



# Braden River Elementary

November 2019

## Wrangler Roundup

HOME OF THE WRANGLERS!

### Message from the Principal

Dear BRE Families,

The first quarter as the principal at Braden River Elementary has just flown by as if time is being fast forwarded. It has truly been a privilege to come and learn each and everyday at BRE, how things have been done in the past, with an eye always to the future. Some of the great things that have occurred the first quarter that are both remarkable and makes BRE stand out above other schools are numerous. One of those significant areas is within the PTO and SAC support for the students, teachers and school community. The individuals associated with these organizations have given of themselves to make BRE better with each action they have and are continuing to take.

Our school's philosophy matches my philosophy as a principal that opportunities are shown within the experiences that we provide. BRE has provided many opportunities this first quarter of school: runners club, fall pictures, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Houses were formed, Summer Learning Celebration occurred, Walk or Bike to School Day, Dad's Take Your Child to School Day breakfast, and the surprise Rock your School Day. This is just the start as we have three more quarters of unique and surprising experiences on the horizon.

In September, our school was recognized at a School Board meeting for the Five Star School Award. The **Five Star School Award** was created by the Commissioner's Community Involvement Council and is presented annually to those school's that have shown evidence of exemplary community involvement. In order to earn Five Star School recognition, a school must show documentation that it has achieved 100 percent of the established criteria in the following categories:

- Business partnerships
- Family Involvement
- Volunteerism
- Student Community Service
- School Advisory Councils

Schools must also earn a grade of "C" or above or school improvement rating of "maintaining or improving" for the year of nomination.

We thank you for your part in helping us achieve this recognition for the 19th year in a row!

*Joshua Bennett*

Principal





# 1ST QUARTER HONOR ROLL

## 3rd Grade



### Straight A's

Akshar Patel	Leah Abrams
Ava Stambaugh	Maya Tran
Brady Denault	Noah Holland
Declan Rzepa	Rylan Post
Emily Huynh	Ryland Neary
Ervin Morales-Velasquez	Samuel Lucey
Ferran Santa Maria	Steven Magedanz
Francesca Simeon	Tommy Sulkowski
Kelly Scher	

### A & B Honor Roll

Abby Bowers	Dakota Walkowiak	Raeden Godbolt
Ally Ridenour	Ella Stephen	Reann Kolbe
Alma Miller	Gabriela Pisani	RiJonn Belvin
Brady Colcu	Gianna Gongo	Sarah Vargas
Caden Hook	Ian Robinson	Soledad Cerillo
Carmela Passalacqua	Jonah White	Stella Sladky
Carson Powers	Lillian Chandler	Tamea Gibson
Chloe Hoeper	Logan Cole	Tayla Vecchione
Colton Cahill	Noah Blair	Timothy Sulkowski

## 4th Grade



### Straight A's

Alyssa Sexton*
Austin Chavez *
Brayden Ridenour *
Brooklynn Hall *
Daniel Oh *
Evan Solis *
Gianna Platt *
Hayden Kovacs *
Madeline Silliman *
Penelope Valentine *
Polly Jessop *
Samantha Haney *
Tyler Cestero *

### A & B Honor Roll

Alexis Walker	Kenley Naumowicz
Alyssa Serrano-Feldleit	Kylee Francies
Annabelle Conley	Luis Gutierrez
Anthony Scrimale	Luke Schroeder
Bailey Fulk	Nazarite Lally
Charlie Kardos	Nico Tambe
Garrett Boyd	Olivia Lin
Gia Giangrante	Paola Ponce
Grayson Boyd	Reagan Vajdik
John Hall	Ryelynn Brunner
Jonah Rademacher	Wesley Beecher
Juliette Aronin	
Kara Nickens	

Students in 3rd, 4th & 5th grade can achieve honor roll by receiving all A's and B's and Satisfactory and above for Responsible Learner. Students recognized each quarter in the monthly newsletter and on the Honor Roll wall in the cafeteria.

