

Upcoming  
Events

August 1st or 2nd-

Basketball Hall of  
Fame

August 5th-

Ecotarium Trip

August 9th-

Deep Sea Fishing

August 12th-

Sports/Field Day

August 19th-

New England  
Sports Museum or  
Harbor Cruise

August 19th-

Summer School  
Ends

August 26th-

Awards Day/  
Cookout

September 9th-

School Begins

**Outdoor**

**Education:**

Week of  
Aug. 3rd-

13+ Ropes  
Challenge at  
Resolute

Scout Reservation

Week of Aug. 10th-

Building Pioneer  
Structures

Week of Aug. 17th-

Nature Hikes &  
Fishing



**Outdoor Ed  
Team-Building**

# Brandon Pride

A Newsletter for Parents/Guardians and Friends  
of Brandon at the suggestion of the Parent  
Advisory Council (PAC)

## Whale Watch by student J.L.

On Saturday, July 25th a lot of kids from Brandon went Boston Harbor for a whale watch. It wasn't actually in the Harbor. We had to go two hours out to get to the whale watching spot. It was the largest boat I've ever been on and the furthest out to see I've ever been. I saw a whale calf with it's mother. I learned that whales can dive thousands of feet under water. I saw four whales all together. We were on the boat for like 4 and a half hours, two hours each way to the spot and a half hour to watch the whales. No one got sick. The whole time I was on the very front of the boat. The front of the boat is the worst place for getting sea sick but I didn't! I had a good time!

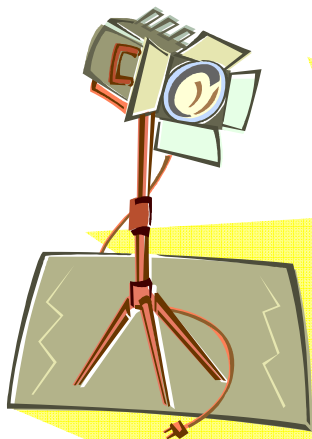


## Fenway Park Tour by student A.J.D.

On July 15th about 15-25 kids and I got the chance to take a tour of Fenway Park. We were very excited on the way. We were looking forward to seeing the stadium and the field and stuff. Unfortunately we had to be patient because we couldn't find parking anywhere and had to drive around for about a half an hour. Eventually we found a metered spot. We walked into the stadium and went up a bunch of ramps going up and up and up until we got to the top row of the seats. The tour guide told us some stories and we got to look around. We learned a story about the red seat...a guy was sleeping in outfield a long time ago. He was supposedly a Yankees fan. Ted Williams had good eyesight and apparently it's a myth that he saw him and wanted to wake him so hit the ball and hit him in the head. After that they painted one seat out of all the green ones red. After that the story goes that the man and his family had to promise to be Red Sox fans. After that we got to go up on the green monster. It was really hot up there though. We also got to see the Hall of Fame plaques. I have only been to Fenway Park one time before this in my entire life, so I'm looking forward to going back someday in the future to see another game. It was a very fun day!



Together We Can Achieve



## Student Spotlight

*I'm a 12 year old fun loving boy who likes video games, tv, and reading, especially Life On Mars. I've been a day student at Brandon for three years. It's kind of nice, although I wouldn't want to live here per say. During the school day I like computer, math and science. My teacher is kind of weird because he was 6'4" when he was only in the sixth grade. He helps me with my work though. I've learned how to make a volcano. At school I also get to hang out with my friends which is kinda nice. We just sit around talking and just hang out. I get along good with other kids. I didn't always get along with other kids. I used to not interact at all, I would sit back and want to just do my work and not do anything with other kids. I feel happy and great that I get along with other kids now. I also came to Brandon because I had violent outrages...people*

*would get hurt, not just me but the staff. That doesn't happen anymore because I'm controlling it. I learned by practicing. I also go to therapy here. It's fun. I just talk about how things are going at home and at school and other stuff. It is helpful. One of the things that makes me kind of different is that I have a very big vocabulary. Everyone is different in their own way. Others don't have to be like me. I'm just an average Joe. I'm also different because I'm able to figure out games without getting stuck. Many times I beat levels on the first try. Even though I'm a day student I'm just like the other kids. I have problems. I have problems at home just like them and I know what it's like because I've been in a program like this.*

*This summer I'm looking forward to my mom taking me to Six Flags when school gets out. I'm going to ride the Bizaro. I want to become a rocket engine when I grow up. Brandon helps me with that by getting my math and reading up to grade. I hope everyone has a good life after this place and that you succeed here and everywhere else.*

## May Staff of the Month: Arline Westerman



Arline has been an asset to Brandon for many years. She puts pride in her work and all she does. She often goes above and beyond what she needs to do—like the times she has scrambled at the end of the day to communicate with staff regarding end of the day details, or addressing late cab issues. Her detective work in tracking down staff for important phone calls is always appreciated! Arline helps put out quality reports and checks them for any errors. She makes sure everything is ready for meetings and looks presentable. She is appreciated by her fellow staff more than she knows!

## June Staff of the Month: Mark Fraser

Mark is committed and dedicated to working with the kids at Brandon. He has always come with ideas and information regarding the students in treatment team each Friday—this is an invaluable asset to the team! The kids have a respect for Mark because they can talk and feel comfortable with him. He has also been helping during the school day and works well with kids of all ages.. He continues to work on helping others to learn the Brandon systems in order to give our kids the best treatment possible. We greatly appreciate Mark's work with the Brandon students!

