

# BROWN BULLETIN

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

April 2008

## SPRING MUSIC EVENTS

On the afternoon of Thursday, May 1, we will hold our Spring Concert in the gym. Our afternoon Kindergarten students will perform along with the Itinerant music programs of Band, Strings, Orff and Recorder. We are hoping for a sunny day on Monday May 5 so the entire school can go outside to sing to celebrate "Music Monday".

## PEDICULOSIS SCREENING

The next school-wide check is scheduled for Friday, April 25. Should your child (or sibling attending another school) require treatment before this date, please advise the office. Your cooperation in keeping this problem in check is greatly appreciated! If you do not wish to have your child participate in the school-wide screening, please send a note to the office by Monday April 21, 2008. If you can assist the Lice Squad that morning, please contact Karen Janes at [karenjanes@rogers.com](mailto:karenjanes@rogers.com).

## CHESS AT BROWN

Brown's Chess Club has finished its season by participating in the TDSB Quadrant Finals. The club had a fun year of playing and made a valiant effort in the Quadrant Finals facing challengers with a strong showing. Every chess club member received a ribbon. Well done team! All potential chess players are encouraged to practise over the summer and we welcome you to sign up for the chess club in the new school year. Many thanks to Mrs. Hazan, Mme Josée and volunteers for facilitating this learning experience for our students.

## HEALTHY HABITS

Thank you to Mrs. Dorothy Hunt, Brown's Secretary, for her recommendation of a healthy habits recipe, 'Berry-Blast 4 Grain Muffins'. The link to find this delicious, wholesome recipe is shown below.



[http://ca.lifestyle.yahoo.com/food-entertaining/articles/recipes/rogers-chatelaine/recipe-berry-blast\\_4\\_grain\\_muffins](http://ca.lifestyle.yahoo.com/food-entertaining/articles/recipes/rogers-chatelaine/recipe-berry-blast_4_grain_muffins)

Meet the Brown challenge and submit another Healthy Habits recipe for our next newsletter.

## BRUSH-A-MANIA at BROWN!!!



**Healthy Habits Continue at Brown!** This month we will be participating in Brush-a-Mania, a partnership with the Toronto Academy of Dentistry and The Rotary Club of Toronto, supported by the Ontario Dental Association. Students will learn about solid dental health habits as well as receive some practical support to keep their beautiful smiles! We will update you about this event in our May newsletter.

Thursday April 10.....	Swim Meet
Monday April 14.....	City Finals Swim Meet
Tuesday April 15 to Friday April 18 .....	Grade 6 trip to Quebec City
Friday April 18 .....	Pizza Lunch
Friday April 25.....	Pediculosis Screening
Tuesday April 29.....	Parent Consultation Meeting on Space, 7pm in the Library
Thursday May 1.....	Spring Concert 1:15 pm in the gym (program will be sent home)
Monday May 5 .....	Music Monday
Monday May 19.....	Victoria Day (no classes for students)
Friday May 23.....	Pizza Lunch
Saturday May 24.....	Garden Fete

**THE OUTCOME OF EARTH HOUR**  
As published in *The Grade 6 Times*

On Saturday, March 29, Earth Hour took place in Toronto from 8:00pm to 9:00pm. The main point of Earth Hour was to conserve electricity by turning off the lights. A lot of the big office towers and other buildings downtown participated in Earth Hour.

Many people were curious about what the impact would be on electricity consumption. Reports the following day showed that electricity demand went down by about 8.7%. At one point during Earth Hour, the Toronto Hydro control centre hit 2,738 megawatts, which is quite low compared to the average Saturday night. When you compare the average March Saturday night to what happened during Earth Hour, there is a major difference.

Cars cause much more pollution than lights do, but if they asked people to not use cars for an hour, many people would not participate. Personally, I think people should start caring more about the environment and should ask themselves if they are using more electricity than they need. Our world is what we make of it.

– Matthew C., Room 30 (Grade 6)

**A FAIRY TALE COMES TO LIFE – EN FRANÇAIS AND WITH A TWIST!**

On April 3, the Senior Kindergarten to Grade 4 French Immersion classes enjoyed a French musical play entitled *Boucle D'or et les Trois Ours Canadiens* (*Goldilocks and the Three Canadian Bears*), presented by the Little Red Theatre Company. Following is a review of this drama presentation in French. Class comments in English are also included for those who appreciate a translation! Thank you to our School Council who afforded our students this enrichment opportunity.

