

THE BEE

THE PLACE TO BEE | November 4, 2011 | morrisbrandon.com

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Did you know that our friends at Doctors Express Atlanta graciously donated all of the supplies for the medical tent at the Jamboree? And Russell Baker provided all of our Coke beverages for the event. Many thanks to both! For all the details on this year's event and recognition of all those who helped make it so successful, log onto the Jamboree web page on www.morrisbrandon.com.

Your Vote REALLY Counts!

A Message from Katie Mori, Morris Brandon School Council

Brandon Parents - Please remember to get out and vote on **Tuesday, November 8th**. Although this is not a big election year for public offices, there is a very important referendum on the ballot that directly affects you and it is called SPLOST IV. SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) IV is a continuation of the one-cent sales tax that has been in place since 1997, and this tax is used to fund capital improvements in the Atlanta Public Schools. If approved, SPLOST will allow this one-cent tax to continue for five more years, and facilities improvements for the children of Atlanta Public Schools will continue to be funded by those who make purchases in the local area, regardless of where they live.

APS is committed to obtaining the funding for these capital projects. In a community meeting just this week, APS made this point abundantly clear, stating that "doing nothing is not an option." If APS cannot obtain funding through the continuation of SPLOST, APS has stated that it will seek funding through increased property taxes. The millage rate for Atlanta homeowners dropped over 5 mils when SPLOST first passed, and APS will seek at least that level of increase if SPLOST IV is not passed. So, with the SPLOST referendum, voters will choose whether to bear fully the cost of these capital improvements, or whether to shift 40% of that burden to anyone who makes purchases in the City of Atlanta. If you have any questions about the projects to be funded by SPLOST IV, visit the APS website at <http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/site/default.aspx?PageID=1> (click on SPLOST IV).

The R-A-T is off and running!

The Read-A-Thon is off to a fantastic start! Check out the Morris Brandon website for more information, documents and links to calendars and events. Need help finding more books for your voracious readers? Check out this website containing ideas, book lists, and ways to challenge our child and keep them reading:

<http://www.iKeepBookmarks.com/showall.asp?folder=3217061>

Remember, the goal for each student is to have at least one sponsor! The PayPal link on the website should help collect from those out of town sponsors.

Election Day Bake Sale – November 8th

Don't forget – the Election Day Bake Sale is this Tuesday at the Main Campus and lots of yummy items are needed to make this event a success! In order to ensure ample variety, each grade has been assigned a particular item, but if you have a special recipe for something else, feel free to change. Please package your items so they are ready to sell!

Kindergarten	Cookies
1 st Grade	Brownies
2 nd , 3 rd Grades	Cupcakes or Quick Breads (i.e. Banana, Pumpkin)
4 th Grade	Cakes or Pies
5 th Grade	Casseroles and Soups (frozen, recipes to be emailed this week)

Please drop off your items on Monday, November 7th in the morning or afternoon carpool line at either campus or you may bring them to the Main Campus lobby anytime between 7:30 and 1:00 p.m. that day.

Questions? Contact Margaret Wessinger (mwessinger@earthlink.net) or Frances Zook (ffzook@comcast.net).

Buzz Books are Here!

Distribution began this week of the 2011-2012 school directory (The Buzz Book). If you have contributed at least \$25 to The Bee Fund, be on the lookout for your copy of the The Buzz Book to come home with your youngest child. Additional copies will be available for \$10 each in the office at the Main Campus or from Mary Plumer. Thank you to our premier sponsors of The Buzz Book: Jane & Joe Cross and Elizabeth Cole of Beacham Realtors; Arch Davis, Kathy Olmstead, and Charles Jones of Harry Norman Realtors; and Suzanne King DDS & Virginia King McCune DDS.

B-I-N-G-O night next Friday!

Join your Brandon friends in the Main Campus Gym for Family Bingo Night on Friday, November 11th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Reservations are not required and you can purchase cards for \$5.00 each at the door. Each card is good for 10 games! There will be cash prizes, gift certificates to West Stride, raffles, snacks and lots of family fun!

Stocking the Pantry for Thanksgiving

Ms. Bernstein and Ms. Omari soon will be preparing Thanksgiving food baskets for families in need over the Thanksgiving holiday week. This food will not only help families at Brandon and Dobbs Elementary, but also will help fill needs at Families First. If you need emergency food for your children, please contact our school social worker, Ms. Janet Bernstein, or our school guidance counselor, Ms. Vivian Omari at (404) 802-7205. *Referrals are confidential.* For general questions about the Morris Brandon Food Pantry, or to volunteer, contact Coleman Allen at marycolemanallen@yahoo.com

Morris Brandon Annual Christmas Tree Sale!

