

# BROWN BULLETIN

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

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

## Welcome to Our New Academic Year!

We are excited to have everyone back from summer break! For those families new to the school this year, we extend a warm welcome to Brown Public School! It is my privilege to serve the students, staff and Brown community as the new principal of the school.

The Brown community has just commemorated its 100th anniversary and will continue to grow strong each and every year. Thanks to the close and supportive partnership between the parent body and the staff, our students thrive in the English and French programs academically, through extra-curricular opportunities and through global outreach. We wish everyone an excellent year ahead as we begin Year 101!



Lorraine Shafransky & Sonja Litner

**The Bulletin goes out in paper form to new families in September and via email to all families from October to June.**

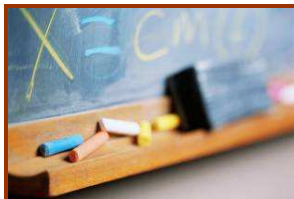
Please sign up to receive the Brown Bulletin by email by following the link at [www.brownschool.ca](http://www.brownschool.ca)

If you do not have an email account, please inform the office in writing and a paper copy will be provided.

## Staff News

We are very happy to welcome back **Ms Hirsch**. She has returned from a year-long teacher exchange in the UK, and we know our students will greatly benefit from her enriched experience and professional learning while abroad.

We also welcome back **Ms Fischer-Harrison**, back from her one-year leave of absence. Once again, a warm welcome back goes to **Ms Warden**, who returned to us in the spring of last year from her maternity leave.



All parents and guardians are invited to attend **Brown School's Curriculum Night** on **Thursday, September 23rd**. We look forward to seeing everyone!

The evening will begin in the Gym at 6:00 p.m. with a general gathering and introduction of teachers, staff and programs.

**Kindergarten and Primary classrooms** will be open from 6:30 to 7:00 for you to meet with your children's teachers and discuss their plans for the year. **Junior Classrooms** will be open from 7:00 to 7.30 p.m.

Throughout the evening, we hope that you will introduce yourself to the Administration as well as the Phys. Ed, Swimming and Music Teachers and the Librarian.

### IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday September 15	QSP Magazine Sales Begin
Friday September 17	Pyjamas for Pakistan
Thursday September 23	Curriculum Night – 6:00 - 7.30 p.m.
Thurs Sept 23 + Fri Sept 24	School Photo Days
Monday September 27	Toonie for Terry Fox Walk
Wednesday September 29	New Parent Breakfast – 8 a.m., Brown School Gym
Wednesday September 29	Parent Council Annual General Meeting – 9 a.m., Gym
Monday October 11	Thanksgiving Holiday (no classes for students)
Friday October 29	Pizza Lunch for participating students
Monday November 15	First Term Progress Reports sent home
Friday November 19	PA Day (no classes for students)
November 15 – 18	Classroom visits from Police Officer Marcie Beaven-Brindle
November 16-18	School-wide Dental Screening
Thursday November 25	Fall Fling – Save the Date!

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### **Important Notes on Student Safety**

Our bell rings to start classes at 8:50 a.m. The teachers will begin yard supervision at 8:35 a.m. **Please do not leave your child in the schoolyard before this time because there is no supervision.** Students should be picked up at 3:30 p.m. in the same location. If children require extra help, classroom remediation time is between 3:30 and 3:45 p.m. This is considered to be part of our academic day, so please understand that teachers may keep students in the class for some additional attention at this time.

**Kindergarten children** gather in our primary yard and are asked to enter their classroom directly from the playground at 8:50 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. Students arriving by bus will be supervised until teachers arrive on duty in the yard.

**If it is necessary to pick up your child during the school day**, please send a note to the classroom teacher indicating what time you would like to meet your child in the school office. Teachers will send the child to the office at the indicated time. Please sign your child out of the school in the Sign Out Book on the office counter.

Brown School has an **Attendance Verification Program** to support the safe arrival of our students. We will call home if your child has not arrived at school. It is essential that all parents report their child's absence or late arrival due to an appointment to **416 393 1557 before 8:50 a.m.** Classes begin at 8:55 a.m. Please ensure that your child arrives at school on time. It is important for our students to be here on time so that we can begin attendance verification promptly. Also, children who arrive on time benefit from valuable teaching time and instruction first thing in the morning.