**Boucle d'or et les trois ours canadiens – de Tess et Julia, salle 20**

Mercredi, le 2 avril, les classes d'immersion ont vu une pièce de théâtre qui s'appelle Boucle d'or et les trois ours canadiens. C'était très drôle et amusant de la voir. C'était très chouette que les acteurs ont appris la pièce en 5 jours ! On est très chanceux d'avoir vu une pièce de théâtre en français. Les costumes étaient très originaux. Bébé Ours était une marionnette. Notre classe a beaucoup aimé la pièce de théâtre et nous pensons que tu aurais aimé aussi.

**Class Comments:**

**Salle 15 (SK)** - Loved the masks on Papa and Baby Bears

**Salle 22 (Gr. 1)** - Enjoyed the chase between Boucle d'or and les trois ours, the singing, dancing and great costumes

**Salle 26 (Gr. 1)** - The play was easy to understand, used simple French words, liked how the scenes changed as if they were the pages being turned in a book, interesting shadows behind the curtains and neat lights

**Salle 25 (Gr. 2)** - The way the beds were done was unique and la mouffette (skunk)

**Salle 36 (Gr. 2)** - Very funny to watch and the expressions, not same as the real story

**Salle 20 (Gr. 3)** - How the original story was changed was creative, the narrator's role added a nice surprise

**Salle 37 (Gr. 3)** - Liked the action and dialogue between Boucle d'or and Bébé Ours, songs a bit young, did not always enjoy the scene chases

**Salle 34 (Gr. 4)** - Loved the puppets, action, and coloured lighting and how the music, dances and songs added to the story

**Salle 39 (Gr. 4/5)** – Was different, not the regular story, had twists and turns, original and humorous, the narration made it even better

**SPRING**

*By the Grade 2 Students in Room 40*

<p>Spring</p> <p>When Spring comes snow melts and it is a whole new season. When spring comes artichokes jump out of the grass and we feel the sun on our back. In spring you can hear the birds chirping. You can also see the flowers blooming and the trees grow leaves. In spring you feel free and you can see the bees flying all around and that is why I think spring is the best.</p> <p>-- Omer</p>	<p>Spring Is...</p> <p>Spring is raining I see all the trees I like to go in my backyard And I like to play with my toys.</p> <p>-- Timothy</p>	<p>Spring</p> <p>I feel happy because I see my family on Easter. It smells like blueberries and it smells like spring. Some things feel like furry and soft. I love seeing blossoms grow and artichokes pop up in the grass.</p> <p>-- Kathryn</p>
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## FROM THE PARENT COUNCIL

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 7 at 7:00pm in the Library. All are welcome.

### ACTION NEEDED TO SAVE OUR POOLS

Trustee Josh Matlow advised the Parent Council at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the TDSB's of a Memorandum of Understanding currently before the TDSB that would see the City of Toronto fund operating costs for joint use facilities such as our Brown pool. This motion would not include funding for capital costs.

However, on April 4th, The TDSB issued a press release updating that information. Joint use facilities such as Brown will remain funded by the city through to 2011. It is unclear what happens after that date. 23 pools will be decommissioned in June 2008 including the pools at Winona Sr. PS and Forest Hill Cl. Another 16 will close in 2009, including Deer Park, Glenview, Lawrence Park and Northern SS.

**Demonstrations are being planned for 6pm on Thursday, April 10 at the TDSB offices (5050 Yonge Street, by North York subway station) to express opposition to these closures.** If you have not already voiced your concerns regarding these closures, the time is now. These closures are no longer "potential"; they are in fact imminent. If you would like more information on what it is being planned, please contact Yvonne Harding at [harding99@rogers.com](mailto:harding99@rogers.com).

Parent Council Chairs across the city have extended a challenge to get as many people out to this rally as possible. **So, if 30 or more Brown parents and students come out to the rally, Yvonne Harding will join other Council Chairs in wearing a bathing suit to this event.** Email [letsmakewaves@hotmail.com](mailto:letsmakewaves@hotmail.com) if you plan on attending.

**Wednesday, April 16 is another critical date in the struggle to save our city's 78 school pools.** The TDSB Trustees will be voting regarding budget and pool closures during a meeting at the TDSB offices at 7pm.

