

BROWN BULLETIN

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

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF L. SHAFRANSKY & S. LITNER – NOVEMBER 2010

Our students have been busy with the finals of Cross Country and Football. Our After Four programs are in full swing, Eco Club is already preparing for our upcoming audits to maintain our Platinum status, and the choir, strings and band have been busily preparing for various upcoming performances. It is clear at Brown School that students have opportunities to be successful and shine in so many ways – and we're not even finished our fall season!



Our staff have been busy too! They have engaged in a variety of professional development opportunities. Our staff book club, comprised of approximately 20 members, meets on Fridays to discuss professional literature. Our division teams meet once per month to share best practices and to plan programs. As well, staff members have attended workshops with our Family of Schools math coach, on teaching combined grades, on addressing student special needs, Smartboard training, French as a Second Language, setting benchmarks and Literacy assessments, and visiting demonstration classrooms in another school.

Staff News

We are happy to welcome aboard an additional teacher! To assist with class size support in our junior English grades, we were given an allocation of .25 of a teacher. Ms. Lorie Wolf will be working alongside our junior teachers on Thursday and Friday afternoons. We share her expertise along with Clinton and Beverly schools.

"Movember" at Brown

The male teachers at Brown are participating in a moustache growing event held during November each year that raises funds and awareness for prostate cancer. Mr. Pare, Mr. D, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Ellis, Mr. Wittenberg and Mr. Profiti will be sporting their new look throughout the month of "Movember"!

The NEW Provincial Progress Report Card – November 15

As outlined in the October newsletter, parents of students in Grades 1-6 will be receiving the new Progress Report and parents of Senior Kindergarten students will receive the Kindergarten Progress Report. Interviews for JK-Grade 6 students will be held after school and in the evening on Thursday, November 18th, and during the day on Friday, November 19th (PA Day). While many and/or most parent/teacher interviews will take place on these dates and during these times, please note that there may be some differences in dates and/or times amongst individual teachers. Each classroom teacher has already or will be sending home an interview request letter which includes their specific interview dates and times.



Great Questions to Ask at Parent-Teacher Interviews:

- What skills does my child need to work on?
- What activities can we do at home to strengthen those skills?
- Does my child complete his/her work and assignments efficiently and conscientiously?
- Is my child facing any struggles in class not related to his/her schoolwork?

November 8 - 10	Rooms 30 & 32 to Island School
November 10 - 12	Grade 5s of Room 39 to Island School
Monday November 15	First Term Progress Reports sent home
Tuesday, November 16	Sibling Photos and Photo Retake Day
November 15 - 18	Classroom visits from Police Officer Marcie Beaven-Brindle
November 16 - 19	School-wide Dental Screening
Thursday November 18	Parent Council Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Meeting Room
Friday November 19	PA Day (no classes for students); Parent Interviews
Thursday November 25	Fall Fling – Save the Date!
Thursday December 9	Winterfest (morning)

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Health and Safety

We wish to advise parents that the children are continuously encouraged to wash their hands at school. We have found that we have had an increased use of soap and paper towels, so we know that hand washing has increased in the school. We have also provided all teachers with hand sanitizer for student use. You may wish to include an individually packaged hand wipe in your child's lunch bag. **Please remind your child about the importance of hand washing.** Our caretakers always keep our school clean and routinely sanitize door handles, hand rails, telephones etc.

Choir News

As mentioned above, our choir has been busy practicing for their first official performance. **Don't miss our choir's debut at the Fall Fling on November 25th!** Their short performance will take place at 7:00 p.m. to kick off the event.



Winterfest Concert

We look forward to sharing and celebrating our students' musical accomplishments with you at our annual Winterfest Concert on the morning of **Thursday, December 9.** We will send home a copy of the program in early December.

Please note that our afternoon Kindergarten children do not participate in this concert. They will perform at our Spring Concert.

NEWS FROM AROUND BROWN SCHOOL



Library News/ Nouvelles de la bibliothèque de Brown

The library is happy to announce that we have received the books purchased by the parents on curriculum night from the cataloguing centre. If you would like to see our great collection, please visit the Library!