**We ask that parents do not drop off or pick up students or park their vehicle in the laneway off Avenue Road.** This area is for bus drop off and pick up and delivery only. It is impossible for the busses to turn around when there are cars parked at the back. This has been an ongoing safety concern that has improved greatly with your cooperation.



**No dog policy:** Please respect our board policy by not bringing dogs onto the playground. The yard is a small space used by our children. We love our pets too, but already we have had children come into the office with soiled clothing. Everyone's co-operation is greatly appreciated.

### **Brown's Communications Network**

**Student Agenda** – Be sure to establish close communication with your classroom teacher. Regularly checking the student agenda is a common way to be kept up to date on school work and activities in the classroom and in the school.

**Brown Bulletin** – The monthly bulletin is sent out electronically unless you have requested a paper copy. **Please make sure that you are on our email list by following the link at [www.brownschool.ca](http://www.brownschool.ca). If your email address has changed, please be sure to sign up again with the new address.**

**Brown Website** – School news bulletins, sports schedules and events, archived Bulletins, forms and other important information can be found on our website: [www.brownschool.ca](http://www.brownschool.ca). Please check back often!

**Brown Handbook** – Our Handbook outlines Brown's staff roles, classes, special activities and policies to help give families an overview of the school. The 2010-2011 edition will be sent home in October.

**Class Parents** – Parent Representatives of each class help connect parents with their child's teacher, the administration, and with the Parent Council. Please speak to your teacher if you are interested in being a Class Parent.

**We hope you will feel connected with Brown School this year.** Please contact Nina Moritsugu at [ninatkm@yahoo.ca](mailto:ninatkm@yahoo.ca) if you would like to help with Brown Communications.

### **NEWS FROM AROUND BROWN SCHOOL**

#### **Outreach Club is Taking Action! Pyjamas for Pakistan Day is Friday, September 17**

All students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 are invited to donate a Toonie (or more) and wear their pyjamas to school. The money is to help those who are in desperate need in Pakistan. Heavy rains throughout the summer and the resulting flooding in Pakistan since July have killed an estimated 1,600 people and left an additional 17 million displaced, as homes have been destroyed, seriously damaged or inundated with mud and water. They need our help! The money raised will be given to UNICEF and/or Canadian Red Cross to help their relief efforts. To contribute directly to these agencies online, please visit [www.unicef.ca/tdsb](http://www.unicef.ca/tdsb) or [www.redcross.ca/tdsb](http://www.redcross.ca/tdsb).

**Please take action! Donate a Toonie and wear pyjamas for Pakistan on Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>!**



On Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, all Brown School students and staff will be participating in the annual **Toonie for Terry Walk** commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> year for Terry Fox and his Marathon of Hope. Students and their teachers will be walking around the Brown School neighbourhood.

All are asked to bring in a Toonie to their classroom teacher, which will be donated to the Terry Fox Foundation.

### **Lunch Program**



This school year we will continue to offer enrichment to our Lunch Program. **If your child stays at school for lunch, they are in this programme!** Our enriched Lunch Program includes indoor/outdoor sports, swimming and club activities during recess.

We also offer a daily milk and monthly pizza lunch option. The form for pizza and milk was sent home last week, and should be returned with payment (**cash or cheques payable to Brown School Lunch Program**) by September 23<sup>rd</sup> to ensure participation in October's pizza lunch.

### **General Guidelines**

We are pleased to offer several classroom sites for Grades 1-2 to use to eat their lunches. Students in Grades 3-6 will eat lunch in the Gymnasium.

To ensure that the program runs efficiently and safely for the large number of students staying for lunch, please observe the following:

- We request that you do not send food that needs to be refrigerated or microwaved. Please consider using thermoses and/or cold packs to keep your child's lunch at the right temperature until lunchtime.
- Peanut Butter and Nut Products should not be sent to School – this includes products that “may contain nuts”.
- We expect “Litterless Lunches” for environmental reasons.
- We have a “boomerang” program, which means everything your child does not consume goes back home, as well as all litter. This will allow you to monitor how much food is being uneaten, and dispose of food waste in your green bin.