#### Ways that you can make your voice heard on this issue before the April 16<sup>th</sup> Trustee's Meeting:

- Attend the demonstration on April 10
- Please sign the "Save Our TDSB Pools" petition located in the main office at Brown School.
- Tell the Toronto District School Board to work with the city and province to keep our pools open by sending comments to your school trustee. A full listing of trustees is available at [www.tdsb.on.ca/boardroom/trustees](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/boardroom/trustees).
- Make sure to send a copy to TDSB Chair John Campbell at [john.campbell@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:john.campbell@tdsb.on.ca), and Mari Rutka at [mari.rutka@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:mari.rutka@tdsb.on.ca)
- Ask for support from your City Councillor ([www.toronto.ca/councillors](http://www.toronto.ca/councillors)) or via City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, 10th floor, Tower, Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2
- Tell Education Minister Kathleen Wynne ([info@kathleenwynne.com](mailto:info@kathleenwynne.com)) that our school pools are a vital part of the school and community, and deserve her support. Please copy [councillor\\_davis@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_davis@toronto.ca) and your local MPP.

Thank you for your continued support! We must once again convince the various levels of government that we will not let them take this valuable community resource away. Losing these TDSB pools programs will be devastating to our children and community.

### PARENT CONSULTATION MEETING ON SPACE – APRIL 29 at 7:00 PM

Space at Brown School is an issue that has been an ongoing challenge due to such factors as enrolment, cap sizes on primary classes and shared space within the school with the Community Centre and Unicorn Daycare. The very things that make Brown a wonderful and unique junior school also present some facilities challenges.

In order to proactively face the space challenges, members of the Parent Council have undertaken to deliver a report. The report will be delivered to all of those tasked with decision making on school enrolment, space, renovations, modifications and the like. We need the input of parents and invite you to attend a session to provide suggestions and generate ideas about all ways to approach the issue. All ideas will be included as the point is to look at the space challenges from every viewpoint. No recommendations will be made; rather we are doing the legwork for those in the TDSB tasked with decision making in this area.

Please attend the session designated for this purpose on Tuesday April 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. The higher the parent participation in this report, the more seriously our efforts will be taken. If you have questions, please contact Tanya Carmichael at 416-923-1898. Written submissions of ideas via email are also welcome and may be emailed to Amanda Young at [amandaincanada@hotmail.com](mailto:amandaincanada@hotmail.com) in case you are unable to attend the session.

## JOINT PROJECT WITH AVENUE ROAD ARTS SCHOOL

We are thrilled to announce that Brown School and Avenue Road Arts School (ARAS) are undertaking a joint project that will get underway in the late Spring. The incredibly talented instructors at ARAS will work with our students to create a mural that will serve to brighten our schoolyard and be a visual reminder of our incredible Brown School Spirit. Watch for more details.

## GREEN COMMITTEE PRESENTS "ABC DAY"

On April 22nd, Earth Day, Brown introduces ABC Day: "Anything But Car" Day. Walk, bike, scooter or take public transit to show your support for the environment.

## PARENT SAFETY PROGRAM (KISS 'N RIDE)

It looks very promising that we will be able to implement a pilot program in late May/early June. We have been working closely with our local community liaison officer from 53 Division and are working out the fine details. A number of people have expressed interest in helping out but there is always room for more. If you can spare 30 minutes one morning a month, please contact Yvonne Harding at [harding99@rogers.com](mailto:harding99@rogers.com).

## FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Ten Brown students from Outreach recently went to visit a local food bank. We learned many things, such as:

- In addition to food, the food bank also provides toilet paper, pet food and diapers;
- 40% of food bank visitors use it only for a month when they are between jobs;
- 40% are new the country and need it just until they are financially settled;
- 20% may use it for their entire lives.

Upon their return to Brown School, the students made posters and wrote announcements about their experience and what they learned. Coming later in April, students will be visiting other classes to further share what they learned. This excursion was a great learning opportunity for Brown School.

This year, instead of hosting a food drive, Outreach will donate funds to be presented to the food bank. This donation will be in addition to the proceeds from the recent bake sale held by Ms Hirsch's class – during which over \$200 was raised for the Food Bank!! Why are monetary donations so important to the Food Bank? The answer – and more – below:

### FOOD BANK

*As published in The Grade 6 Times*

On March 17<sup>th</sup>, the Outreach Committee went to see the Food Bank at Timothy Eaton Church. We went to learn about what services a food bank provides, who uses a food bank, what are this food bank's needs for the future and how Brown School can help this spring.