-- Marie-France Gagnon

Unicorn Day Care has spaces available

Spaces are available in both the AM and PM half-day programs for JK & SK. Spaces are also available in our Nursery program. If interested please call Eric Mackey at 416 929 6841.



From the Eco Committee

As you all know, we are very proud to be recognized as a Platinum certified EcoSchool. This achievement did not come easily and was a combined effort of the school administration, teachers, caretaking staff, parents and students. In order to maintain our "lofty" status (one of only 41 schools in the TDSB out of close to 1,000 schools), we must continue our work in reducing our carbon footprint and in educating our school community about the initiatives we have implemented over the past few years.

The most tangible impact that we, as parents, can have on our efforts is to reduce the amount of waste that is generated every day. In keeping with our **Litterless Lunch** program, we strongly encourage you to consider sending lunches in reusable containers, snacks in reusable bags and drinks (if you need to send them) in stainless steel bottles. We know it can be difficult and not as convenient to always adhere to the litterless guidelines, but it is the best way we can make a difference in reducing garbage in the school. Look here for some great suggestions each month.

The **Kiss and Ride** Program is a safe way to greatly reduce idling and ease the congestion on Poplar Plains. However, we need more parent volunteers to ensure that the program runs smoothly. Please consider investing 20 minutes of your time (especially on Monday and Tuesday mornings) from 8:30 to 8:50am to help with this initiative. If you can help, please contact Yvonne Harding at harding99@rogers.com.

FROM THE PARENT COUNCIL

There is a whole lot of excitement in the air at Brown School this fall...

...and we aren't just talking about the amazing success of our Brown School Sports teams!

With the **Fall Fling** around the corner, many of your children may have mentioned that they have been busy creating their works of art for the event. A big thank you to all the volunteer parents, teachers and students who have been working hard on these crafts for the Fling!

Another thank you goes out to all the class representatives who have been working in conjunction with the Fall Fling team to keep parents informed for this fun filled event! **We look forward to seeing you all at the Fall Fling on November 25th.**

Reminder: the **next parent council meeting** will take place on Thursday, November 18th at 9:00 a.m. in the meeting room. We look forward to seeing many of you there and I promise to have an assortment of baked goods and coffee for available at the meeting!

-- Lisa Bernstein, Chair



Fall Fling Update

November 25th and the Fall Fling are just around the corner! The catalogue of auction items is now online at www.brownschool.ca and will be updated regularly as items are catalogued. Contact your Class Rep if you'd like to purchase tickets for the event. Thanks to all who have helped in so many ways to make this year's event something wonderful to look forward to! Hope to see you there!



Thank you for supporting our Wrapping Paper and Chocolate Fundraiser!

Wrapping Paper and Chocolate Orders will be delivered to the school towards the end of November. A note will be sent home with the students when the exact date is known.

Thanks again for your support!

AQUATICS

The Brown Aquatic Staff would like to take this opportunity to address any concerns or questions regarding swimming pool fouling. **T.D.S.B. Fouling Procedures:**

1. Our students are immediately removed from the swimming pool
2. Students are encouraged to take a long hot shower.
3. The swimming pool is closed for a twenty-four hour cleaning.

Recreational Swim - Grades 1-6

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays
Times: 12:00 – 12:40 p.m.

Come down to the pool and enjoy the fun!!

Latex and Silcone Bathing Cap Care Tips

1. Rinse out your bathing cap after every swim.
2. Dry both the inside and outside of your Silcone/latex bathing cap.
3. Adding a little hypoallergenic baby powder or corn starch to a clean, dry bathing cap will provide a longer cap life, and prevent the bathing cap from becoming sticky and uncomfortable.

Please Note: On a daily basis we assist our students with their bathing caps. At times find it necessary to add hypoallergenic baby powder. If you have any concerns and would not like hypoallergenic powder added to your child(s) bathing cap please instruct your children to let us know or please send us a note.

Primary Swim Team - Grades 2 & 3

Days: Tuesdays & Thursdays. **Times:** 12:00 -12:40 p.m.

The Primary swim team members are training hard for our upcoming swim meets. Keep up the great work, Primary's!

Brown Teachers Love Halloween!



