

BROWN BULLETIN

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

We had a fantastic time at Garden Fete! Many thanks to all for making this day a success!



“There shall be eternal summer in the grateful heart.” – Celia Thaxter

June is here, and it is amazing how fast the year has gone by!

Students should be very proud of their academic achievements, and what they have done in their sports, performing arts, and other extra-curricular involvement as well. With our Character Education program, many students have set and reached their personal goals, and were recognized in our monthly assemblies.

As your proud principal, having finished my first year at Brown, ***I would like to share how grateful I am for everyone’s contribution to making year “one hundred and one” a success!*** Thank you to teaching and support staff, who have worked so hard to ensure students’ success. Thank you to all the coaches, club, and performing arts supervisors who provided enriching experiences for our students beyond the classroom. Thanks also to our great office and caretaking staff, for all their hard work in helping the school run so effectively.

A special thank you goes to Lisa Bernstein, our school council chair, and the Parent Council for their positive approach and tireless commitment to our school community. Thanks also to the class parents and parent volunteers, who contributed countless hours to make such things as the lunch program, Kiss n’ Ride, Safe Arrival, Eco Schools and Outreach, our monthly newsletter and school website, Fall Fling and Garden Fête a success.

It is our students, your children, who make all we do so worthwhile. I am excited about what we can do together next year, and would like to wish everyone a happy and safe summer break! - Principal L. Shafransky

STAFF NEWS

We would like to wish ***Louise Dumont*** (21 years) and ***Asher Wittenberg*** (8 years) well as they move on to new teaching assignments at new schools next year. Both have dedicated themselves to Brown students over time, and we thank them for their years of service. Having both been at Brown for many years, they will certainly be missed among staff, students and community.

We also say goodbye to ***Ms Hirsch*** and ***Mlle Fischer- Harrison***, who will be on a one year leave of absence next year to pursue personal, professional and academic interests.

We’d also like to extend a thank you for the service of ***Mlle Ticoll*** and ***Ms Wu***, who were on Long Term Occasional contracts with our school.

Finally, we say goodbye and “thank you” to ***Lorie Wolf***, who was a part time support teacher to our junior grades this year, and ***John Goodwin***, one of our wonderful caretakers.

We’d like to welcome several people to Brown next year:

Welcome back ***Mme Blanchard*** and ***Ms Foord*** who are returning from their maternity leaves. We also would like to welcome back ***Mme MacQuarrie*** (formerly Danisch) from Williamson Road PS, who will be teaching our French Immersion kindergarten next year.

We welcome ***Anh Nguyen***, also from Williamson Road PS, who will be teaching Grade 2/3 French Immersion. ***Justin Szilagyi***, from Arlington Middle School, will be teaching Grade 5 English, and ***Jonathan Ball*** (from Clinton PS) will be teaching a combination of core English, media literacy and music as a prep teacher next year.

Our **staffing model for the 2011-2012 academic year** is included towards the end of this newsletter. This model is prepared using the number of students projected by the TDSB for each grade for the upcoming school year. As you know, we must keep our primary classes at 20 students and under to meet the Ministry cap. Therefore, you will notice that our staffing model does have several combined grades. **All student placements at this time are tentative.** We continue to register new students to the school well into September and some families do move away. It may be necessary to adjust our staffing model in September to best meet the needs of the students. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through this process.

Friday June 17	Pizza Lunch
Thursday June 23	Grade 6 Graduation (afternoon)
Tuesday June 28	Report Cards sent home
Wednesday June 29	Last Day of Classes
Thursday June 30	P.A. Day (no classes for students)
Tuesday September 6	Welcome back! First Day of Classes
September 22-23	School Photo Days

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LOOKING AHEAD TO SEPTEMBER 2011

Our bell rings at 8:50 a.m. All staff will be in the playground on the first day of school with signs indicating their name and room number. The children will be escorted into the school. Please remember that student supervision in the yard does not begin until 8:35 a.m., so please do not leave your child in the playground until supervision begins. Students should be picked up in the playground at 3:30 pm at the end of the school day. ***Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday September 6, 2011!***

Senior Kindergarten parents: Please see "Frequently asked Questions About Starting Grade One" tip sheet at www.brownschool.ca for answers to many of the questions you may have about preparing for September.

LIBRARY NEWS – NOUVELLES DE LA BIBLIOTHEQUE

Summer is here! ***Splash*** your kids into the public library's summer reading program if you need books or fun things to do.

Also, ***a reminder that all library books should have been returned by June 7th.*** If you think your book is lost please pay the appropriate amount:

Paperback \$ 10.00
Hardcover \$ 20.00

Have a fantastic summer! Bon été!

Marie-France Gagnon, Teacher-librarian

QSP MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER RETURNS THIS FALL

The QSP Magazine Fundraiser will be returning to our school this fall so please save your magazine orders (new or renewal) and order through our campaign to support your child's education. If you can't wait until our campaign begins this fall, you can order any time of the year at www.qsp.ca.

EXCITING NEWS FROM THE ECO-COMMITTEE!



**SAGE
GARDEN**

Sage Garden Project is Underway!

If you bought a water bottle at Garden Fete, than you have already seen the logo for the Sage Garden and may be wondering what it is all about. It is part of a ***garden and art mural project*** which is currently underway at Brown School. The project was kicked off in May when a Native Elder came and talked to each class about the importance of plants to native culture and the significance of the medicine wheel.