### **Lunchtime Sports: First Term is Flag Football!**

Once again Mr. Wittenberg and Mr. Profiti will be running the Lunchtime Flag Football League three days a week (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday) for the students in Grade 4, 5 and 6. If your child is interested joining this fun house league please have them sign up with Mr. Profiti in the Gym as soon as possible. The league will start on September 20<sup>th</sup> at lunch. More info to follow.

### **Recreational “Noon” Swim for Grades 1 - 6 will begin the week of September 13**

This program will be held twice a week on **Mondays and Wednesdays** from 12:00 – 12:40 p.m. Bring your bathing suit, cap and towel – and come enjoy the fun!!

Looking forward to seeing you – Mrs. J. & Mr. D, Brown Aquatic Staff

**PS – See “Aquatics News” on page 6 for information about weekly aquatics classes and the Primary Swim team!**

### **Physical Education Class**

Each class from Grade 1 to 6 will receive 2 classes of Physical Education per week. Kindergarten students will receive one class per week.

**It is extremely important that your child is prepared for Gym class by having the appropriate clothing and footwear.** Having comfortable clothing such as running shoes, socks, track pants or shorts along with a comfortable shirt is important for your child to get the most out of the Phys-Ed program. Participation in the Phys-Ed program is worth half of your child's grade on their report card, so being prepared to take part in physical activity is extremely important.



I look forward to seeing your child in the Gym again this year! -- Mr. Profiti

**PS – See “Sports Corner” on pages 7-8 for news on this year's Sports Teams and Tryouts!**



### Music Notes

The first Junior Choir rehearsal will be held on **Wednesday, September 28** at 7:45 a.m. in the music room. The choir rehearses every Wednesday morning from that day forward unless otherwise notified.

All students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 are welcome – there are no tryouts for choir. The Junior Choir performs at numerous events throughout the school year. -- Mr. Ellis

### Library News/ Nouvelles de la bibliothèque de Brown

**Borrowing Policy:** In general, the primary and junior students will have the opportunity to visit the library once per week. The junior students will have the opportunity to use the library for research at various times during the year; there is also an open book exchange time every day.

**Lost Books:** A partial replacement fee of \$10 paperbacks/\$20 hard covers will be charged for lost and damaged books.

**Donations:** Donations of new or “like-new” books are always welcome at the library. Please see Mme Gagnon for further details.

**Special Event: Donate a Book To the Library!** On Curriculum Night we will hold an important fundraiser for the library. You will have the opportunity to buy a book to donate to the library. This will help to keep our collection up to date. Please come by the office and/or the library on that evening.

**Volunteers:** If you would like to volunteer in the library this year, please pick up a volunteer form from Mme Gagnon.

### School-Wide Pediculosis (Lice) Screening is on Wednesday, October 6

The TDSB Pediculosis Coordinator and a group of trained parents will do head checks for every class. Volunteers are essential to the smooth running of school wide lice checks and volunteers are needed to assist. No experience is necessary as you will be trained by experienced persons.

If you can spare 30-45 minutes of your time on October 6, please contact Rose Kurtzer at [rrrfm@sympatico.ca](mailto:rrrfm@sympatico.ca).

### QSP Magazine Drive

Thinking of subscribing to a new magazine? Time to renew a favourite? Take advantage of great subscription rates of up to 80% off newsstand prices while helping Brown PS by ordering through QSP. Our school receives an average of \$10.00 for every subscription sold, so each and every order makes a difference! The sales from these magazines support events for our Grade 6 students.

- ✓ Order online at [www.QSP.ca](http://www.QSP.ca); your order will be processed immediately.
- ✓ Our group number for Internet orders is **9143**



### News from Unicorn Daycare

Unicorn Day Care currently has half-day spaces available for students in Junior and Senior Kindergarten.

