

**December  
2005**

# *Briar Woods High School*

*Home of the Falcons*

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### Telephone Number Changes

As you may know, our telephone numbers have changed. Below is a list of the new numbers:

Main Office	703-957-4400
Main Office Fax	703-542-5923
Attendance Call In	703-957-4409
Guidance	703-957-4402
Guidance Fax	703-542-5961
Athletics	703-957-4408
Athletics Fax	703-542-5960

### Exam Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Periods</u>
1-17-06	1 and 2
1-18-06	7 and 8
1-19-06	3 and 4
1-20-06	5 and 6

**Bell Schedule:**

9:00 -11:00	Exam
11:00 – 11:25	Break
11:30 – 1:30	Exam
1:30	Dismissal



**Attendance**

Parents please help!  
When your student is absent, you need to call the attendance line at (571) 252-1529 to notify the school. For your convenience, this is a 24 hour answering machine. If you forget to call on the day of the absence, you must send a note with your student on the day they return to school. Without a phone call or note, the absence will be considered unexcused and disciplinary action will be taken.

**Disability Notice**

If, due to a disability, you need assistance to enable you to participate meaningfully in any LCPS sponsored activities, please contact Principal Starzenski at (571) 223-2344 at least five working days prior to the scheduled activity.

**Student Parking**

Juniors interested in a parking permit may contact Mr. DeCenzo in the main office.

**Early Dismissals**

Parents: When requesting an early dismissal, please send your written request with your student that morning. I will write them a pass to excuse them at the appropriate time. This will alleviate the need to disrupt the classroom. Thank you for your cooperation.

Briar Woods High School is very proud to announce that they had 32 band members audition for the Loudoun County All-District Band. Five of our students were selected to the band with three first alternates. Members of the band selected are as follows: Meaghan Allain - 4th Chair Bassoon, David Baroody - 2nd Chair Trumpet, Ryan Perriello - 4th Chair Trombone, Brandon Toma - 14th Chair Clarinet, and Adam White - 6th Chair Trombone. First Alternates include: Daniel Page on Drums, Anna Palmen on Contra Clarinet, and Morgan Ziegler on Tuba. These students will perform in the All-District Band Concert, February 3rd & 4th at Heritage High School.

Congratulations to these great musicians.

**Academy of Science**

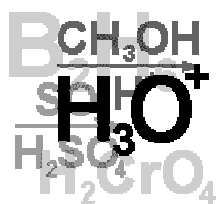
--**January 4 @7:00 p.m. and January 7 @ 9 a.m.:** Parent/student info sessions for the AOS will be held in the auditorium at Dominion High School.

--**January 25 @ 7:00 p.m. and January 28 @ 8:00 a.m.:** All applicants must complete a writing prompt on one of these two dates. **There will be no additional opportunities to complete this portion of the application.**

--**Wednesday February 22:** Absolute deadline to submit AOS applications to counselors at the student's home school.

Loudoun County Public Schools  
2005-2006 Student Calendar

August 29	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
September 5	Holiday (Labor Day)
October 10	Holiday (Columbus Day)
November 4	End of Grading Period
November 7-8	Student Holiday (Planning/Records/Conference Day)
November 23-25	Holiday (Thanksgiving)
December 22-30	Winter Break (Classes Resume January 3)
January 2	Holiday (New Year's)
January 16	Holiday (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
January 20	End of Grading Period
January 23	MOVEABLE STUDENT HOLIDAY *(Planning/Records/Conference Day)
February 20	Holiday (Presidents' Day)
April 6	End of Grading Period
April 7	Student Holiday (Planning/Records/Conference Day)
April 10-14	Spring Break
May 29	Holiday (Memorial Day)
June 14	Last Day of School for Students/End of Grading Period
June 15-16	Planning/Records/Conference Day



2005-2006 Guidance Staff

David Royhab	Guidance Director
Susan James	Counselor for students, A – J
Michelle Hoffmann	Counselor for students, K – Z
Jan Develli	Career Resource Specialist
Stacey Oertly	Guidance Secretary

Advanced Placement Night scheduled for January 24, 2006 at 7:00pm.

