

BROWN BULLETIN

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FROM THE OFFICE OF M. J. GIULIANI & G. LAROCQUE

November 2007

FALL ACTIVITIES

The **Fall Fling** on November 6 was a wonderful opportunity for parents and staff to socialize and celebrate the artistic talents of our students. The student art projects organized by the staff and our parent volunteers were so creative! Thank you to the Grade 6 Choir, under the direction of Mr. Ellis, for entertaining us. Thank you to Claire Goodman and Ian Carmichael, the co-chairs of the Fling, along with their committee and the School Council Executive, for such a creative and memorable evening. Thank you to the many generous donors of items for the silent auction.

Our **fall sports teams** have completed another outstanding season. Our students always represent their school so well. Our parents have been a constant support to our school teams by attending games to cheer us on and by driving students to and from sporting events. Thank you to the Brown staff for sharing their talents and skills to coach our school teams.

Our school **Remembrance Day Ceremony** was held on Friday, November 9. Thank you to Mme. Gagnon, Mr. Ellis and Mr. Macdonald for organizing this event, and to the classes and students for their presentations. The ceremony provided us with an opportunity to remember and reflect. Thank you to the students in Room 40 for sharing their Peace poems with us during the week on the daily announcements.

LUNCH NEWS

Thank you to many parents and caregivers for sending litterless lunches to school! With your cooperation we have significantly reduced the amount of garbage collected each day. Yogurt and drink containers are recycled. We do request however that for safety reasons that children do not bring drinks in glass bottles.

BROWN IS WRITE ON!

On November 2, Brown Staff met to discuss school improvement plans focussed on using the First Steps writing assessment to program for the students. Teachers are devising a school wide approach to writing, working in teams to build lessons, common evaluations, multi-grade and inter-subject connections. Brown families are encouraged to partner with staff in helping students become excellent writers. What are things families can do to support strong writing skills? Here are a few examples:

- Make sure writing is upheld as an important skill to learn and look for reasons to write with your child, e.g. thank you note, family trip journal, greeting cards, telephone messages.
- Model and discuss your many reasons for writing – filling in forms, work reports, personal notes, crosswords, shopping lists, e-mails, etc.
- Talk over your child's draft writing; ask clarification questions about the content, structure and purpose of the piece.
- Encourage revision of your child's writings concerning spelling, punctuation, sequencing of ideas, vocabulary upgrading and enriching the content. Praise efforts in using writing support tools such as a dictionary or thesaurus.
- Expose your child to a wide variety of writing by encouraging the reading of a multitude of fiction and non-fiction materials.

Monday November 12 to Friday November 23.....	Outreach Club's Warm Clothing Drive
Friday November 16.....	Pizza Lunch
Tuesday November 20.....	Dental Screening begins
Wednesday November 21.....	Parent Council Meeting, 7pm in the Library
Monday November 26.....	Term 1 Reports are sent home
Monday November 26.....	Ward Forum Meeting, 7pm at Forest Hill CI
Thursday November 29.....	Last day to order Festive Plants
Friday November 30.....	Professional Activity Day – Reporting to Parents (no classes)
Thursday December 6.....	Winterfest Concert – save the date! More information to follow.
Thursday December 6.....	Festive Plants available for pick-up, 3.30 – 6pm
Friday December 14.....	Pizza Lunch
Friday December 21.....	Last Day of Classes for Fall Term

PEDICULOSIS SCREENING

The next school-wide check is scheduled for early January, following the winter break. However, it is now hat season and a great time for these little pests to make their return. Should your child (or sibling attending another school) require treatment before January, please advise the office. Your cooperation in keeping this problem in check is greatly appreciated!

LOST & FOUND

Is your child missing a hat, winter coat, running shoe, lunch box, knapsack, towel, or any other item that should have returned home? Odds are that the forgotten item has found its way into our overflowing Lost & Found box, located in the Meeting Room on the Main Floor of the school. Please encourage your children to visit the box and reclaim any lost items. This box will be cleaned out and all articles displayed at the Winter Concert. After that all unclaimed articles will be donated to a local charity in preparation for the winter onslaught of misplaced items. To help minimize the number of misplaced items, please help by labeling clothing, backpacks, etc., with your child's name.

