

BROWN BULLETIN

www.brownschool.ca 454 Avenue Road, Toronto M4V 2J1 416.393.1560

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

October 2007

STAFF NEWS & REORGANIZATION

We are delighted to inform you that we did receive additional staff as of September 28. Our school was allocated 1.5 more teachers due to increased enrolment.

- We have opened an additional afternoon JK/SK program with Ms. Warden in Room 13. This has helped us to lower the class size in our Junior and Senior Kindergarten classes in Mrs. Ferraioli's classes in Room 14.
- We welcome Ms. Anna Foord to Brown School! Ms. Foord is working with our Grade 1 and 2 students. She is located in Room 23 with Ms. Fox.
- Ms. Nathanson's Grade 3/4 class is now a Grade 3 only. The Grade 4 students from Room 21 moved to the 4/5 classes with either Ms. Hirsch or Mr. Wittenberg.
- Some of the Grade 3 children from Mrs. Hazan's Grade 2/3 class moved into Room 23 with Ms. Nathanson.

It was wonderful to work together with parents and staff to be able to lower the primary class size. Although changes can be difficult at times with a positive attitude from all involved we were able to make these changes very smoothly and with no disruption to programs. We would like to thank our parents, staff and students for their support.

Additional Staff News:

- At the end of the month, we will be saying goodbye to Mr. Matt Lindsay our student teacher with Ms. Hazan. Mr. Lindsay has offered amazing support to extra curricular activities this term.
- Ms. Jennifer Muzzy from OISE will begin a teaching placement with Ms. Hirsch in Room 41.
- Mme Blanchard in Room 34 will remain on leave until the end of January. We would like to thank M. Warren for getting this class off to a good start. M. Warren will be leaving us on October 19. We will notify the parents in room 34 about the replacement as soon as this is finalized.

SCHOOL SAFETY

We are always concerned about ensuring the safety of our students:

- We have completed 3 fire drills this term and we have conducted 2 lockdown drills. A lockdown drill involves all doors being locked while students remain in the class with their teacher.
- Our front and side doors are locked from 9:15 until 3:30 each day. A security camera and buzzer system monitors entrance through our front door.
- Primary Students (Kindergarten to Grade 2) play in the primary playground and the gates are to be locked.
- We held an assembly for all students during the first week of school to introduce the students to all staff including lunch supervisors. At this assembly we informed all of the children of lunch and recess procedures.
- We request that parents do not drop off or pick up students or park their vehicle in the laneway off of Avenue Road. This area is for bus drop off and pick up or delivery and emergency vehicles only.
- Parents coming into the school for any reason must begin their visit in the office. All visitors to classrooms are asked to sign in to the office and obtain a visitor badge.
- Please try to schedule appointments after school hours. If you need to pick up your child during the day, please send a note to the classroom teacher. Your child will meet you in the office and you will sign your child out of the school.
- Parents are requested to speak to their children about personal safety and the importance of following established routines and the School Code of Behaviour.
- Please see the last page of this Bulletin for an article on Safety Tips for Parents, provided by Officer Theriault

Thank you for your cooperation and a big thank you to all of you who comply with our requests.

Friday October 26.....	Pizza Lunch
Friday October 26 to Thursday November 1.....	Student Safety Presentations to Classes by Officer Theriault
Friday November 2.....	Professional Activity for Staff (no classes for students)
Tuesday November 6.....	Fall Fling, 6:30pm at the Royal Canadian Yacht Club
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
Friday November 30.....	Professional Activity Day – Reporting to Parents (no classes)
Thursday December 6.....	Winterfest Concert – save the date! More information to follow.
Friday December 21.....	Last Day of Classes for Fall Term

LUNCH PROGRAM

Once again we offer our enriched lunch program for students from Grades 1 to 6. The program is running well with some adjustments for this year. Mrs Abbey our Lunch Coordinator is presently on leave. We are happy to report that she has been back to visit us on many occasions. M. Gunta will be taking on the position of Lunch Coordinator at this time.

The Grade 1 children who stay for lunch are all eating at the tables in the Library. The Grade 2 students are having lunch in Room 40. These arrangements are working well. The lunch areas are calm and the children enjoy having lunch with their friends from other classes. The Grades 3 to 6 students are eating lunch in the gym.

As the weather becomes colder there will be some indoor activities as well as outdoor play time. Organized sports activities on the field are already available for our students. Arts and crafts for primary students, chess, free swim and numerous other clubs will be offered soon. Students should listen to the morning announcements for the time and location of additional lunch activities.