It is hard to believe it, but we are already planning the course selection process for 2006-2007. The first event as we help students and parents choose their classes, will be **AP Night**. AP classes are challenging college-level courses that 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade student may take while in high school. Anyone who meets the prerequisites and is willing to do the work can enroll in an Advanced Placement course. AP Night will give students and parents an opportunity to meet with AP teachers and learn more about the AP courses available next year. Please mark your calendars!

SAT Dates & Deadlines for 2005-2006

See [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for more details and to register for the SAT. When you register, you will be asked for your school's CEEB code. The Briar Woods CEEB code is: 470-061.

<b>SAT Test Date</b>	<b>Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Late Deadline</b>	<b>Loudoun Location</b>
January 28, 2006	December 22, 2005	January 4, 2006	Loudoun Valley HS
April 1, 2006	February 24, 2006	March 8, 2006	Loudoun County HS
May 6, 2006	April 3, 2006	April 12, 2006	Broad Run HS
June 3, 2006	April 28, 2006	May 10, 2006	Park View HS

ACT Dates & Deadlines for 2005-2006

The ACT is different than the SAT in that it tests a student's educational development in four distinct areas: English, Math, Reading and Science. Some students feel that the ACT is better suited for their individual strengths than the SAT. Most colleges will accept either test.

See [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) for more information and to register for the ACT. The Briar Woods registration code is 470-061.

<b>ACT Test Date</b>	<b>Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Late Deadline</b>
February 11, 2006	January 6, 2006	January 20, 2006
April 8, 2006 (at Broad Run HS)	March 3, 2006	March 17, 2006
June 10, 2006	May 5, 2006	May 19, 2006

Interim Dates

In an effort to increase communication and to keep you informed, all of our students will receive interims from all of their teachers on the dates listed below.

Marking Period 3	Mar 2 & 3
Marking Period 4	May 18 & 19

Homework Requests

The guidance office will gather work for any student who is (or will be) out of school for three or more consecutive days due to an excused absence. Please contact guidance to make a request.

LCPS Academy of Science

The Academy of Science is now accepting applications from 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students for the 2006-2007 school year. Applications are available in the guidance office. Please see the Academy website for more information: [www.loudoun.k12.va.us/aos](http://www.loudoun.k12.va.us/aos).

Some important dates to note:

- January 4 @ 7:00pm & January 7 @ 9:00am: Parent & student information sessions for the Academy of Science will be held in the Dominion High School auditorium.
- January 25 @ 7:00pm & January 28 @ 8:00pm: All applicants will be scheduled to complete a writing prompt on one of these two dates. There will be no additional opportunities to complete this portion of the application.
- February 22: Deadline to submit Academy applications to the guidance office.

What Should College-Bound Juniors be Doing This Month? (Information adapted from the CollegeBoard)

- Continue updating your resume on Family Connection.
- Begin to prepare for the SAT. If you are not enrolled in the BWHS SAT-prep class during the flex period, consider signing-up for the Spring offering. In the meantime, you can take the SAT-prep class independently, at your own pace, using the access code you will receive this month.
- Sign-up for the SAT. Even if you will not be taking the SAT until the Spring, signing up now will help ensure that you get a convenient testing location.
- Start a file of your college brochures and information. Before you know it, they'll be pouring in.
- For next year, consider Advanced Placement courses. You can get college credit or advanced placement for qualifying grades at most colleges.
- Consider college characteristics: private or public, two- or four-year, close or far away? Then use the Career Center, Family Connection or other resources like CollegeBoard.com to find colleges that match your needs.



December is the season for the Arts. The Fine Arts halls are filled with creativity, music song and theater. Our communities are echoing the spirit of the season with theater, music and decor. The early snow has added to the holiday spirit of anticipation.