If you need care for your child, please feel free to contact Eric Mackey at 416 929 6841.

### 2010/2011 Pizza Lunch Dates for participating students

#### Fall Term

Friday, Oct 29  
Friday, Nov 26  
Friday, Dec 17

#### Winter Term

Friday, Jan 28  
Friday, Feb 25

#### Spring Term

Friday, Mar 25  
Friday, Apr 15  
Friday, May 13  
Friday, June 17

## FROM THE PARENT COUNCIL

### Welcome to all new and returning families to Brown!

On behalf of the Brown Parent Council, I'd like to welcome all new and returning families to Brown Junior Public School. I'd also like to extend a warm welcome to our new Principal, Lorraine Shafransky.

The Brown Parent Council is gearing up for a fun filled and exciting start to the new school year. We have a number of events and activities already planned to enrich the student experience at Brown! Thank you to the volunteer efforts of so many of our incredible Brown parents, who are essential to the success of these events and activities.



The Brown Parent Council invites all parents to attend a **New Parent Breakfast on Wednesday, September 29 at 8:00 a.m. in the Gym**. This is a great way to meet and mingle with parents who are new to Brown School. The gathering will give "new" parents an opportunity to meet and chat with "old" Brown Parents, teachers, Principal Lorraine Shafransky and Vice Principal Sonja Litner. **Everyone is welcome!**

All interested parents are invited to attend the **Brown Parent Council Annual General Meeting, which will follow the New Parent Breakfast**. The AGM starts at 9:00 a.m. and will take place in the Gym. All interested parents are invited to attend the AGM to learn more about the school and to find out about exciting opportunities to get involved. The first Parent Council Meeting will follow immediately after the AGM. All parents are welcome and are encouraged to attend.



Looking forward to a great year at Brown!  
-- Lisa Bernstein, Chair



### **The Kiss'N Ride crew is back and ready to go for its 3rd year!**

For those families new to Brown: The Kiss'N Ride is a designated drop-off program in the mornings run by parent volunteers. The area on Poplar Plains Rd. from the corner of Balmoral Avenue to the driveway entrance for St. John's Latvian Lutheran Church is the designated drop zone. There is **NO PARKING** in this area during morning drop-off from 8:30 - 8:50 a.m.

#### **How does it work?**

It's simple: pull into the designated area, marked by orange cones. Parents in recognizable safety vests will open your passenger front or rear door to allow your child to exit safely onto the sidewalk. Bags should be kept in the car with students. Student volunteers are often available to walk younger students into the schoolyard.

#### **Why should you use it?**

Providing a supervised drop zone helps enormously with morning traffic flow and makes it safer for all children, both those exiting from cars and those walking or biking.

It reduces the need for many parents to park, thus reducing the amount of illegal parking in the morning and eliminates mid-street exits from cars (and yes, these do happen). It will get you on your way faster.

If you choose not to use the Kiss'N Ride PLEASE keep in mind the following safety tips:

- **KEEP CLEAR OF THE CROSS WALK!** Please do not obstruct the crosswalk in any way; doing so puts our children at risk.
- **DO NOT DROP YOUR CHILDREN IN THE PARKING LOT.** It's dark down there and there are a number of near misses every year.
- **PLEASE DO NOT PARK in THE PARKING LOT.** This area is for staff only!

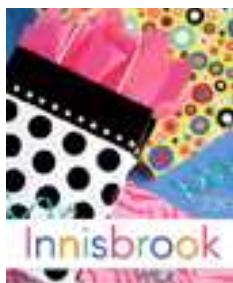
#### **We are always in need of volunteers!**

If you can spare 1 or 2 mornings a month for this important program, contact Yvonne Harding at [harding99@rogers.com](mailto:harding99@rogers.com).

### **WANTED: Parent Volunteers!**

If you would like to meet other great parents, learn more about Brown or if you have a special skill to share, we would like to hear from you!

If you would like more information on how you can help, please contact Anji Shukla at [getanji@gmail.com](mailto:getanji@gmail.com) or Lisa Bernstein at [bernstl@lao.on.ca](mailto:bernstl@lao.on.ca).



