

CBPS Celebrates Winter ... and Community

Winter Workshop 2008 – what a successful day for everyone involved! The 2007 – 2008 goal of the Cherry Brook Quality Council is advancing a school culture that celebrates students and their accomplishments. Part of their planning was centered on the school’s first ever “Winter Workshop,” which took place Thursday, February 7th and accomplished just what the Council had intended -- a carefully planned day of learning-based activities *which involved the entire school* and helped to build a stronger community. This day was all about children and adults having fun together and trying something new.



Students in “All a-Board” played board games in a session offered by Mrs. McNeil and Mrs. Woodward.



The gym was the site of “Dance to the Music” hosted by Mrs. Conway, Mrs. Decker, and Mrs. Hamelin.

For this celebration, the Quality Council wanted to have multi-aged groups and to provide students with unique opportunities that do not regularly occur during the school day. They developed the idea for 45-minute elective classes that piqued students' interests and showcased the unique abilities and spirits of the Cherry Brook staff. Thus, the teachers and staff offered courses in Lego building, Braille, edible art, dancing, tennis, bubbles, science experiments, telling stories, an obstacle course, thumb buddies printing, green slimy Ooblek, board games, yoga, competitive cheerleading, and much more!

How was "Winter Workshop" designed? All students in grades 1 - 3 received a brochure of course offerings from their classroom teachers. ([Click here](#) if you'd like to view that brochure.) Working with their teachers, students



Students in "Spooky Camp Fire Stories" gathered around the campfire, listened to spooky stories, and enjoyed a favorite campfire treat with Miss Amundson and Mrs. McAlindin.



Mrs. Schley and Mrs. Agosto taught students how to make these gorgeous giant snowflakes for their bedrooms.

registered for their favorites and were then scheduled into two different workshops – one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Kindergarteners participated in either the morning or afternoon workshop according to their school day. Getting this schedule to work was no easy task, and that task fell to Mrs. Nardini, Mrs. Keagan and Mrs. Peirson, all members of the Quality Council and organizers of this event.

Thus, a new tradition was born, and the students and staff can look forward to “Winter Workshop” and its future expansion next year.



Students worked with Mrs. Burrill and Mrs. L. Woods to make pinecone bird feeders in “Feed Our Feathered Friends.”



Ben R.

“I got to do cool activities that I wanted to do my whole life.”





In "How far can your airplane fly?" students and Mr. Phelps experimented with paper airplanes.

"This was so much fun!
Can we do this every
Thursday??"



Some students played chess with Mr. Sherman, and others, tennis with Mrs. Cable.



Laura O.
"African Queen gave me a chance
to learn about African culture and
to see real pictures of African
animals."

