

September 26, 2017

Positivity

There is definitely power in positivity, which has become our informal theme of the year at Bresnahan!

On the teachers' first day of school on August 29th, we asked them to describe in one word their intent for the year. Check out their responses that were generated in a collage. The size of each word is directly in proportion to how popular the intent was with our staff.



Positivity has continued to move us forward throughout September.

This week the students have been very excited and engaged about our “whale-naming” contest and the tallies are almost complete for the big reveal. Stay tuned!

Positivity has embraced our music program with the addition of our new music teacher, Mr. Rulon-Miller. Perhaps you have seen him in the morning at drop-off strumming away as he greets students with music and song. A small act of kindness that helps to set the tone (literally!) but is quite intentional in our philosophy to create a safe and supportive school environment. Fondly referred to as “Mr. R-M” by the students, he has certainly made a positive impact at the Bresnahan in a very short time. He was recently featured in the [Newburyport Daily News](#) and just this morning WBZ-TV Boston was here filming a human interest piece about him. Tune into Channel 4 tonight between 5:00-6:30 p.m. to see the Bresnahan highlighted this evening.



Positivity has also permeated into our recess offerings. Today, students in grades 1-3 (K students will have a chance later in the year) participated in a new recess plan developed by our physical education teachers, Cathy Hill and Jesse Craddock, and our special education teacher, Karin Caves. This program teaches the students how to apply the Zones of Regulation to their recess activities. The students already recognize the colors associated with the zones of regulation from our social-emotional curriculum taught by our school adjustment counselors and classroom teachers. Now we are bringing it to play time. Two days a week, students will have an opportunity to have recess in the front of the school on the grassy areas or on the basketball and four-square court. Once there the students will find color-coded activities to choose from. They will learn how to make a choice in the type of activity they choose based upon their mood, feeling, or desired level of activity.

- **The RED Zone is the SKILLS Zone-your body is moving at all times but is in control.**
- **The BLUE Zone is the RELAXATION Zone- your body needs a break- it's time to relax.**
- **The GREEN Zone is the SOCIAL Zone- participate in calm fun with a friend.**
- **The YELLOW Zone is the FITNESS Zone-be excited to challenge yourself.**

Students were introduced to these activities over the past few weeks in their physical education classes and at our community meeting last week. A big shout-out to our awesome recess



monitors for all their extra effort in making this new recess program come

alive!

Positively Yours,

Amy Sullivan, Kristina Davis and Karina Mascia
September 19, 2017

Arts in Education



Did you know... In 2010 congress

s designated the the week beginning with the second Sunday in September as [National Arts in Education Week](#)? The week focus on celebrating the impact of arts in education. In honor of the week, students at the Bresnahan engaged in many different activities and we have highlighted a few of the special projects in our blog this week.

Did you know...

The Bresnahan School is now the home to a new giant whale who hangs from the ceiling in the cafeteria? The whale is 12 feet long and weighs 150 pounds and was safely secured with aircraft



cables by our maintenance staff this summer. The whale was a very generous gift from the Masiello Family who have two boys at the Bresnahan School. Lucas is in Mrs. Foster's pre-kindergarten class and Tyler is in Mrs. Harrington's first grade class. The whale swam its way here from the local Anthropologie store this summer where Lucas and Tyler's mother works.

Throughout the first month of school, the students have been working in their art classes with Mrs. Jamison on a contest to name the whale and draw pictures of our latest mammal. Students will be voting in their classrooms this week and the official name for the whale will be announced to students next week. Final contenders are: Sky, Anchor, Phelps, Splashnahan, and Cafeale.



The whale and art project is featured this week in the [Current Newspaper](#).

Did you know...

Kindergarten students in Mrs. Dugiue's kindergarten class honored National Arts in Education week by collaborating together to create a world globe? Our very talented long-term substitute, Mrs. Beaudoin, led the students in a lesson about kindness, filling buckets and being peaceful. We think the final project is amazing!



Creatively Yours,
Kristina Davis, Karina Mascia and Amy Sullivan

#BresClippers #ArtsinEducation #BecauseofArtsEd #ClipperKindness #ClipperInnovation

September 12, 2017

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year!

Welcome to our new Principals' Blog!

Over the summer we have worked hard to revamp the ways in which we communicate with families. Our intention is that you will find our new systems more streamlined. We know how busy today's families are and our aim is to communicate important dates and announcements with ease that you are able to access quickly.

Last year, the Bresnahan School Advisory Council disseminated, collected and analyzed feedback from our parents about our weekly Take a Look Tuesday Notices. We learned that many parents found our weekly school newsletter, *The Bucketful of News*, too lengthy and cumbersome to extract information that was most important to them. As a result, we want you to know that we heard your feedback and listened.

This is not your child's classroom anymore...



and therefore this is not our newsletter anymore:

We are pleased to launch our new communication tools:

[Bres Dates](#) will be a simple bulleted list that is published and sent home weekly through our Take a Look Tuesday communications. The only information that will be shared in this link are important upcoming dates to add to your calendar. So simple. BresDates can be found at this link: <http://bresnahan.newburyport.k12.ma.us/News/Bres-Dates/index.html>. This will be updated weekly.

From time to time we will also use this principals' blog to share articles, pictures, and resources with families. This will always be under a separate cover and will always be found here. You may choose to check this out at your leisure.

This year all of our articles will be related to the [Clipper Values](#) that the district created for our Strategic Plan: *Clipper Respect*, *Clipper Kindness*, *Clipper Innovation*, *Clipper Perseverance*, *Clipper Responsibility*, and *Clipper Reflection*.

Lastly, all of our communications will also be shared on our school [Facebook page](#) and tweeted via our new handle @bresnbpt. Please like our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter. You can also search for our communications through hashtags such as: #BresClippers, #BresDates, #BresBlog and many more!

Digitally Yours,

Amy B. Sullivan, Principal of PK/K

Karina Mascia, Assistant Principal of Grades 1-3

Kristina Davis, Principal of Grades 1-3