# 1ST QUARTER HONOR ROLL

## 5th Grade

### Straight A's

Ashlyn Collins	Julianne Beecher
David Dragon	Lilly Hinds
Gavin Peterson	Riley Dotson
Hayden Beecher	Ryann Gurski
Jack Bowers	Sophia Potillo
Julia Cangro	

### A & B Honor Roll

Amelia Cooper	Fabrizio Sanchez	Leo Bowers
Arati Patel	Gabby Tabbita	Maddox Hale
Austin Hamer	Gabby Zevallos-Ramos	Madison Deleo
Camryn Kolbe	Gabriela Otero	Mahayla Roden
Carlee Martel	Jackson Stewart	Molly Neary
Charli Waldrip	John Gonzalez	Nevaeh Martinez
Cole Kubitz	Kaylea Hook	Reese Gurski
Donovan Plakyda	Kylie Parks	Sophia Asher
Emily Hatch	Landen Chandler	

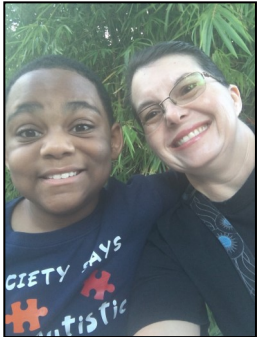


## Flip Flop Walk for Autism Awareness



On Saturday, Sept. 22, 2019 BRE Mrs Thomsen's, Ms. Cruz's and Ms. Flores' classes participated in the Fifth Annual Flip Flop Walk for Autism Awareness at JD Hammel Park. Face Autism, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides sensory friendly activities, support groups, referrals for therapeutic services, structured classes, and other necessary resources for children diagnosed with autism to develop and maintain a balanced quality of life. Thank you to all who supported!!

Pictures courtesy of <https://face-autism.org/flip-flop-walk/>



## News from Coach Boso and Coach Stilson

### 1st Quarter P.E. Activity Spotlight—5th Grade

This quarter during P.E. we have been working on overhand/underhand throwing and rolling different objects. Mrs. Preston's and Mrs. Dragon's classes have let us know that they really enjoyed the time spent on the green top during these activities. Coach Stilson and Coach B. would like for our BRE students to try these skills at home as a family!

Have fun and stay active!

### Safety Reminder for Parents and Students

If you choose to drive your child to school, please remember that you may NOT drop your students off unattended in the Braden River Middle School parking lot. If students are dropped off by car it MUST be through the car rider line at the south side of the school. If you want your child to cross the crosswalk where Coach B stands in the morning, an adult must accompany the student all the way across to the other side. Students may NOT cross this crosswalk unattended. This practice will help us keep your child as safe as possible.



### ATTENTION

Please have your child wear sneakers (No sandals, CROCS, heels, boots, etc.) on days that they will have P.E. Proper attire will help us keep your child safe. Students are welcome to bring water bottles to P.E., especially during the hotter months. Please send a note or doctor's excuse if your child cannot participate in P.E. because of an injury or illness. This will help us monitor the situation and keep your child as safe as possible.

### National Walk to School Day

On Wednesday October 2nd, BRE celebrated National Walk to School Day. This year we had 409 participants! YAY BRE!

Mrs. Collins' class had the most students participate and her class won the GOLDEN SHOE AWARD!

Congratulations!



### Coloring Contest

Our annual Walk to School Day coloring contest winners were:

