



MagnetMatters Highlights

14 WCPSS Magnet Schools Win National Awards. (pg.1)

Millbrook International Baccalaureate Magnet ES first grade team is featured by the International Baccalaureate Organization. (pg.1)

Brentwood Magnet Elementary School of Engineering is actively engaging students in the engineering program (pg.2)

Brooks Museums Magnet ES participates in NC Museum of Art grand opening (pg.2)

Fuller GT / AG Basics hosts annual Science Enrichment Day (pg.2)

Hunter GT / AG Basics invites author/illustrator Kevin O'Malley (pg.2)

14 Magnet Schools Win National Awards

The Magnet Schools of America (MSA) professional organization has selected 14 Wake County Magnet Schools to win the 2010 national awards. Seven magnet schools received *Magnet Schools of Excellence* awards and seven magnet schools received *Magnet Schools of Distinction* awards. Almost 260 magnet schools across the nation applied for the MSA awards. Wake County magnet schools won more awards of *Excellence* than any other district in the nation and tied for the highest number of awards received overall.

The Magnet Schools of America awarded *Magnet Schools of Excellence* to the following WCPSS magnet schools: Bugg Creative Arts & Science Magnet ES, Conn Active Learning & Technology Magnet ES, Joyner Center for Spanish / International Baccalaureate PYP Magnet ES, Millbrook International Baccalaureate PYP Magnet ES, Wiley International Studies Magnet ES, Ligon Gifted & Talented/AG Basics Magnet MS, and Garner International Baccalaureate Magnet HS.

The Magnet Schools of America awarded *Magnet Schools of Distinction* to the following WCPSS magnet schools: Combs Leadership Magnet ES, Brooks Museums Magnet ES, Douglas Creative Arts and Science Magnet ES, Hunter Gifted & Talented / AG Basics Magnet ES, Washington Gifted & Talented Magnet ES, Centennial Campus University Connections & Leadership Magnet MS, and East Garner International Baccalaureate Magnet MS.

Millbrook Magnet Elementary School Receives International Recognition

Exciting news from **Millbrook International Baccalaureate Magnet Elementary School!** The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) selected Millbrook's first grade team to model best teaching practices in a Primary Years Programme (PYP) classroom. A videographer from the IBO office in Cardiff, Wales visited Millbrook's first grade classrooms and videotaped PYP students in action. The IBO is now creating DVD's and adding these videos to the IBO website as resources for teachers around the globe who are new to the PYP. The IBO has been in regular contact with Millbrook's first grade team to reflect and refine the planner which will be featured, *How We Organize Ourselves*. We look forward to sharing the Millbrook PYP videos with other PYP World Schools. Congratulations Millbrook ES!

Brentwood Magnet Elementary School of Engineering is "Gearing" Up!

The **Brentwood Magnet Elementary School of Engineering** had the pleasure of participating in a flyover for ABC 11. The students were so elated to see themselves on T.V.!

Brentwood students are busily engaged in wonderful projects. Third graders used the engineering design process (Ask, Imagine, Plan, Create, Improve) to create solar ovens. The teachers will be making smores with the students after EOG's!

Kristin Sargianis, a researcher from the Museum of Science in Boston, MA visited Brentwood students from each grade level. She came to the S.T.E.M. lab and explained how they use the S.T.E.M. lab notebooks to organize all of the science, technology, engineering and math lessons throughout the year!

On May 12th, the magnet coordinator, Mr. Elwood Peters, from Centennial Campus University Connections & Leadership Magnet Middle School visited Brentwood to greet and inform the Brentwood 5th graders who will be attending Centennial in the fall.

Brooks Connects Museum Program with Local Museum Grand Opening

Brooks Museums Magnet ES students connected with the NC Museum of Art on opening day! The NC Museum of Art included Brooks' students in their special grand opening. Students were given a behind the scenes tour of the museum where they got to see how artwork was restored and displayed. They also traveled through the underground tunnel between the old museum and the new museum as well as participate in a tour of the new museum.



Fuller kindergarten and first-grade students prepare to fire a marshmallow catapult as part of the "Engineering Suitcase" assembly by NC State's Dept of Engineering.

Fuller Students "Catapult" for Science

Fuller GT / AG Basics Magnet Elementary School hosted their annual Science Enrichment Day (SED). This all day school-wide event began almost 10 years ago. SED day is devoted entirely to real-life science exploration for all grade levels. Local scientists present to each grade level. During the interactive presentations, students explored native North Carolina snakes, genetics and DNA, magnetism and electricity, soil science, and peanut research, just to name a few. All students also attended an assembly titled, "The Engineering Suitcase". This assembly featured a suitcase filled with items and toys that helped to demonstrate engineering principals. Students were selected to participate on-stage and discuss items from the suitcase such as marshmallow catapults and airplane wings.

Kevin O'Malley Comes to Hunter for Author Visit

Hunter GT / AG Basics Magnet Elementary School teachers, students and parents have been planning a visit by author/illustrator Kevin O'Malley since the fall. The media specialists and the art teachers combined forces to teach electives that presented O'Malley's books and the illustrations of his creative work. In addition, each homeroom chose one of his books to read. At the conclusion of each homeroom reading, the walls of Hunter delightfully displayed beautiful student projects inspired by his books. Kevin O'Malley's visit mesmerized the whole student body with his wild sense of humor. Children were roaring with laughter as O'Malley shared his life journey of becoming an author/illustrator. Some of the events included in his visit were a welcome breakfast for Hunter staff and local dignitaries, a family night with a book signing, individual homeroom visits for question/answer sessions, book-related contests, book talks, and large group assemblies. Hunter students' favorite O'Malley books were Cinder Edna, Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude, Little Buggy, and My Lucky Hat. For more on Kevin O'Malley, visit: www.booksbyomalley.com