Support our school at the Morris Brandon Christmas Tree Sale where you can purchase a beautiful Christmas tree direct from Laurel Springs, North Carolina. Festive wreaths and garland will also be available. Questions? Contact Ann Hart Hunter at annharthunter@comcast.net or Julie Grigsby at jwgrigsby@hotmail.com.



When: Main Campus Parking Lot
Friday, December 2nd – 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 3rd – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Save 10% by pre-ordering by November 21st! Either link to the Pre-Order Form below or go to the school website to order online.

[Link to Holiday Tree Pre-Order Form](#)

Upcoming School Spirit Events:

Come to our first **Maki Fresh Spirit Night on Wednesday (Nov. 9th) from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.** where you can join your Brandon friends for casual Japanese dining at their new Peachtree Battle location. On **Saturday (Nov. 12th)**, head over to **Jersey Mike's (Howell Mill)** for a fun-filled school spirit event from 11:00 to 3:00. Be sure to check out the Key Date Calendar below for more fun School Spirit Events during the month of November! As always, invite your friends and family to join you in supporting a Brandon Business Partner as they support our school by donating a portion of the spirit event proceeds directly to the PTA!

Prospective Parents – Kindergarten Coffee

Join us for the Morris Brandon Prospective Parents Kindergarten Coffee!

When? November 16, 2011, 9:30 am

Where? At the home of Cia Cummings - 2981 Westminster Circle

Questions? Contact Jennifer Irvin or Nicole Metzheiser at visitbrandon@gmail.com

Who do you use?

Brandon Business Partners and Supporters are helping our school every day. As the holidays approach, many will be shopping, eating out, decorating, or just plain spending more! Every week, our Business "Partners" are featured in the eBee so you are likely familiar with those establishments which have achieved "Partner" status by donating at the \$2,000 + level to Morris Brandon. What you may not know is that we have 16 other wonderful businesses that have graciously donated to the PTA at the \$250 - \$1,999 level this year. We would like to take a moment to give those Brandon "Supporters" a shout out! See below. Please use these businesses whenever possible and express your appreciation to them for supporting Morris Brandon! **Also note those indicated by an asterisk – they are the businesses or workplaces of Brandon families!**

- **Trader Joe's (Buckhead)**
- **Starbucks Coffee (West Paces)**
- **Baskin-Robbins (Peachtree Battle)**
- **Dr. Michael Sebastian Orthodontics**
- **Thomas Eye Group**
- **Party City (The Peach)**
- **Verde Taqueria**
- **Maki Fresh (Peachtree Battle)**
- **Elimilice**
- **Caribou Coffee (Northside Parkway)**
- **Doctors Express**
- ***Coleman Allen, Ph D. (MILA sales)**
- **Smokin' Ham BBQ**
- **Atlantic Trust**
- ***Paces Ferry Exxon**
- ***Lancelotta-Hilliard Investment Group**

And, don't forget our Brandon Partners too:

Brandon Business Partners generously support us.

Brandon families, please support them!

**The Coca-Cola Company, Peachtree Battle Shopping Center, *Landscaping by Yardera, Nellya Fencers, *Beacham & Company Realtors (Cia Cummings, Matt Linginfelter), Big Frog Custom T-Shirts, Café At Pharr, *Chick-fil-A (Howell Mill Road), Jersey Mike's, Johnny's Pizza, Menchie's, Mighty Jumps, One Stop Printing & Signs, Publix, *S&S Rug Cleaners, Swoozie's, The Gym at Peachtree Presbyterian Church, *West Stride, Willy's Mexicana Grill, *1-800- GOT IUNK?*

Best in Show!



This Spring, our wonderful Art teachers are helping organize a special showcase of masterpieces created by Brandon students. The event will be held on Thursday, May 3rd at the Main Campus. Featured artwork will be on display and on sale for the Brandon community to admire and enjoy. Volunteer "Curators" are needed for this fun fundraiser! Please contact Michele James (michelekjames@yahoo.com) or Hope Friedman (hsf367@comcast.net) to sign up!