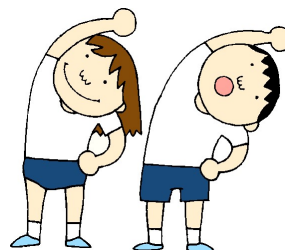
1st grade — April Johnson

2nd grade — Kaylee Antrim

3rd Grade— Kelly Soher

4th Grade—Gabriella Belem

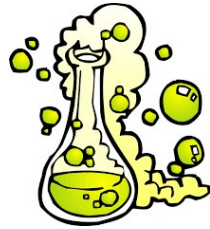
5th Grade — Amelia Cooper





## Science Buddies

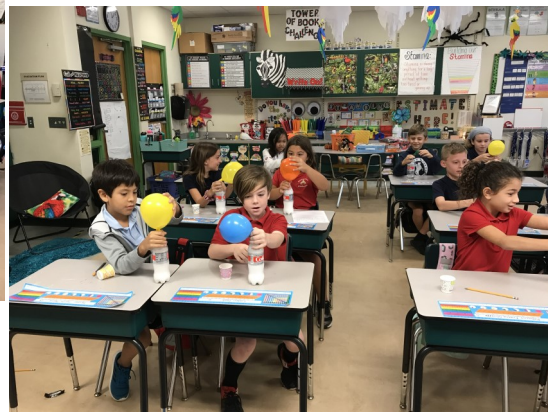
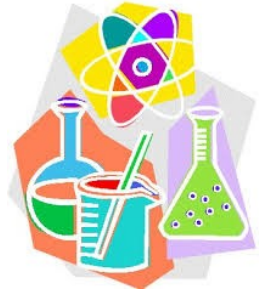
Mrs. Dragon's 5th grade class and Mrs. Comegno's kindergarten class created monster goo together!



## News from Mrs. Harris' 3rd grade class

Third graders in Mrs. Harris's class have been totally engaged in learning about the Scientific Method! Some of our testable questions: "Can you make a gummy worm dance?" "What happens when you mix baking soda and vinegar in a bottle with a balloon?" "What changes occur to a seed when you add heat?" Upcoming Science Lab is "How does Oobleck compare to Glurch!" These Junior Scientists have learned a lot about conducting an experiment and the Scientific Method!

Mrs. Harris and her Third Grade Wonders!



# NURSE'S CORNER



**caught the flu?**

**no school for you!**

**Your child may have the flu if:**

- In addition to coughing or sneezing, he's suffering from a fever, headache, chills or body aches.
- It came on suddenly.

**The flu is most contagious early in the illness.**

If you believe your child is coming down with the flu, he should stay home. Teach him to keep his hands clean, and coughs and sneezes covered. Consider seeing your doctor.

**Prevent the flu—it's in your hands!**

- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If you don't have soap and water, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Don't touch or shake hands with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.
- Stay home when you're sick, and keep your children home when they're sick.

FloridaHealth.gov





Flu and cold season is here. Handwashing is our best defense against germs that make us sick. Keeping your child home when they are sick can help them recover faster.

As a reminder, please keep your child home from school when:

- Fever of 100.0 or greater: Your child must be free of fever without medication for at least 24 hours
- Frequent cough
- Sore throat
- Signs of Pinkeye/Conjunctivitis (red, itchy, drainage)
- Vomiting/Diarrhea
- Skin rash
- Headache/Earache/Body Aches

Thank you from the school clinic team!






**Manatee Technical College**

**"Smart-Smiles Project"**

**FREE DENTAL CLINIC**



**Friday, December 6, 2019**  
9:00-12:00

Manatee Technical College  
5520 Lakewood Ranch Boulevard  
Dental Assistance Program

Polish Exam (Cleaning, Polish, Fluoride, & X-rays)

Dental decay is the #1 Childhood Disease according to the U.S. Surgeon General's Report on Oral Health in America. Many students do not have access to dental care. Pain and suffering due to untreated dental disease can lead to problems eating, sleeping, speaking and learning. Don't miss this opportunity to have your student get the routine preventative care that they need.




**PLEASE RETURN THE ATTACHED HEALTH HISTORY FORM TO YOURSCHOOL NURSE BY Friday – November 15, 2019**

**Colegio Técnico Manatee**

**"Smart-Smiles Proyecto"**

**GRATIS CLÍNICA DENTAL**

**Viernes – 6 de Diciembre, 2019**  
9:00-2:00

Manatee Technical College  
5520 Lakewood Ranch Boulevard  
Programa Asistencia Dental

Examen para Brillo (Limpieza, Pulir, Fluoruro, y Rayos-X)

Caries dental es la Enfermedad #1 de los Niños de acuerdo con el Cirujano General de los EEUU, Reporte de Salud Oral en América. Muchos estudiantes tienen acceso al cuidado dental. El dolor y sufrimiento debido a enfermedades dentales sin tratamiento puede causarles problemas al comer, dormir, al hablar y al aprender. No pierda esta oportunidad de que su estudiante obtenga el cuidado preventivo de rutina que ellos necesitan.

**FAVOR DE DEVOLVER EL ATADO FORMULARIO HISTORIAL DE SALUD A LA ENFERMERA DE LA ESCUELA PARA EL – Viernes – 15 de Noviembre, 2019**

# Message from PTO President Rebecca Gurski

Dear BRE families,

I want to first thank all of our BRE families, new and not so new, for all of your wonderful support for PTO's beginning of the year fundraisers and events. We are off to an amazing start and I promise you that more fun is ahead!