We would appreciate donations of gently used or new board games for the children to use on rainy days. If you are able to donate a board game, please send it to the office.

Greening Our Lunch Program:

- We request that students who stay for lunch take home any food that they do not eat so that it can be included in their family's Green Bin for composting. We also feel it is important for parents and care givers to know if students are eating all the food that is sent to school.
- We will collect milk cartons and juice containers for recycling each day.
- All other wrappers should be taken home in your child's lunch bag.
- So many children are bringing litterless lunch containers and it is really helping to cut down on the amount of garbage that is generated daily!!

Thank you to all of the families who are supporting this school initiative!

POOL NEWS

Building repairs have prevented us from opening our pool. We hope that the repairs will be completed and the pool will be available soon. We will notify the classroom teachers and students as soon as we are able to start using the pool. We are all eager to get back into the water!

THANK YOU TO OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL

We would like to express our appreciation to Tanya Carmichael and Linda Smith for their time and commitment as our School Council Co-Chairs over the past two years. We welcome Kelli Belanger and Yvonne Harding as our new Co-Chairs and look forward to working with them. The entire School Council works very hard and should be acknowledged for their efforts.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PARENT COUNCIL

Once again, we extend a warm welcome to all of the families who are new to Brown PS this year. We greatly enjoyed meeting those of you who were able to attend the New Parents' Welcome in September and wish to thank all who attended the Parent Council's Annual General Meeting that followed. Parents interested in joining the Parent Council are always welcome. Anyone interested should email Kelli Belanger kschifferbelanger@yahoo.com or Yvonne Harding at harding99@rogers.com.

One of the best ways to get involved in your child's school experience is to become a volunteer. Parent Volunteers are needed throughout the school year. If you are interested in volunteering or would like to find out more information about volunteering please contact Anji Shukla at getanji@gmail.com, Allison Fortier at allisonfortier@rogers.com or Leslie Greenbaum at leslie@rwqr.com. We are currently looking for someone to chair the Green Committee, which is a group of parents and students who work to maintain our green spaces as well as planning for any future projects

We are also currently looking for Parent Reps for all classes. Please speak directly to your child's classroom teacher if you are interested in this role.

FIELD USE

Our beautiful field is for the children and the daycare to use and is not available for permit. There have been numerous problems with adults using the field for soccer games in the evening. These individuals are disrupting the neighbours, leaving bottles and cans on the field and utilizing the parking garage as a washroom. If you see anyone on the field that shouldn't be, please call TDSB security at 416-395-4620.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT BROWN

LAST DAY TO ORDER WRAPPING PAPER IS OCTOBER 12

The final date to hand in Wrapping Paper orders has been extended to Friday October 12, after which time no more orders will be able to be accepted. Delivery of all orders is expected to be delivered to the school around the third week in November. We have had another successful wrapping paper fund-raising campaign. Thank-you to our parent volunteers for all your hard work! Any questions please call Hilary Zimmermann 416-960-3962

THE FALL FLING IS FAST APPROACHING!

Please join us at our annual Fall Fling for dinner, music and fun! The Fling is a great opportunity to meet and mingle with other parents and Brown teachers. **This year's Fling will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 at the Royal Canadian Yacht Club - St George Location** and will feature a silent auction, the Brown Giving Tree, a balloon burst, a delicious buffet dinner. The Brown Singers will entertain as well. Tickets are \$45.00 each. Order forms were sent out last week, and may be found at the end of this Bulletin and online at http://www.brownschool.ca/documents/fall_fling.pdf.

DONATIONS - DONATIONS – DONATIONS: We are looking for great items such as Sporting Event tickets, Restaurant Certificates, Gift Certificates, Vintage Wines and Professional Services to be donated for the Silent Auction. If you are someone, or know of someone, who can donate items for auction, please contact Lisa Kaplan at 416-651-3092

POLICE SERVICES SAFETY PROGRAM

Constable Joanna Theriault will be visiting Brown from October 26 to November 1. We greatly value our Police Services Safety Program for our students. The topics which will be covered are:

JK & SK – Traffic Safety	Grade 2 – Personal Safety	Grade 5 – Bullying
Grade 1 – Community Helpers	Grades 3 & 4 – Internet Safety	Grade 6 – Law & Drugs

We thank Police Division 53 for their excellent partnership with Brown to support our children's safety awareness and in making good life choices.

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.

THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE WILL START MEETING IN OCTOBER

The Outreach Committee is a program for Grades 3-6. This is a group of students and adults who assist people in the community to have a better life. Some projects in the past have included: The Sock Drive, the Dance-a-thon, Holiday Hampers and Food Bank donations. In addition, the Outreach Committee allocates and distributes 10% of revenue from fundraising activities – under the guidance of parent volunteers – to various programs in the community.

We meet 2-3 times per month during the lunch period where we make posters and create other fun ways to spread awareness in the school of our activities. Please listen to announcements to hear the first meeting date. We need students who want to make a difference in people's lives to come and help. We also need parents to come and assist during the lunch hour. For more information, please contact Jennifer Baldachin (416) 944-9361 or by email: jbaldachin@sympatico.ca

GRADE 6 PARENTS: YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

The journey towards Graduation has begun! Committees are forming to begin work on the Grade Six Yearbook and Grade Six Graduation Committee. Parent volunteers are the key to making these initiatives a success and providing lasting memories for the graduating class. Everyone interested should email Yvonne Harding at harding99@rogers.com.

NEWS FROM RECENT EVENTS

EQAO 2007

The individual reports for last year's Grade 3 and 6 students are available. Our present Grade 4 students will bring home their individual report next week. The students who have moved on to a Grade 7 TDSB school will have their individual report forwarded to their new school.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US AT CURRICULUM NIGHT

Our Curriculum Night on September 27 provided us with the opportunity to meet so many of our parents. Thank you to Unicorn Daycare for once again providing child care for so many of our families on this evening. It is such a pleasure to work with Unicorn Childcare who contributes excellent care each day for many of our students.

The school year is off to a great start! The staff is very busy and should be acknowledged for providing your children with so many extra curricular activities. Jonah Weslak and Darrin Chin from the Parks & Recreation office have once again joined with our staff to support and coach school teams. By working together we do great things for our students!

PEDICULOSIS SCREENING

Many thanks to the parents who volunteered their time to check all of the children at Brown in early September. It is extremely important to catch and treat this pesky problem as quickly as possible. **We are thrilled to announce that no cases were found at this recent check.** The next school wide check will happen in January.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS!

Thank you to the school community for your new purchases and renewals of the QSP magazine subscriptions. The sales from these magazines support events for our Grade 6 students. We hope all enjoy the pleasure of reading while knowing a special opportunity for our students has been created.

TOONIE FOR TERRY WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

Our Toonie for Terry Walk on September 27 was an opportunity to raise awareness about Terry Fox and his Marathon of Hope and also provided our students with an opportunity to help raise funds for cancer research.

Thank you to everyone for your support. Our school raised \$1541.89 – a record for Brown! - for the Terry Fox Foundation for Cancer Research.

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

www.brownschool.ca

Do you have news or events to announce in an upcoming Bulletin?

Send the details to bulletin@brownschool.ca

SPORTS CORNER

UPCOMING SPORTS TEAMS AT BROWN: Boys Volleyball, Girls Basketball and Ice Hockey....stay tuned to morning announcements and www.brownschool.ca

RECIPE FOR "BROWN CROSS COUNTRY"

Take approximately 100 students. Schedule early morning practices at Winston Churchill Park. Place a short warm-up run in the southwest corner of the park and then fold in appropriate stretches. Add equal parts wind-sprints and hill-training, then mix at a slow, steady speed until heart-rates are elevated. Sprinkle liberally with long-distance runs, adding water as needed. Repeat as needed until sufficiently aerobic machines have been produced.

This year's Cross Country team was as strong as ever! Over 100 students participated in our first race of the year at Ashbridge's Bay, with 41 students qualifying to advance to the South Conference Finals on Wednesday, October 11th.

Congratulations to all of our fantastic runners and a special thank you to all of the parents who drove a child to practice or bribed, cajoled, or tricked them out of a comfortable bed in the early morning so that they could make practice on time.

Coaches: Mme. Anna, Ms. Hirsch, Mme. B'Dacy, M. Pare, Ms. Warden, Ms. Fox, Mr. Macdonald

GIRLS SLO-PITCH

Congratulations to the Girls Slo-Pitch team who once again battled the weather during their one-day tournament. From nine o'clock in the morning until three in the afternoon, the Girls played their hearts out! The two games in the morning were won with ease over Northlea, and McMurrich. The afternoon saw a re-match of last year's playoff between Brown and Williamson Road. This year, though, the Girls turned the tables on Williamson Road and won in a romp. The final game of the day was a tight affair and the girls from Brown came out on top yet again! Thank you to all of the parents who came to the tournament and supported the team throughout the day.