### **Wrapping Paper**

Parties and presents galore make wrapping paper an essential item year-round! The wrapping paper and chocolate catalogues will be sent home with the students shortly. Please take a look through them; they are filled with gift ideas as well as beautiful wrapping paper. This is a phenomenal fundraiser for our school and we hope all will participate!

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help, please contact Karen Smith at [karenandian@bell.net](mailto:karenandian@bell.net)

### **Save the Date: The Fall Fling is on Thursday, November 25!**

We are looking forward to repeating last year's incredibly FUN and successful fund raising event once again at the Badminton & Racquet Club! Full details will be provided in the October newsletter.

Once again, we need:

- Donations to our silent auction from your favourite merchants and local businesses (we can provide you with a donation request letter)
- Volunteers to help with kids' arts and crafts
- Volunteers with desk top publishing/digital imaging skills

All persons interested in helping with this important fundraiser should contact:

- Bettina Hoar at 416-272-8295 or [hoarhouse@gmail.com](mailto:hoarhouse@gmail.com), or
- Dianne Burk at 416-926-8910 or [dianneburk@sympatico.ca](mailto:dianneburk@sympatico.ca).

We look forward to working with you to raise funds for great initiatives to enhance our children's' education.

## **AQUATICS NEWS 2010-2011**

Welcome Back! The aquatics staff is looking forward to seeing all of your children during their **regular swim classes!**

### **Aquatic Reminders:**

- Swim Equipment: Each student must be prepared with a bathing suit, bathing cap and towel for each swim class.
- A note of explanation from your parent or guardian is required if you are unable to participate in your swim class.
- Labeling: All swim equipment should be labeled! This will help us to return any items left behind.
- Lending Equipment: Unfortunately, the aquatic department no longer lends swim equipment.
- Bathing caps are on sale in the School Office.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to give us a call. Thank you!

Mrs. Jeffery (Mrs. J.) and Mr. Daigneau (Mr. D.),  
Brown Aquatic Staff - 416 393-1560

### **Primary Swim Team – Grades 2 & 3**

Primary Swim team tryouts will be held during the week of October 4<sup>th</sup>. Tryouts will be held during your child's regular swim class.

## SPORTS CORNER

**Another year at Brown School is here - and that means the Athletics Program will be in full gear very soon!**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back everybody for another exciting year of Athletics at Brown School. As many of you know - last year being the school's 100th Birthday, the Athletes at Brown decided to give the school 15 birthday presents which we hang proudly on the Gym wall (a school record!).

-- Mr. Profiti (Mr. P.)

**Brown students acknowledge that it is a privilege and responsibility to be a member of a school team. Students are responsible for demonstrating appropriate and respectful behaviour at all times. Team members must also maintain classroom academic standards in order to maintain their position on a school team.**

The following Sports Team will be available on a try-out basis this year at Brown:

TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3
Cross Country Running Team Grades 1 to 6	Boys Basketball Grades 4, 5, 6	Boys & Girls Soccer Grades 4, 5, 6
Boys & Girls Slo-Pitch Grades 4, 5, 6	Ice Hockey Grades 4, 5, 6	Ultimate Frisbee Grade 5 & 6
Boys & Girls Touch Football Grades 4, 5, 6	Girls Volleyball Grades 4, 5, 6	Track & Field Team Grades 3 to 6
Girls Basketball Grades 4, 5, 6	Junior Swim Team Grades 4, 5, 6	Water Polo Grade 6
Boys Volleyball Grades 4, 5, 6	Badminton Grades 4, 5, 6	
Primary Swim Team Grades 2 & 3		

All Students have received a package of **blue permission forms** that are intended to give permission for your child to try-out and/or participate on any school team. Whether it is the Cross Country Team or the Football Team or even the Badminton Team, the permission forms must be filled out and returned to their teacher. ***If a child does not have their permission forms filled out they will not be allowed to participate in any of the try-outs until the permission forms are returned.***

The first school teams that will be getting started very soon are the Football, Cross Country, Slo-Pitch and Primary Swim Teams. The coaches had sign-up meetings for the Touch Football and Slo-Pitch Teams on Wednesday September 8th, Thursday September 9th and Friday September 10th at morning and afternoon recess in the Gym.