I would also like to personally invite each and every parent to come to one of our meetings throughout the year and see what goes on "behind the scenes." I attended my first PTO meeting when my girls were in pre-k 6 years ago and hid in the back for fear of being asked to do something. Now I'm PTO President and loving being able to give back to the school that has done so much for my 3 children. I promise we won't make you sign up for anything! But, my hope is that you feel compelled to contribute in any way you can, small or large, and at your own pace. We are blessed with a fabulous group of core volunteers who are putting together a unique schedule of events that embrace and enrich our school community. Be sure to pay attention to all of the PTO emails and FB posts to stay updated on all BRE happenings!

Thanks and I'm looking forward to meeting more of you soon!

Rebecca Gurski

Like us on Facebook (Braden River Elementary PTO) & follow us on Twitter @BradenRiverEL

- PTO Board for 2019-20**
- President.....Rebecca Gurski**
  - Vice President.....Angela Abrams**
  - Secretary.....Annya Hernandez**
  - Treasurer.....Stefanie Severini**
  - Box Tops Coordinator.....Elly Barr**
  - Spirit Nights Coordinator.....Kristy Cestero**

Please support the school with the new Receipt Scan Method at [BTFE.COM](http://BTFE.COM)

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS

Each Box Top is still worth 10c to the school.




**Uniform Solutions Opening New Store**

Our main uniform supplier is opening a new store location, Wednesday, Nov. 6th! They will continue to handle online orders as we currently do, delivering and picking up at the school. They have moved to a more efficient space that has a store front, so they will be open several days a week for the convenience of the Braden River families. Hours will be adjusted seasonally to accommodate demand.

Monday—Wednesday 12pm—6pm  
 Friday 8:30am—11:30am  
 5002 Lena Road • Suite 111 • Bradenton, FL 34211





# Cafeteria Guidelines



## Smart Snack Nutrition & Wellness Policy 8510 Idea List

The following are snacks that comply with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Smart Snack requirements and the Manatee County Schools Wellness Policy 8510

**Please note:**

- ✓ This is not an inclusive list - other items and brands may meet guidelines
- ✓ Food must be from a licensed food service establishment and have an ingredient label
- ✓ Be sure to check nutritional labels to verify that the product meets guidelines
- ✓ All products must include an ingredient label so that allergens can be verified before consumption

- Cheese Sticks
- Chex Mix Cheddar, Chocolate
- Chips, Baked or Reduced Fat (0.8 oz. or 1 oz.);
- Baked BBQ Lays, Baked Cheddar Lays, Baked Sour Cream Lays, Baked Nacho Doritos, Baked Tostitos Scoops, RF Sweet Chili Doritos, RF Cool Ranch Doritos, RF Nacho Doritos, Baked SW Ranch Lays, Baked Flamin Hot Cheetos, Baked Cheetos, Flamin Hot, Baked Lays Original, SunChips
- Whole Grain Goldfish
- Whole Grain Graham Crackers
- NutriGrain Bars
- Whole Grain Pretzel
- Whole Grain Cupcakes or Brownies
- Whole Grain Rice Krispie Treats
- Smartfood Popcorn
- Fresh Fruit or Vegetable Trays
- Raisins or Craisins
- 100% Fruit Chews or Fruit Strips
- Box of Low Fat White or Fat Free Flavored Milk
- Box 100% Fruit Juice
- Low Fat Ice Cream Bars or Ice Cream Cups
- 100% Juice Frozen Bars or Frozen Cups
- Water

**1. All foods must meet at least one of the following:**

- Must be "whole grain-rich"
  - A. Include 50% or more whole grains by weight or
  - B. Have a whole grain listed as the first ingredient
- OR Have as the first ingredient a fruit, a vegetable, a dairy product, or a protein food
- OR Be a combination food that contains at least 1/4 cup of fruit and/or vegetable
- OR Contain 10% of the Daily Value (DV) of one of the nutrients of public health concern in the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans (calcium, potassium, vitamin D, or dietary fiber)