BEElieve in Brandon – The Bee Fund

Even though our BEElieve in Brandon campaign ended on October 31st, it is never too late to join the Bee Fund! 100% participation is our goal and we are only at 59%. Joining the Bee Fund/PTA shows your support of Morris Brandon. To see our list of supporters or to become one, please visit www.morrisbrandon.com. Questions? Contact Anne Green (astonegreen@bellsouth.net) or Jennifer Rogers (jendealrogers@hotmail.com).

Clean out those closets for Dobbs Elementary!

The Roots and Shoots and Bee Green committees would like to encourage you to recycle your kids' gently used clothes and shoes by donating them to the kids at Pete Settelmayer's new school Dobbs Elementary. Pete says that his kids are in need of everything – shirts, pants, coats, hats, gloves, shoes, and belts. They are also in need of socks and underwear if you would like to pick up a pack next time you are at the store. Collection bins will be in the school lobbies (MC, PC) on from November 7th to December 7th – so clean out those closets and drawers!

Message from Marcia Mayo:

Slow Down!



“Mornings are tough getting everyone up and fed and dressed and in the car. Then there are the trips back into the house for the lunch, the library book, the folder, sometimes even the kid. But we have to remember to be safe. We, at the Primary Center, have had several complaints about cars with those ubiquitous Brandon carpool numbers veering around bus stops and careening onto Margaret Mitchell from West Wesley. Because the safety of our children is more important than our tardy list, we must ask everyone to slow down. If we don't see marked improvement in the near future, we will request that the Atlanta Police help us by placing someone nearby to hand out tickets.”

Need to get something in The BEE?

Please email BEE articles to Melanie Faser at faserm@bellsouth.net. The BEE is published each Friday. The deadline for submitting material is the immediately preceding Friday by 5:00 p.m. Please note there will not be an eBee distributed on the following Fridays: November 25th, December 23rd and December 30th. Please plan ahead accordingly!



<u>Upcoming Key Dates:</u>	LOC	Date	Start Time
Spirit Event – Café at Pharr	Off Campus	November 4th	11:00 a.m.
Drop off baked goods for Bake Sale	BOTH	November 7 th	Carpool lines
No School – Election Day Election Day Bake Sale Today	BOTH	November 8th	N/A
Barnes & Noble Day at The Peach Shopping Center	Off Campus	November 8th	N/A
Spirit Event – Maki Fresh (Peachtree Battle)	Off Campus	November 9th	N/A
5 th Grade Fundraiser – Bethany Riggs Photography	MC	November 11 th	TBD
Bingo Night	MC	November 11 th	6:30 p.m.
5 th Grade Fundraiser – Bethany Riggs Photography	MC	November 12 th	TBD
Spirit Event – Jersey Mike’s (Howell Mill)	Off Campus	November 12 th	11:00 a.m.
Read-A- Thon Ends	BOTH	November 14 th	N/A
Spirit Event – Willy’s (Howell Mill)	Off Campus	November 15th	5:00 p.m.
Sutton – School Tour	Off Campus	November 16th	9:00 a.m.

Spirit Event – Chick-fil-A (Howell Mill, West Paces)	Off Campus	November 17th	5:00 p.m.
Prospective Parents Kindergarten Coffee	Off Campus	November 16 th	9:30 a.m.
School Dismissed for Thanksgiving	N/A	November 21 - 25	N/A
Spirit Event – Menchie’s (West Paces)	Off Campus	November 30th	2:30 p.m.
Spirit Event – Johnny’s Pizza	Off Campus	December 1st	5:00 p.m.
Spirit Event – Café at Pharr	Off Campus	December 2 nd	11:00 a.m.
Christmas Tree Sale	MC	December 2 nd	3:00 p.m.
Christmas Tree Sale	MC	December 3rd	9:00 a.m.
PTA Chairs – Holiday Brunch	Off Campus	December 7 th	11:00 a.m.
Spirit Event – Menchie’s (West Paces)	Off Campus	December 7 th	2:30 p.m.
Spirit Event – Jersey Mike’s (Howell Mill)	Off Campus	December 10 th	11:00 a.m.
Spirit Event – Willy’s (Howell Mill)	Off Campus	December 13 th	5:00 p.m.
PTA – General Meeting	MC	December 14 th	9:30 a.m.
Sutton – School Tour	Off Campus	December 14 th	9:00 a.m.
Spirit Event –Chick-fil-A (Howell Mill, West Paces)	Off Campus	December 15th	5:00 p.m.
Winter Break	BOTH	December 21 st – January 2nd	N/A