**Need more information regarding team sports at Brown?**

**Please check the school website, check the bulletin board outside the Gym and listen to morning announcements!**

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

**Click on Sports, Click on Teams, and then click on the team you are looking for.**

### ***Cross Country (Grades 1 - 6)***

Practices for both primary and junior students are underway!

**IMPORTANT:** This year, we have introduced changes to our practice locations, schedules and start times. Please see the "Cross Country Information for Parents" pack that was sent out with this Bulletin for details. This information is also available at <http://www.brownschool.ca/documents/Cross%20Country%20Information%20for%20Parents%20-%20Sept%202010.pdf>

### ***Boys' and Girls' Touch Football (Grades 4 - 6)***

The **Junior Boys' and Girls' Football Teams** will hold try-outs simultaneously for **students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 on Monday, September 13 and Wednesday, September 15, both at 7:30 a.m. at Winston Churchill Park.**

At the conclusion of the two try-outs, a list of finalists will be posted outside of the gym on Thursday September 16<sup>th</sup>. Those students on the list are invited to a **final try-out on Friday, September 17 at 7:30 a.m. at Winston Churchill Park. The final team list will be posted on Friday, September 17** in the afternoon. The first team practice will take place on **Monday, September 20 at 7:30 a.m.** at Winston Churchill Park.

**Students who would like to walk to the park with the coaches must be in the Principal's Hallway at 7:15 a.m. on the morning of the try-out or practice.** If you would like to meet the coaches at the park then please be at the park at 7:30 a.m. All students are encouraged to dress appropriately for tryouts: sweater or t-shirt, track pants or shorts (no jeans please) and soccer cleats or any pair of athletic shoes.

Coaches: Mr. Profiti, Mr. Daigneau and Mr. Wittenberg

### ***Girls' Slo-Pitch (Grades 4 – 6)***

#### **Try-Out Schedule:**

**1st Try-Out:** Monday, September 13 at 3:45 p.m. All Girls in Grades 4, 5 and 6 who signed up are to meet at the baseball diamond in the schoolyard.

**2nd Try-Out:** Wednesday, September 15 at 3:45 p.m. All Girls in Grades 4, 5 and 6 who signed up are to meet at the baseball diamond in the schoolyard.

At the conclusion of the two try-outs, a list of finalists will be posted outside of the Gym on Thursday, September 16. Those students who are on the list are invited to a **final try-out on Monday, September 20 at 3:45 p.m. in the schoolyard.**

**A final team list will be posted on Tuesday September 21. The first team practice will be on Wednesday, September 22 at 3:45 p.m. in the schoolyard.**

All students are encouraged to dress appropriately for try-outs: sweater or t-shirt, track pants or shorts (no jeans please), running shoes, a hat and baseball glove.

More information will follow soon!

Coaches: Mme B'Dacy and Darrin Chin

### ***Boys' Slo-Pitch (Grades 4 - 6)***

#### **Try-Out Schedule:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Try-Out:** Tuesday, September 14 from 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the schoolyard.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Try-Out:** Thursday, September 16 at 7:30 a.m. in the schoolyard.

At the conclusion of the two try-outs, a list of finalists will be posted outside of the Gym on Friday September 17. Those students who are on the list are invited to a **final try-out on Tuesday, September 21 at 3:45 p.m. in the schoolyard.**

**A final team list will be posted on Wednesday, September 22. The first team practice will be on Thursday, September 23 at 7:30a.m. in the schoolyard.**

All students are encouraged to dress appropriately for tryouts: sweater or t-shirt, track pants or shorts (no jeans please), running shoes, a hat and baseball glove.

Coaches: Jonah Weslak, Mr. Ellis

***Do you have news or events to announce in an upcoming Bulletin?  
Send the details to Jennifer Martin at [bulletin@brownschool.ca](mailto:bulletin@brownschool.ca)***