We had a wonderful winter concert on the 12<sup>th</sup> that was enthusiastically attended. A huge thanks is in order to Long and Foster Realtors who made it possible to incorporate a wonderful dinner from San Vito Restaurant in Ashburn. To put on a production always takes some dedicated volunteers. Thanks also to all the special parents who made this possible. Your decorations, attention to detail and gift of time is greatly valued. Students who stayed and contributed above the call of duty are also much appreciated. We applaud Keith Land, Arya Mansory, Naomi Lockley, Matt Bell and Aaron Hess for their contribution to making our show shine.

Represented in the concert were Mr. Murphy and his Guitar Ensemble, the Briar Woods Chorus lead by Mrs. Horner and the Symphonic Winds were conducted by Mr. Minnick. The students did a great job. It's hard to believe they have been working together for such a short time.

Our first semester draws to a close. Various courses are only a semester long and we look forward to new students. Each class at Briar Woods will be evaluated with a semester exam. The Fine Arts faculty will review for the exam with their students.

Photography exams will be reflected by written knowledge and the production of a portfolio of work which will be displayed in the front hall. We invite you to come to the school

# *Fine Arts News*

mid-January to take a look at our talented students and the way they perceive their world. Please check our website if your student is signed up for photography next semester to find out what supplies they will need for the upcoming class.

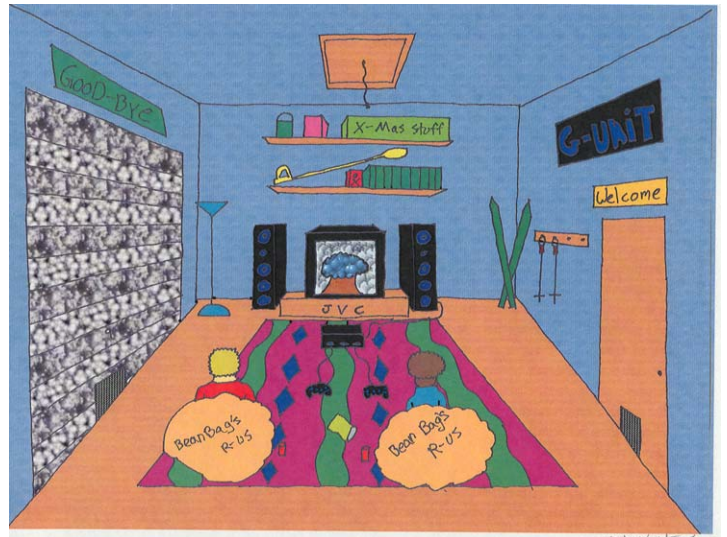
Art students have been creating work through technology with a theme on perspective. Check out our website for the gallery of art that will be changing and developing over the next few months.



*Watercolors by Art 2 students*

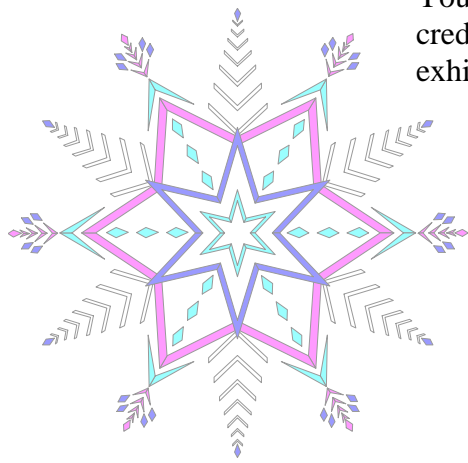


*Perspective Work with Technology  
by Art 1 Students*



Enjoy the winter break. Washington has a huge variety of free museums and activities perfect for family outings. Your visual art student will receive extra credit for bringing a pamphlet of an art exhibit that they attend.