PARENT SAFETY PROGRAM

Our neighbourhood traffic situation is reaching a crisis point. To ensure the ongoing safety of Brown students, **the Parent Council is planning to create a Kiss 'n Ride area for dropping off and picking up**, in consultation with our local Traffic & Community Liaison Police Officer. This program would be for children in Grades 1 through 6. Planning is in the very early stages but if you would like to learn more or are interested in helping out, please contact Yvonne Harding at harding99@rogers.com. Parent volunteers are critical to the success of this program so we hope to hear from you.

NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH CLUB

The Outreach Club is holding a **Warm Clothing Drive** for a Toronto school which has students who are in need of scarves, gloves, mittens and gently used warm jackets. In the past week, we have experienced cold weather and even snow!!! Both parents and children understand the need for warm clothing as the temperature becomes lower. There will be a collection box outside the office for the next two weeks (November 12 – 23). Thank you for those who have already brought in items for the clothing drive.

Please watch your children's knapsacks at the beginning of December as Brown School will be creating 22 **Holiday Hampers** this year. Each class will be given a family profile detailing who is in the family, sizes, colour preferences, and gift ideas. Thank you for supporting this initiative and for making a family have an easier time during the holiday season.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT BROWN

WINTERFEST CONCERT

We look forward to sharing and celebrating our student's musical accomplishments with you at our annual Winterfest concert on Thursday morning December 6. We will send home a copy of the program early in December. Please note that our afternoon Kindergarten classes do not participate in this concert. They will perform at our Spring Concert which is held during the afternoon.

DENTAL SCREENING

Toronto Public Health provides dental screening to children in Kindergarten to Grade 8. Brown School will participate in this program beginning on November 20. The goal of the program is to identify children with oral health problems. The screening consists of an assessment by a dental hygienist using sterilized instruments. The dental hygienist will assess the need for topical fluoride, scaling, sealants or any other obvious dental needs.

As a follow up to the screening, only parents whose children require dental services will be notified by a note sent home with the child. Toronto public health dental staff may contact parents by telephone to assist in the access of care. This dental screening does not replace the dental examinations done by a licensed dentist. If you require more information, please contact Toronto Public Health, Dental & Oral Health Services at 416-370-4780.

BEAUTIFUL FESTIVE PLANTS ARE COMING TO BROWN

Look for the flyer and order form at the end of this Bulletin! Plants may be ordered until Thursday, November 29, and will be available for pick-up at the school on Thursday, December 6 from 3.30 – 6pm. Please call Judy Sheldon at 416-488-6267 if you have questions or if you would like to get involved and help!

REMEMBRANCE DAY

To commemorate Remembrance Day, the students in Room 36 (Grade 2) wrote essays about “La Paix”. We are proud to share several of these with you in this issue:

La Paix Par Deuxième Année, Salle 36

La Paix

La paix c'est respecter les autres.
La paix c'est être silencieux quand les autres dorment.
La paix c'est aider les autres.
La paix c'est prendre soin de ton animal.
La paix c'est être responsable.
La paix c'est donner la main.
La paix c'est aider les autres.

-- Par Zion

La Paix

Le ciel est clair.
Les amies sont gentilles.
La paix, la paix, la paix c'est jolie.
Les animaux sont petits ou gros.
La paix c'est quand on est content.

-- Par Audrey et Claire



What Does Peace Feel Like? Room 41, Grade 4/5

The Grade 4/5 students of Room 41 read a book together called **What Does Peace Feel Like?** by **V. Radunsky**. This book talks about what **Peace** would be like if we could experience it through each of our senses. It is written by 8, 9 and 10 year-olds. The students in Room 41 wrote their own ideas of what **Peace** would look like, smell like, taste like, feel like and sound like to them, and presented their thoughts at the Remembrance Day assembly at Brown School. We hope you enjoy reading them and perhaps even let them inspire you to write your own ideas of what **Peace** would be like through **your** 5 senses!

– Miss. Hirsch & the students of Rm. 41 (This book is available to loan out of our library at Brown School.)