SPORTS CORNER

****All team members from Cross Country, Boys and Girls Baseball, Boys and Girls Football are asked to return their team t-shirt, washed and dried, back to Mr. Profiti ASAP!****

Girls' Football – South Conference Champions!!!!

The 2010 Girls Football team had an outstanding season going undefeated in their tournament and earning themselves a spot in the South Conference Championship game against Clinton. The team ran, passed and kicked their way to a win and thus earning the first banner of the school year – ***Girls' Football South Conference Champions!*** The girls had one more game to go and it was against the Runnymede Lions in the City of Toronto Championship game. The team got off to a bit of a slow start and couldn't recover the rest of the way, losing by a score of 14-0. Nonetheless the team had a terrific season and should be very proud of their effort. The coaches would like to thank the parents for all their support and a special thanks to the team for making it fun to coach Girls' Football. ***Congratulations!***

Coaches: Mr. Wittenberg and Mr. Profiti

Boys' Football – City Champions!!!

What can we say about the Boys Football team? The team was eager to repeat last year's City Championship, but it wouldn't be easy as the boys from Allenby had revenge on their mind. At the tournament, Brown suffered its first regular season loss in over 2 years to the aforementioned Allenby Lions. The Boys from Brown had learned their lesson: don't underestimate the opponent. The team seemed more eager than ever now to get back to their championship form from last year. The semi-finals had Brown play Bowmore, which put up a good effort, but Brown was not to be denied a re-match in the finals against Allenby. The South Finals took place at Northern SS and it was a great game played by both teams. The game was in doubt until the end when Brown finally took the lead for good and captured the South Conference Championship banner. The team then advanced to the City Finals against Runnymede. At half time, Brown was losing, just like last year - and just like last year, the team made a second half comeback and defeated Runnymede by a final score of 35 to 20. ***Congratulations Boys, 2010-2011 City Champions....again!***

Coaches: Mr. D. and Mr. Profiti



Girls' Basketball

Practice Schedule: Every Tuesday and Thursday at 7:45 a.m.
Tournament date: Monday November 22 at Brown P.S.

Coaches: Mr. D, Mme B'Dacy and Mr. Wittenberg

Ice Hockey

This year, the students will sign up for Ice Hockey try-outs in Gym class with Mr. Profiti. The Team will have two try-outs: Wednesday November 17th and Wednesday November 24th. Both tryouts will take place at Forest Hill Arena from 8 – 9 a.m.

After the final try-out, the team will be selected and the team practice schedule will be as follows:

Practice # 1 – Wednesday, December 1st at Forest Hill Arena, 8 - 9 a.m.

Practice # 2 – Wednesday, December 8th at Forest Hill Arena, 8 - 9 a.m.

Practice # 3 - Wednesday Dec 15th @ Forest Hill Arena 8-9 a.m.

Coaches: Mr. Ellis, Mr. Profiti and Jonah Weslak

Boys' Volleyball



Grade 6

Practice Schedule: Mondays at 7:45 and Wednesdays at 3:30

Grade 4/5

Practice Schedule: Monday's at 7:45 and Wednesday's at 3:30

Tournament date: Wednesday November 17th @ Whitney PS (afternoon only)

Coaches: Mme Sulymko, Ms Baptist and Mr. Macdonald



Dental & Oral Health Services
Toronto Public Health
2398 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON. M4P 2H4
Tel: 416-392-0907

Dear Parent,

School Year 2010-2011

Toronto Public Health (T.P.H.) provides dental programs to children from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

To identify children with oral health problems, a screening program is offered to students in accordance with the Ontario Ministry of Health requirements for mandatory health programs. The screening is an assessment by a dental hygienist using sterilized instruments. The dental hygienist will assess the need for topical fluoride, scaling, sealant and any other obvious dental needs.

As a follow up to the screening, only parents whose children are identified as requiring dental services will be notified. A note to that effect will be sent home with your child/ren for your information and action. You may also receive a phone call from T.P.H. dental staff to assist you in accessing care.

Please be advised that this screening assessment does not replace the dental examination done by a licensed dentist.

Should you require more information, please contact Toronto Public Health, Dental & Oral Health Services at 416-370-4780.

Dr. Hazel Stewart
Director
Dental and Oral Health Services