When we arrived at the church basement, a man told us what a food bank was. He said that a food bank gives supplies to people to feed them for about 3 days. They can choose items from a checklist. But the food bank does more than give food. Also he said that they have cubicles where volunteers sit and give advice about jobs or the volunteers make conversation to help new Canadian practice their English. Then he explained about the different people that come to a food bank. He told us that some people have just lost their jobs and don't have enough money to pay for food. Other clients include working people who make little money and cannot pay all of their bills and buy food too. Also, people who have just come to Canada come for food while they are learning about Toronto.

Next, the man showed us around the storage room and the kitchen. He also told us about the foods that people want the most. These include cans of meat stew, jars of peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, cans of pasta in sauce, cans of soup, juice, tomato sauce, breakfast cereal, packages of pasta, powdered milk and fresh milk, white bread, toilet paper, frozen hot dogs, eggs, fresh vegetables and sugar. Then he showed us how the volunteers get the food together for the people.

The Outreach Committee heard about how to donate. While giving canned food is great, it is even better to donate money. It is better to give money because if the food bank needs more of something then they can go buy it. Also they can buy food in bulk at better prices (truckloads of tuna!).

-- by Emily B., Room 30 (Grade 6)

## SPORTS CORNER

### JUNIOR SWIM TEAM

On Thursday, April 10, our swim team will be competing in a TDSB city wide swim meet held at Central Tech, beginning at 9:15 am sharp. The final results of the Central Tech swim meet will determine which of our team members will compete at city wide "finals" held at Riverdale C.I. at 9:15am on Monday April 14. We wish all our team members the very best!

-- Mr.Daigneau and Mrs. Jeffery

### LUNCH SWIM PROGRAM: COME OUT AND JOIN IN THE FUN!

**Days:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday

**Time:** 11:55am - 12:45 pm

**Grades:** 1 - 6

### BADMINTON

The badminton team plays in a tournament on Wednesday, April 9 at Hillcrest Community School. The top teams from the Hillcrest tournament will advance to the South Conference playoffs. Right now, the 12 members of the team (6 girls, 6 boys) are practicing hard to perfect their smashes and their drop shots.

### ULTIMATE FRISBEE

The Ultimate Frisbee team will begin its tryouts during the week of April 7 - 11. We will start with the Grade Sixes, and then move to include the Grade Fives as well. Our season will consist of one exhibition game and four regular season games:

Tuesday, April 22: Lambton-Kingsway @ Brown

Thursday, May 1: Palmerston @ Brown

Thursday, April 24: Brown @ Jackman

Monday, May 5: Brown @ Swansea

Monday, April 28: Brown @ Deer Park [exhibition]

### TRACK AND FIELD

The Track and Field Team try-outs will begin once the weather begins to get warmer. More info will be posted on the school website and also on the bulletin board outside the Gym. The dates for the Track and Field Team have been set:

South Conference Qualifier - Monday May 26 at U of T

South Conference Finals -Thursday June 5 at U of T

City Final - June 16 at U of T

### GIRLS AND BOYS SOCCER TEAMS

The Girls and Boys Soccer team try-outs will begin shortly. All information will be posted as soon as it becomes available. Please check the school website along with the bulletin board outside the Gym for more details.

Girls Coach: Mr. Wittenberg

Boys Coach: Mme. B'Dacy and Mr. Ellis

### LUNCHTIME SPORTS: IT'S DODGEBALL SEASON!

Back by popular demand, ULTIMATE DODGEBALL is well underway 3 times a week during the lunch hour. **This program is offered to the Grade 4, 5 and 6 students only.** The Grade 6 students were given the responsibility to create their own teams along with team nicknames. The Dodgeball schedule is posted outside the Gym doors along with all the team lists. Much to the surprise of the students, the 10th and final team in the Dodgeball League is made up of several teachers. Everybody is looking forward to the fun times at lunch for Ultimate Dodgeball.

-- Mr. Wittenberg and Mr. Profiti

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

[www.brownschool.ca](http://www.brownschool.ca)