Smell

Peace smells like cinnamon buns. – Spencer
Peace smells like caramel. – Gattee
Peace smells like pumpkin pie. – Kaitlin
Peace smells like fresh air. – Anja
Peace smells like trees. – Takashi

Taste

Peace tastes like buttery popcorn. – Eryn
Peace tastes like chicken fingers dipped in ketchup. – Mon
Peace tastes like yummy pasta with sauce. – Gavin
Peace tastes like honey on toast. – Harrison
Peace tastes like warm soft doughy bread that just came out of the oven. – Ben

Feels

Peace feels like a soft blanket. – Michelle
Peace feels like a poppy's petals. – Kamal
Peace feels like the waves touching my toes at the beach.
– Mia
Peace feels like a summer breeze. – Graeme
Peace feels like the soft fur of a gentle animal. – Taylor
Peace feels like flowers blowing in the breeze. – Jessye
Peace feels like a warm fire heating up my hands. – Susan

Sound

Peace sounds like rain falling. – Katarina
Peace sounds like the ice-cream truck. – Paighton
Peace sounds like laughter and family. – Dusan
Peace sounds like birds chirping. – James
Peace sounds like a whistling tune. – Laith
Peace sounds like no guns shooting. – India

Looks

Peace looks like white turtle doves floating in the air.
– Goulya
Peace looks like a star. – Pavel
Peace looks like puzzle pieces fitting together. – Bugra
Peace looks like tears of joy running down someone's face.
– Emma
Peace looks like a friendly walk with your grandfather.
– Nicolas
Peace looks like a mother cat snuggling with her kittens.
– Izabella
Peace looks like a tree with every colour and no colour at the same time. – Max

BROWN SCHOOL PRESENTS: IDEAS FOR PARENTS

We often think of homework as pencil and paper tasks. However, there are many things that parents can do at home that review and reinforce concepts that have been taught at school. Listed below are activities from Beverly Dexter's article "No More Homework?" We hope that you will find these ideas useful.

10 Ways to Learn Without Doing Homework

Learning Activity	Related Skills
Sorting Laundry, putting groups of sorted clothes in the washer, dryer, closets	Likenesses, differences, sorting, organizing
Doing Daily chores (making bed, putting dirty clothes in hamper)	Responsibility
Making a "TV Guide" of favourite programs	Decision-making, sequencing
Keeping a diary, journal or log	Language, writing, organization
Reading cartoons to younger siblings	Reading
Summarizing sports events (live, on TV or in newspapers, magazines)	Sequencing, organization, comprehension
Playing card games, keeping score	Attention span, math facts, following rules, decision-making
Going for walks or rides and looking for specific categories of objects such as birds, flowers, house numbers	Memory, organization
Comparing prices of similar or same articles in different stores while shopping	Organization, decision-making, math facts
Obtaining a street map from the Chamber of Commerce and plotting colour-coded routes to school, shopping areas and other places frequently visited	Map reading, fine motor coordination

-- Beverly L. Dexter is Associate Professor of Education at Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Virginia



2007/2008 PIZZA LUNCH



This school year, Pizza Lunch will be served to all participating children on the following dates:

Fall Term

Friday, October 26
Friday, November 16
Friday, December 14

Winter Term

Friday, January 18
Friday, February 22

Spring Term

Friday, March 28
Friday, April 18
Friday, May 23

If your child has not yet signed up for Pizza Lunch or Milk but would like to, please complete the **Lunch Registration Form** at www.brownschool.ca/forms.asp and send it to Gunta Lauge via the office.

SPORTS CORNER

Please continue to check the school website for announcements, information regarding team sports and more!
www.brownschool.ca

GIRLS FOOTBALL

The Girls Football Team provided so many very exciting moments this year, including winning a regular season game with a touchdown on the last play of the game, winning a regular season game, in the pouring rain, by over 20 points and of course winning the South Conference Championship Game with only 3 seconds left to play!

But without a doubt the most exciting moment arrived when the Girls took the field at Varsity Stadium in front of over 200 screaming fans from Brown School. Even though the team lost in the City Finals by a score of 18-12 the team created so many positive memories this year that should not be forgotten or overlooked. No other school in the City of Toronto can say that their Jr. Girls Football Team played in the City Finals for the second year in a row!

The coaches would like to express how very proud we are of the team and would also like to thank the parents of the team members who supported our great season this year. We couldn't have done it without your tireless commitment. Great work Girls!

-- Mr. Wittenberg and Mr. Profiti

BOYS FOOTBALL

The Boys Football Team started off the season with a flying start, winning 3 games in a row. The team then hit some speed bumps along the way but managed to have a spot in the South Conference Semi-Finals. Unfortunately the Boys came up a little short but nonetheless never gave up every step of the way.

The coaches would like to thank the parents of the players for their great support all year long.

-- Mr. Daigneau and Mr. Profiti

ICE HOCKEY IS COMING SOON!!!

Try-Out #1: Monday November 26 at Bill Bolton Arena – 7:00a.m. - 8:00a.m.

