

**BRETON DOWNS ELEMENTARY
SEPTEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER
MRS. DOOD, MRS. GOULD, MRS. ELDEERSVELD**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year and our classrooms. We look forward to a fun-filled year with lots of learning for your child and ourselves. We are eager to make you a part of our classroom activities. We will be sending home monthly newsletters (website), as well as information about special events, field trips, and units of study. We look forward to working with you in making this year a positive one for your child. If you have not given your child's teacher an email address yet, please do so. We would like to send our newsletter home to you by you checking the 2nd grade website if possible. It will be a in a PDF format with an email from your child's teacher.

Please feel welcome in our classrooms. We are eager to share our experiences in learning with you so walk in our open doors. If you need to contact any of us we are available at school (235-7552) between 8:00 and 8:15 a.m. or 3:25-4:00 p.m. daily. We can also be reached at our homes after 8:00p.m. (452-9832 Lisa, 897-2965 Cinny, Lori 532-9303)

We would also like to welcome Miss Cristyn Dunteman to 2nd grade. She is from Calvin College and will be a student teacher in Mrs. Dood's classroom. We would also like to welcome Lauren Pollard as Mrs. Gould's student assistant from GVSU.

Also, a special welcome to all our new families! We are so excited to have you as a part of the Breton family. We know you will love Breton as much as we do!

Snack

The children will be hungry during the first few days of school and a snack is helpful. The first two weeks of school parents are volunteering to bring snacks. After that, your child may bring a small, nutritious snack of their own each day. Suggestions are: vegetable sticks, fruit, cheese, crackers, popcorn or pretzels.

"Red Alert" Folder

This red folder is our homework and special note folder. It should travel back and forth with your child each day. It would be very helpful to establish the routine of checking the backpack with your child **daily**. Homework that has been assigned or notes for you to read will be in this red folder. Please be sure to **return the folder the next day**.

Field Trips

We have some great field trips scheduled for this year. If you have contacts with people, places, or organizations that would make a great learning experience for a class field trip, please let us know. We also would encourage you to share your special talents or knowledge with our classes as well.

We have figured out the cost of this year's field trips. Hopefully it will simplify things for you to make a one-time payment. That total cost is **\$28.00**. Please make your CHECK payment to your child's teacher and label the envelope "Field Trips."

Supplies for School

If you have not yet paid for your child's supplies on the first day of school please send a **\$10.00** check made out to your child's teacher.

V.I.P.-

We feature a student as our Very Important Person. We will send a note home with suggestions for highlighting your child during their special week. We try to schedule this week close to their birthday or half-birthday. This year for birthdays we would like to encourage party favors instead of food snacks. This makes the treat enjoyable for all children. Suggestions might be a pencil, an eraser, a notebook, markers, etc. Anything but food works great! We appreciate your willingness to work with us on this. ☺

Loose Tooth-

We keep track of lost teeth on a special graph. If your child loses a tooth at night or over the weekend we would like to know in order to include it on our graph.

Important Dates:

September 9	Breton Family picnic @ 11:30
September 20	Parent Information Night...7-7:45 p.m.
September 27	School Picture Day
TBA	Walking to the City Offices

Units of Study

Our first unit of study is patriotism and rules and laws. We'll be looking at how rules and laws relate to our school and community. Also in September is our study of Plants and Seeds. We are in need of large sunflower heads. You may also start collecting unusual seeds with your child.

Parent Volunteers

We appreciate and depend on parent volunteers in our classrooms. Please see attached note.

Wanted

All this year we would greatly appreciate if you could help our classrooms by saving the metal Altoids mint containers for a project we do later in the year. We would also like your help with collecting the discount coupons from Michael's Craft Store.

Book Orders

Scholastic books came through with some great books at below bookstore prices!! This is one of the best offers of the year to get books for our classroom! **Orders are due on Friday, September 16.** To order, make checks payable to Scholastic. You only need to write one check if you order from more than one flyer. Please remember if you would like books for a gift write **HOLD** under your name. Happy Reading!!

Lori Dood,
Lisa Eldersveld
Cinny Gould