

BROWN BULLETIN

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

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



Brown School, 1920. City of Toronto Archives

Brown School is ahead by a century!

Bonjour! Welcome back from the winter break. We hope that everyone enjoyed the holiday! We would also like to welcome families new to Brown School who have recently joined our community.

For a century, Brown School has had a tradition of strong academic achievement and close relationships with our families and community. Our staff is a team of dedicated teachers and support staff who bring unique talents to our classrooms, along with many co-curricular activities. Each child is encouraged to strive for academic excellence

while also adding balance to the day by pursuing an interest or talent from an extensive number of activities that are offered.

We wish our hockey and basketball teams luck, as they participate in the U.C.C Tournament this weekend, January 14 & 15. "Thank you" to the coaches, Mr. Profiti and Mr. Ellis (hockey), and Mr. Wittenburg and Mr. Daigneau (basketball). **Go Panthers!**

Kindergarten Registration:

We are now preparing for Kindergarten registration. Please book an appointment to register your child the week of February 1st to 3rd. To register you need:

- Your child's birth certificate or baptismal record or passport
- Two pieces of I.D. that show your address (i.e. phone bill, bank statement, rental or lease agreement)
- Your child's immunization card (a list of needles he/she has received)
- Your child's health card number

French Immersion Kindergarten Registration:

Children whose home address is in the English attendance area of the following schools are eligible to apply to Brown PS for the Early French Immersion program (Brown/Cottingham). Pink application packages for Early French Immersion were sent out to our JK families. Applications are due to our office no later than February 4th, 2011. For more information about the French Immersion program and application procedures, please attend our Kindergarten French Immersion Night in our library at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 27th. Or you can check online at www.tdsb.on.ca

Thursday January 20	Parent Council Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Meeting Room
Friday January 21	PA Day (no classes for students)
Tuesday January 25	Speech Arts Festival/Concours d'art oratoire (Grades 4 – 6)
Thursday January 27	Kindergarten French Immersion Info. Night 7:00 p.m. (library)
Tuesday February 1	School Wide Pediculosis Screening -Please send a note to the office by Monday January 18 if you do not want your child to participate.
February 1 st – 3 rd	Kindergarten Registrations: Call (416)393-1560 to book an appointment.
Monday February 14	Report Cards go home
Thursday February 17	Report Card evening interviews – until 8:00 p.m
Friday February 18	PA Day (for Report Card interviews)

2011 Kindergarten Tours:

Monday January 17	Kindergarten Tour, 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday January 26	Kindergarten Tour, 9:30 a.m

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Recess During Cold Weather

Elementary school students are kept indoors for recess and lunch times for a number of weather conditions such as rain, lightening 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.

Winter Safety: Traffic

As winter approaches, we know that severe weather will be part of our daily lives for the next several months. While traffic safety is an important matter all year long, this is a particularly good time to review what we can do to keep students safe.

The need to be aware and alert at all times, on any road, and even in the most routine circumstances is key to traffic safety. This applies to students and drivers alike. Road conditions can be challenging in the winter months. So to those of us who drive, please take extra care on the roads and in parking lots, especially in areas where children might be present.

School staff periodically review street and traffic safety with students. ***Parents can help reinforce these safety messages with children at home.*** Below are some tips that might be helpful to review:

- ✓ Stop, look, and listen for traffic.
- ✓ Only cross at corners and crosswalks.
- ✓ Make eye contact with drivers.
- ✓ Walk on the right side of the crosswalk.
- ✓ Wear appropriate footwear to reduce the chances of slipping.
- ✓ Never run into the street.
- ✓ Obey crossing signals.
- ✓ Cross only if clear.
- ✓ Walk on sidewalks.
- ✓ Where there are no sidewalks, walk as far away from traffic as possible, facing traffic.

The safety of our students is always a top priority. Let's work together to make the winter season safe so we can enjoy all it has to offer.

Update from the Outreach Committee

Brown Warm Clothes Drive

This week (January 10-14), the Outreach Committee has organized a warm clothes drive for a TDSB school, Clairville, in the west end of Toronto. In speaking to our contact, we have learned that many of the school's students are new to Canada and find it difficult to adjust to the cold. They arrive in the morning to their classrooms without coats or mitts, in shoes or even slippers. It is the Committee's hope that we can pull together our new or gently used coats, hats, mitts, scarves, boots, leggings, fleeces and warm sweaters for these children in order to keep them warm and assist the families who may need a little support. ***Clothes can be dropped off in the bins outside the office until Friday, January 14th.***

Holiday Hampers

Thank you for your generosity in stocking up our 24 family Holiday Hampers in December. The full baskets were picked up on December 16th by the social workers and delivered to our families, who, hopefully, were able to participate in a happier holiday season as a result.

Upcoming Events:

Stay posted for our February fundraising events and annual Dance-a-thon!

Library News- Nouvelles de la bibliothèque

Happy New Year! The library has received hundreds of new books from the cataloguing centre!! Please come by to see our new collection of French and English books!

FROM THE PARENT COUNCIL

Thank you for Supporting the Festive Plant Fundraiser!

On behalf of the Brown Parent Council and the Annual Festive Plant Fundraiser committee, we want to thank you for your support in making this year's plant sale a real success. The plants went quickly this year with the Amaryllis and Paper Whites a big hit once again!

Thanks again for your support. If you have any feedback, kindly forward your suggestions to bernstl@lao.on.ca

After 4 Starts next week!

The After 4 Winter session starts the week of January 17, 2011. We hope you've received the After 4 Winter Session Program information. You can also check the Brown web site for details. We've added some exciting new programs in addition to bringing back favourites. We hope your children enjoy the programs offered.

Meeting Reminder

The next Parent Council meeting will take place on **Thursday, January 20** at 9:00 a.m. in the Meeting Room. All parents and caregivers are welcome.

AQUATICS

Junior Swim Team 2011 - Grade Level 4-6

Practice Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:00-12:40 p.m.

Equipment Required: bathing suit, bathing cap, towel and goggles. Please label all items.

Tryouts: The tryouts will begin the week of Monday January 10th through to Friday January 17th. *Please Note: Swim team tryouts will be held during your child / children's regular aquatic class.

BONUS: During the swim team tryouts, students in Grades 4-6 are welcome to join us on Tuesday and Thursday for additional practice. Thank you!

Swim Team Coaches: Mrs. Padassery, Ms Warden, Mrs. J. and Mr.D.

Recreational Lunch Swim

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays

Time: 12:00 -12:40

Equipment Required: bathing suit, bathing cap, towel.

We look forward to seeing you!
Mrs. J. and Mr. D.

SPORTS CORNER



Lunchtime Sports

The Lunchtime Sports Program began on Monday, January 10. The Primary students are invited to come out to the Gym to take part in a fun-filled 40 minutes (12:00 - 12:40) of activity with Mr. Profiti and Mr. Wittenberg.

Every Monday is for Grade 3s, every Wednesday is for Grade 2s and every Thursday is for Grade 1s.

Students do not need to sign up - they just need to show up! Each week is optional and all you need to remember is to bring your running shoes.

Ice Hockey

The Ice Hockey team starts their regular season on Jan 6th against Clinton PS. at Forest Hill Arena. The entire regular season schedule along with the Upper Canada College tournament schedule is posted on the school website.

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

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