**2. All foods plus any accompaniments (dressing, jelly, etc.) must also meet the following:**

Nutrient	Snack Item	Entree Items*
Calories	≤ 200 calories	≤ 350 calories
Sodium	≤ 200 mg	≤ 480 mg
Fat **	≤ 35% of calories	≤ 35% of calories
Saturated Fat	<10% of calories	<10% of calories
Trans Fat	0 grams	0 grams
Sugar	≤ 35% of weight	≤ 35% of weight

\*Entree items include a meat/meat alternate alone or in combination with a grain or fruit/vegetable.  
 \*\*Foods exempt from the above requirements include: reduced fat cheese, nuts, seeds, dried fruit, and seafood with no added fat. Fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables are exempt from the above requirements. Canned fruits in 100% juice or light syrup, and canned vegetables in water or a small amount of sugar, are also exempt.

The full Nutrition & Wellness Policy 8510 can be found on:  
**ManateeSchoolFood.net**



- 🍎 What Parents Need To Know
- 🍎 How Will This Affect My Child

## Parent Information Sheet Nutrition & Wellness Policy 8510

**Here is how it will affect you and your child:**

**Breakfast, Lunch, & Snack**

1. Students will have at least 10 minutes of eating time for breakfast and 15 minutes for lunch
2. Students must take 1/2 cup of fruit or vegetable and 2 other components (food groups) to qualify as a complete meal
3. Students will have access to water in all cafeterias
4. All nutritional content is available online and through the NutriSense cafeteria app.
5. Parents can bring food for breakfast, lunch or snack into the cafeteria for their child only

**Classroom Celebrations**

1. Elementary schools can celebrate in the last hour of the school day
2. Food served must meet Smart Snack Nutritional Standards (refer to the Smart Snack Idea List - the standard restricts calories, sugar, fat and sodium). Student catering such as Celebration Baskets can be purchased from Food & Nutrition Services - see cafeteria manager for more information
3. Food must be from a licensed food service establishment and have an ingredient label

**Classroom Food & Rewards**

1. Classroom rewards and snacks must meet Smart Snack Nutritional Standards
2. Non-food alternatives should be used as rewards
3. Students are allowed to have water bottles unless there is a discipline issue
4. Foods sold for fundraising purposes and consumed during the school day on the school campus must meet Smart Snack Nutritional Standards
5. Food can not be sold until 30 minutes after the last meal period
6. Fundraiser foods such as raw cookie dough that are not meant to be consumed at school can be sold

**Nutrition Education**

1. Will meet Health Education Guidelines

Continued on the other side

**ManateeSchoolFood.net**



**Physical Activity**

1. Physical activity (including recess) will not be denied or required as part of discipline or punishment
2. Students shall receive the prescribed amount of physical education dictated by the District's Student Progression Plan
3. Classroom stretch breaks/physical activity breaks are encouraged



**1. All foods must meet at least one of the following:**

- Must be "whole grain-rich"
  - A. Include 50% or more whole grains by weight or
  - B. Have a whole grain listed as the first ingredient
- OR Have as the first ingredient a fruit, a vegetable, a dairy product, or a protein food
- OR Be a combination food that contains at least 1/4 cup of fruit and/or vegetable
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About Us:

**ManateeSchoolFood.net**





## Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A"	Student "B"	Student "C"
reads <b>20 minutes</b> each day	reads <b>5 minutes</b> each day	reads <b>1 minute</b> each day
3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year

1,800,000 words



90<sup>th</sup> percentile

282,000 words



50<sup>th</sup> percentile

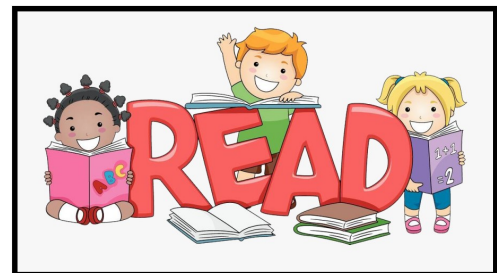
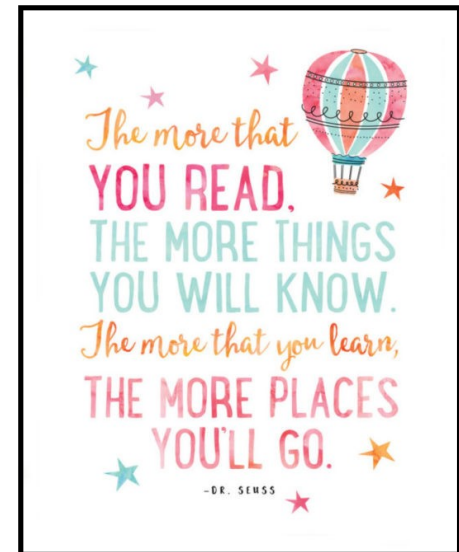
8,000 words