Try-Out #2: Monday December 3 at Bill Bolton Arena – 7:00a.m. – 8:00a.m

After the second try-out, the team will be picked. The team will then have two practices before the holiday break: Monday December 10 and Monday December 17 at Bill Bolton Arena, from 7 – 8 a.m.

The Ice Hockey Team will be taking part in the Upper Canada College Tournament on Friday January 11, 2008 at Rinx, Dufferin and Orfus Rd. The tournament will take place all day, from 9 am to 5 pm. More info to follow!

LUNCHTIME SPORTS

The Grades 4-5-6 students have been taking part in Lunchtime Flag Football over the last couple of months. The play-offs begin on Monday Nov 12th. This house league has provided so many students the opportunity to learn the game of football along with fine tuning their football skills.

The students in Grades 1-2-3 will have the opportunity to take part in Lunchtime Sports Activities with Mr. Profiti and Mr. Wittenberg starting in mid- to late-December. The students don't have to sign up - they just show up at the Gym on their designated day. The program runs from 12: 00p.m. - 12:40 pm. More info will follow as December gets closer.

Do you have news or events to announce in an upcoming Bulletin? Send the details to bulletin@brownschool.ca

Brown Parent Council Presents

Annual Festive Plant Fundraiser

There's nothing that says
“Happy Holidays”
better than
Poinsettia
Amaryllis
Paper Whites



Brighten everyone's season with these beautiful plants!

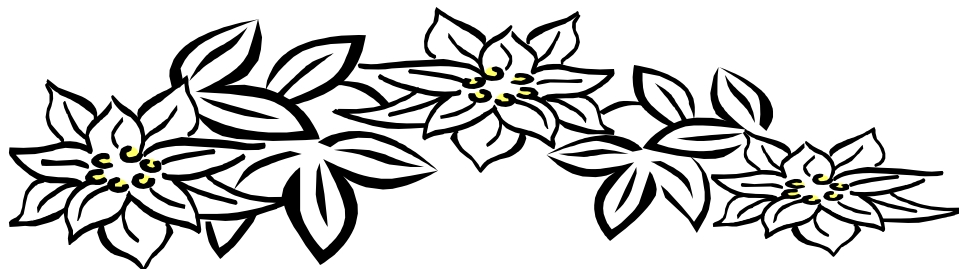
Support Brown's Fundraising Program
and share this offer with family and friends.

For details on these beautiful plants, please refer to the
Order Form attached.

Please submit orders to the school office by
Thursday, November 29th, 2007

Your plants will be available for pick-up at the school on
Thursday, December 6th, 2007 from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.





2007 FESTIVE PLANTS ORDER FORM

Parent/Guardian:

Student:

Teacher:

Room #:

Daytime phone:

Home phone:

	Colour	Quantity	Price	Sub-total
Poinsettias 6" pot Florist Grade, Multiple Plants (9-12 blooms) per pot	Red		\$17.00	
	White		\$17.00	
	Pink		\$17.00	
Poinsettias 8" pot Florist Grade, Multiple Plants (12-15 blooms) per pot	Red		\$27.00	
	White		\$27.00	
	Pink		\$27.00	
Poinsettias 10" pot Florist Grade, Multiple Plants (14-17 blooms) per pot	Red		\$40.00	
	White		\$40.00	
	Pink		\$40.00	
Amaryllis (single bulb) Set in a square white glazed pot with sheet moss and Dogwood twig. Gift wrapped in cellophane and raffia.	Red		\$30.00	
	White		\$30.00	
Amaryllis (triple bulb) Set in a round white glazed pot with sheet moss and dogwood twig. Gift wrapped in cellophane and raffia.	Red		\$60.00	
	White		\$60.00	
Paper Whites (4-5 bulbs) Set in a square white glazed pot with sheet moss. Gift wrapped in cellophane and raffia.	White		\$25.00	

Total Payment:

Please Note:

1. Payment must accompany order.
2. Please make cheque payable to; "Brown Parent Council". Prices include PST and GST.
3. Return your order and payment to school office no later than **Thursday, November 29, 2007** (*Friday, November 30 is a PD Day*).
4. Your order will be available for pick up at the school on the afternoon of **Thursday, December 5**. Parents or caregivers must pick up the plants.

REMINDER: PICK-UP ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6 FROM 3:30 TO 6 PM
Any Questions? Call Judy Sheldon at 416-488-6267