saturday morning _____
Introduce yourself to a librarian _____	Read in your pajamas _____	Read about a character that doesn't look like you _____	Read before school _____	Read in your favorite room _____

Write the name of the book on the line to complete the square and earn BINGO!

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Parent/Guardian or Teacher Signature: _____

Please turn in your bingo card to your teacher! Students will receive 5 Bobcat Bucks for participating!