The girls are now off to the playoffs where they play Palmerston in the conference semi-finals. Good luck girls!

Coaches: Mrs. Regan, Mme. Legge, Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Wittenberg

BOYS SLO-PITCH – GO LIGERS!

This year's Brown Boys Slo-Pitch team consisted of 15 amazingly dedicated boys in Grades 4, 5, and 6. The Coaches would like to congratulate Ben, Declan, Dylan, Iain, Harrison, Jake, James, James, Jared, Miguel, Milo, Ryan, Spencer, Trevor, and Zachary.

The Boys met early mornings and practiced diligently. We had a great season facing three difficult teams: Palmerston, Maurice Cody and John Ross Robertson. The boys played hard, learned a lot and had great fun. We ended our season with 2 wins, 1 tie and 3 losses.

A great big thanks to this year's coaches: Mme B'Dacy, Jonah, Mr. Ellis, and a special thank you to Darrin for being coach and ump at all of our home games. An extra special thank you to the Liger mums and dads who drove to the games, provided snacks, took pictures and cheered us on. Thanks for a great season!

GIRLS FOOTBALL

The Girls Football team has been practicing very hard to get ready for their upcoming games against McMurrich on Wednesday October 17 And Clinton on Thursday October 18. **The Girls need help with transportation to and from the game on the 17th of October so if you can help out please let the coaches know as soon as possible.** Good luck to the Girls the rest of the way!!

BOYS FOOTBALL

The Boys Football season is well underway and the team has picked up right where it left off last year. After winning against Ryerson P.S., the team beat Hillcrest on Thursday October 4 and went on to beat Rose P.S. on Tuesday October 9! The next game will be against Allenby on Thursday October 11. The season will conclude against McMurrich on Monday October 15. Good luck to the Boys the rest of the way!!



53 DIVISION TORONTO POLICE

Protect Your Child

Here are some safety tips to help you keep your children safe:

Teach Your Child:

- His/her name, age, telephone number including the area code, address, city , province
- How to contact you, the police, fire department, or ambulance service in the case of an emergency
- To keep you informed as to his/her whereabouts at all times
- Never to admit to being alone in the home when answering the telephone
- Never to invite strangers into the house OR even answer the door when he/she is alone
- Never to approach or enter a stranger's car
- That he/she should never hitchhike
- That you are sensitive to his/her fears and he/she can talk to you about anything
- That a police officer is a friend who can be relied upon when he/she is lost
- Never to play alone – always be with friends

Also discuss with your child:

- That he/she should trust his/her feelings and say NO to an adult, especially if the adult wants him/her to do something that is wrong
- Not to accept gifts from strangers
- That adults rarely ask a child for help
- To tell you if someone has asked them to keep a secret from you
- That no one has the right to touch any part of his/her body that a bathing suit covers
- That if he/she is being followed, he/she should run home or go to the nearest busy place and yell for help
- To report to you, school authorities or a police officer, anyone who acts suspiciously towards him/her
- Not to enter anyone's home without your permission
- Never to play in deserted buildings or isolated areas
- Avoid taking shortcuts through parks or fields
- Carry enough money to make a phone call home
- Never to show his money, and if attacked for it, to give it up rather than risk injury

And You Should:

- Provide schools or day-care centers with the names of person(s) to whom your child may be released
- Avoid clothing or toys with your child's name on it as children are less fearful of someone who knows and calls them by name
- Never leave your child alone in a public place, stroller or car – even for a minute
- Always accompany children to the bathroom in a public place and advise them not to loiter in or around these areas

**Prepared by: PC Joanna Theriault #81
Community School Liaison Officer
53 Division
Toronto Police Service**

FEATURING
A GALLERY OF
STUDENT CREATIONS.

Please join new and returning
staff and parents for food, drink,
silent auction, balloon burst and
music by the Brown Singers.

All in support of our great school.

the Fall Fling!

Tuesday, November 6th, 2007 – 6:30 p.m.
Royal Canadian Yacht Club
141 St. George Street, Toronto

\$45.00 per ticket

Contact Claire Goodman at 416.322.3799
for more information or to purchase tickets,
or go to www.brownschool.ca to find out more.

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

Please reserve _____ tickets at \$45.00 each, for:

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Child's Name: _____

the Fall Fling!

Room Number: _____

Please return order form and cheque (payable to Brown Parent Council) to your child's teacher or box in the school office by Monday, October 26, 2007.