*Happy New Year!*



## PTSO

President:	Geri Powell
Vice President of Membership:	Martha Mitchell
Vice President of Volunteers:	Martha Mitchell
Vice President of Fundraising:	Emily Ciullo
Treasurer:	Kim Klees
Secretary:	Barbara Watt

Our PTSO would like to wish all of the Briar Woods Community a very safe and happy holiday season.

The PTSO would like to thank all of the wonderful parents who have so generously donated their time and talents to help make Briar Woods such a successful school. We have had many parents helping daily in the library and office. Many of our parents have also helped with our hospitality committee. Thank you to everyone who has helped with shelving books, laminating, answering phones, baking, cooking and serving food for the staff at Briar Woods. The staff at Briar Woods has been very appreciative of everything that the parents have done for them.

The PTSO will be sponsoring a SAT practice test in February 2006. Look for more information on the Briar Woods website and elsewhere in this newsletter. This is a great opportunity to try out the “new” SAT without having your scores sent anywhere.

**The PTSO will be changing our monthly meetings starting in January 2006. We will now meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the cafeteria.** Everyone is welcome to attend and participate in these meetings. If you would like to have a say in any of our events, our monthly meetings are where we make all decisions regarding PTSO activities. We will not be having a meeting in December, as the third Wednesday is the last day of school before the winter break. **Our next PTSO meeting will be Wednesday January 25, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the cafeteria.** If you or any of your friends ever have any questions, comments or concerns regarding PTSO activities please do not hesitate to contact Geri Powell. In order to conserve paper, our PTSO will primarily use this newsletter and the school website to communicate with our members. Please check the school website often for updates on PTSO activities.

Thank you again for being so generous with your time and talents,

Geri Powell



# **Award Winners from 2005 Football Banquet**

## ***Big Cat: Linemen of the Year Award***

**Jamie Caldwell: Freshmen Offensive Tackle/Defensive Tackle**

**John Maghamez: Sophomore Center/Defensive Tackle**

## ***Most Improved Falcons***

**Michael Girolami: Freshmen Offensive Guard**

**Aaron Kakol: Freshmen Offensive Tackle**

## ***Coaches' Award***

**Tim King: Sophomore Wide Receiver/Free Safety**

**Chris Wade: Freshmen Tight End/Defensive End**

## ***Defensive Player of the Year***

**Jack Ater: Junior Hunter linebacker**

## ***Offensive Player of the Year***

**Alex Munro: Sophomore Quarterback**

## ***Most Valuable Player***

**JT Bailey: Freshmen Running Back/Scout Linebacker**

## ***Most Committed Falcon***

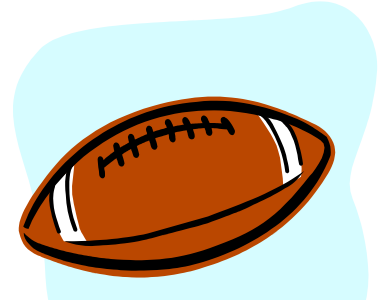
**Matthew Lockley: Junior Warrior Linebacker/Fullback**

## ***Special Team Award Winner***

**Devin Barber: Sophomore Returner, Wide receiver, and cornerback**

## ***Academic High Honors Award Winners( Straight A's)***

**Michael Girolami, Michael Fowler, Matt Dhillon, and Matthew Lockley**



Many thanks to our parents for providing the delicious  
baked goods and cookies to our staff.

Briar Woods High School  
22525 Belmont Ridge Road  
Ashburn, VA 20148

### **Administration**

Mr. Starzenski	Principal
Michele Havener	Assistant Principal
Michael Byers	Assistant Principal
Joe Breinig	Athletic Director
Mark Patterson	Activity Coordinator

### **Main Office Staff**

Mrs. Glikas	Secretary
Mrs. Cavanaugh	Secretary
Mrs. Altland	Secretary
Mrs. Smith	Bookkeeper
Ms. Culbert	Attendance Secretary

Main Office: 703-957-4400  
Fax: 703-542-5923  
Absentee Line: 703-957-4409