

BROWN BULLETIN

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NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF L. SHAFRANSKY & S. LITNER – FEBRUARY 2011



“Build Character, Build Success!”

January was a very exciting month, and a time to celebrate!

We had our first opportunity as an Eco Platinum “demonstration school” to host staff and teachers from other schools looking to improve their Eco standards. Our Speech Arts festival was a great success with two students moving on to the City Wide competition in French and English. Our staff has done professional development with our French Instructional Leader, and our Family of Schools math and literacy coaches.

We also kicked off our first Character Education Assembly, recognizing students who showed “responsibility” in the month of January. Student success is dependent on safe, caring and inclusive learning environments. Much of this starts with teaching students about the value of character, and feeling connected to the school community. A photo of those who earned “responsibility” certificates in January is posted outside the office. February is “kindness and caring” month. ***Come on, Brown, let’s show how kind and caring we are!***

We would like to congratulate Mr. MacDonald on the birth of his baby boy, Lukas!

Urgent Safety Reminder

We are always concerned about ensuring the safety of our students, and we need your support:

- ✓ ***Please do not drop off or pick up students or park your vehicle in the laneway off Avenue Road.*** This is a school bus route. It is impossible for busses to turn around when there are cars parked at the back, and students need clear access to the busses for pick up and drop off.
- ✓ Also, ***parents and caregivers coming into the school for any reason must begin their visit in the office.*** All visitors are asked to sign in to the office.
- ✓ ***Please try to schedule appointments before/after school hours.*** If you need to pick up your child during the school day, please send a note to the classroom teacher. Students will only be called out of class once the parent arrives at the school for pick up.

Friday February 11	Candy-Grams available for sale
Monday February 14	Report Cards go home
Thursday February 17	Report Card evening interviews – until 8:00 p.m. School-wide Bingo Day!
Friday February 18	PA Day (no classes for students)
Monday February 21	Family Day (no classes for students)
Wednesday February 23	Junior Students: Staff/Student Volleyball Game Primary Students: Spirit Day Parent Council Meeting, 7:00 pm in the Library
Friday February 25	Dance-A-Thon
March 14-18 inclusive	March Break

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EQAO

Each year, the students in Grade 3 participate in the Primary Assessment and the Grade 6 students complete the Junior Assessment. The students will be asked to complete tasks in reading, writing and mathematics. Please note that the Grade 3 students in the French Immersion program complete the math section only. **This year, the assessments will be administered between May 30 and June 10, 2011.** Parents with children presently in Grade 3 or 6 should ensure that their child is at school during the assessment period.

Parents can visit the EQAO website at www.eqao.com where you will find a number of resources. No login is required! Look under "Parent Resources" on the homepage to find Key Words, Practice Booklets, French Immersion Glossaries and more.



Recess During Cold Weather

Elementary school students are kept indoors for recess and lunch times for a number of weather conditions such as rain, lightning in the area, extreme winds and extreme cold. When temperature and wind chill measure -28C or lower, students are kept indoors. Recesses and lunch hour may be shortened if the temperature and wind chill reading is between -28C and -20C.

If a student's medical condition requires further consideration due to weather conditions, or if parents have other questions about how and when weather conditions affect your child's school day, please contact the school office.



Update from the Outreach Committee

February is an extra special month for the Outreach Committee. For 2011, we have chosen **Pennies for Peace** as our global charity that we would like to support. Its focus is to teach children the rewards of sharing and working together to bring hope and educational opportunities to other children in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Many of you will be familiar with the program and its founder, Greg Mortenson, New York Times best selling author of **Three Cups of Tea** and **Listen to the Wind**.

This month is filled with a variety of fun activities including the following:

- ✓ Tuesday, February 1: School Kick-off Assembly
- ✓ Friday, February 4: Popcorn Day
- ✓ Friday, February 11: Candy Grams for Valentine's Day for Sale/ Distribution on Monday, February 14
- ✓ Thursday, February 17: School Wide Bingo
- ✓ Wednesday, February 23: Staff/Student Volleyball Game (for junior students); Spirit Day (for primary students)
- ✓ Friday, February 25: Teacher Dares and School Wide Dance-a-thon

Toonies for participation in the various pre-Dance-a-thon activities will be requested. Pledge sheets for the Dance-a-thon have already been sent out via your class parent.

We look forward to you and your children's support for this wonderful charity. www.penniesforpeace.org



Need Childcare for the PA Day or March Break? Unicorn has spaces available!

Unicorn Day Care has space available in all programs for the March Break Camp and the up coming February 18th PD Day, for any child attending Brown School. If you need care for the March Break or the PD Day, please call Eric Mackey at 416 929 6841. We are also on line at www.brownschool.ca - just click on the *Day Care* link.

FROM THE PARENT COUNCIL

Meeting Reminder

The next Parent Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday, February 23** at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. All parents and caregivers are welcome.

AQUATICS

Junior Swim Team 2011 - Grade Level 4-6

Congratulations to all our new swim team members of 2011! As coaches, we were very impressed with the outstanding number of students who competed during the swim team tryouts. Each of our students put forth his/her very best efforts...great job to all!

We would like to encourage all interested students to compete again next January!
Brown swim team coaches

Days: Tuesday and Thursday **Time:** 12:00-12:40 pm
Equipment: goggles, bathing cap, proper bathing suits and towel.
Girls: one piece suit Boys: jammers

Recreational Lunch Swim

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays
Time: 12:00 -12:40
Equipment Required: bathing suit, bathing cap, towel.

Please join us at the pool for splashing fun!

Mrs. J. and Mr. D.

Aquatics Reminder:

Please encourage your children/child to wear his/her bathing cap their during swim class or recreation swim. This will help to keep the pool clean and hair dry. Many thanks! -- Brown Aquatics Staff

SPORTS CORNER

Ice Hockey

The team will play in the quarter finals on Thursday, February 17 at Forest Hill Arena vs. Adam Beck PS. Good luck Brown!

Basketball

Congratulations to the boys and lady on the basketball team for an outstanding performance at the UCC tournament back in January. The team went into the tournament with high expectations, and they did not disappoint. The boys and lady cruised into the championship finals on Saturday, and despite a strong effort from Bayview Glen, the Brown School team was just too strong, bringing the trophy back to the school!!

Thank you to all of the friends and family members who came out to support the team, your cheering was greatly appreciated!

The team is now set to begin their regular season, beginning on Friday February 11th at a one-day tournament at Palmerston P.S. Good Luck Team!!!

Grade 6 Girls' Volleyball

The Grade 6 girls are going strong this year! We are just past the mid-way point in our season and have an impressive 2 and 1 record. Two more games remain: February 9th at Jackman (drivers needed) and the 10th here at Brown!

Grade 4/5 Girls' Volleyball

This years' Grade 4/5 volleyball team was spectacular! They played 3 very tight games in their tournament last week and came out of the tournament with a 2 and 1 record! Congratulations on a very close second place finish, girls! We can't wait to see you again next year!

Watch for the following teams to begin try-outs in the next couple of weeks or so:

- ✓ Co-Ed Badminton Team (Grade 4-6)
- ✓ Co-Ed Volleyball Team (made up of the students who played on the Girls and Boys Volleyball Teams)

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