10<sup>th</sup> percentile

By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)



There is a "Dragon" in our Art Room!

Thank you so much for our brand new red kiln!

The Kiln is made by Paragon and is called a Dragon.

## A word from Mrs. Kushmer

Our school is in the PROCESS of setting up student art to be viewed by their families on a website called ARTSONIA. (Artsonia.com) In order for parents to privately view their child's art online, they will need to give their consent. Once consent is given, they will be given a code to access their child's art and view it. No art has been submitted to Artsonia from our school yet. We are in the beginning stages of implementation of doing this. We will begin with the upper grade levels to start the program this year.

Also, we are in need of newer tablets to photograph art. If there are any "gently used" tablets that could be donated, it would be truly appreciated!

Thank you!

Mrs. Kushmer



## BRE Volunteers

*If you would like to volunteer, please fill out an online application located on the "Volunteer Page" of the district website, [www.manateeschools.net](http://www.manateeschools.net) This page can be found by locating "Community" at the top of the website.*

*BRE teachers and staff would like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers who give so much of their time and talents to help make Braden River the best school for our children.*

*We truly appreciate you!!!*

## Build the Habit of Good Attendance

### Early School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

Regular school attendance is a partner to academic success! Parents and students are urged to recognize the need for promptness each day and attendance in all classes throughout the school year, unless a student is ill. When students miss classes, they lose valuable instruction and form poor habits that can result in problems for them later in school or in the work force.

Did you know that within one minute of the bell ringing a teacher directs students to take their seats and starts instruction? When a child comes late to school, it disrupts the class and takes focus away from the teacher. Please make sure your child is on time to school every day.

We understand there may be times for appointments, but habitual early pick-ups could also result in falling behind in academics.

### Shared Values

The BRE staff values respect and trust, collaboration, innovation, family, and fun in order to promote the highest student achievement.

### Vision Statement

BRE attains exceptional academic achievement from our students by providing a safe, positive and highly engaging learning environment, where we differentiate instruction and foster critical thinking skills.

# We appreciate our Business Partners!

## Platinum Sponsors

Blue Marlin Insurance – Jeff Hamer

Cablsh and Gentile CPA

Culver's

Dr. Si McAninch, DDS

Flood Pros

Gulf Coast Institute of Rejuvenation

i9 Sports

Jersey Sound and Entertainment

Kona Ice

Life Pharmacy Lakewood Ranch

Little Town Smiles Pediatric Dentist

Morrish Stewart Orthodontics

Oasis Church

Pop Dance

Rogers Griffin Group- Premier Sotheby's International Realty

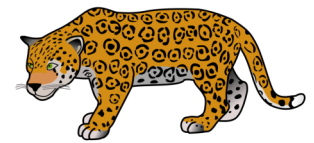
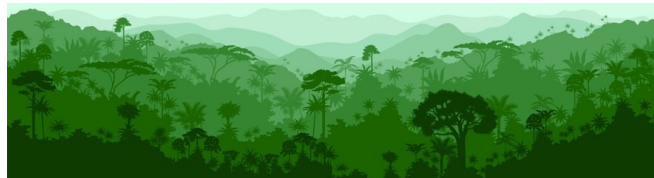
Schindel Orthodontics

Sharkey's Cuts for Kids

Texas Roadhouse

The Milbank Team, Real Estate

Your sponsorship will support our school's vision by providing professional development trainings, materials, and community building experiences for our students and staff. If you are interested in purchasing a sponsorship, please contact Angela Abrams at [BREPTO6125@gmail.com](mailto:BREPTO6125@gmail.com)



**BRAVE RAINFOREST EXPLORERS LOOK FORWARD TO  
LEARNING!**