The Sage garden will be planted in the garden area near the sitting rocks. A series of murals that depict the plants and their properties will be attached to the fence to add colour and interest to the school yard.

Many of the classes in the school have been involved in creating artwork for the murals. The classes were assigned a plant and asked to research its properties, the types of insects it attracts and any medicinal uses. The students then collaborated as to how to depict this information in a mural. ***The painting of the murals will take place this week and we are hoping that all stages of the garden will be completed by the end of the school year.***

Brown is Bringing Back the Canadian Wild!

In April, the Earth Rangers and their animal ambassadors visited Brown to help raise awareness about the need to protect endangered species and their homes in Canada. Without hesitation, the Brown community took on the challenge to protect the Jefferson salamander of the Happy Valley Forest (Ontario), the grizzly bear of the Great Bear Rainforest (BC), the peregrine falcon of the Upper Bay of Fundy (New Brunswick) and the wolverine of Crow's Nest Pass (Alberta). Through a "Wild and Wacky" spirit day, a bake sale and a pledge campaign, ***the students raised an incredible \$7,525.51!*** What a great way to show your commitment to preserving our precious biodiversity right here at home, Brown!! Great job!

THANK YOU FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

A big thank you to all the students who participated in this year's Outreach Committee activities. It was fun and we accomplished a lot. A special thank you to teachers Mme Breslin, Mme Sulymko and Ms Hirsch! Looking forward to reacquainting ourselves with our fellow members, as well as meeting new members, in September. Have a great summer!

FROM THE PARENT COUNCIL

Summer's Here...

Wow – where did the time go...again? Another fantastic and exciting year at Brown is winding down. Everyone has been so busy with all of the important activities that we do at our school. With all of our amazing fundraisers and initiatives, this has been another year to remember!!

On behalf of the entire Parent Council, I would like to extend a huge thank-you to the many parents who devoted so much of their time and energy to making Brown an extraordinary place for their children to attend. I would also like to thank the Administration and Staff who work tirelessly throughout the year to create a positive, caring and nurturing environment for our students.

Brown Parent Council always welcomes new parents, volunteers and interesting new ideas! We are open to hearing anyone's thoughts on new programs to implement and encourage anyone to participate, however they choose. Check the website and Bulletin to see how you can get involved for next year, or contact me at bernstl@lao.on.ca.

Wishing you all a safe and happy summer!
Lisa Bernstein, Chair, Parent Council

If your email is changing or your child is graduating this summer, please remember to **update your profile on our school email system** by visiting <http://www.brownschool.ca/news.asp?ID=173>. Please also spread the word to new parents!

STAFFING MODEL FOR 2011 / 2012

English	French Immersion
JK (a.m.).....Liz Warden	SK (a.m./p.m.).....Charlotte MacQuarrie
JK (a.m) JK/SK (p.m.).....Sandra Ferraioli	1.....Yolanda B'Dacy
1.....Naomi Regan	1.....Diane Legge
1 /2.....Anna Foord	1 /2.....Sara Weizman
2 /3.....Aundrea Pietrobon	2.....Holly Bondy
2 /3.....Leslie Hazan	2 /3.....Anh Nguyen
3 /4.....Gail Nathanson	3.....Anne-Marie Sulymko
4.....Allison Fox	3 /4.....Michèle Breslin
5.....Justin Szilagyi	4.....Claudine Blanchard
6.....Chris MacDonald	5.....Daniel Paré
	5 /6.....T B A
	6.....Michelle Clouthier
Prep Positions	Special Education
Library.....Marie France Gagnon	Home School Program (a.m.).....Jill Baptist
Music.....Tyler Ellis	Learning Centre (a.m.).....Geetha Padassery
Gym/Health.....Paul Profiti	Learning Centre (a.m./p.m.).....Lia Venutolo
Drama/Dance (p.m.).....Liz Warden	
Core English (p.m.)Geetha Padassery	
Core English/Media Literacy (a.m.).....Jonathan Ball	
ESL (p.m.).....Jill Baptist	

SPORTS CORNER

Team Uniforms

Parents: the Phys-Ed department would really appreciate your help in collecting the team t-shirts that are still outstanding from several of our sports teams that have now come to a close.

Some of the missing team uniforms are from the Co-Ed Badminton Team, Girls Soccer Team, Grade 4/5 Boys Soccer Team, Grade 4/5 Ultimate Frisbee Team and the Track & Field Team.

If your son or daughter played on one or more of those teams and still has their team t-shirt at home can you please send it to school with him/her and have them give it back to Mr. Profiti. Thank you!

Girls' Soccer

Congratulations to the members of the girls' soccer team on a fantastic, albeit short season. The girls in Grades 4, 5 and 6 practiced (sometimes in the rain!) for several weeks before heading into their one day tournament. The girls played an outstanding first game (watch out TFC!!), beating Forest Hill 4 - 0. The second game of the tournament matched Brown up against John Fisher, a soccer powerhouse. It was an exciting game from start to finish, but the girls came up just short.

Thank you to all of the players, families, teachers and administrators for a great season!

Coaches: Mr. P and Mr. Wittenberg

Grade 4/5 Ultimate Frisbee

A huge congratulations to our Grade 4/5 Ultimate Frisbee Team! Despite our one day tournament falling on such a cold and rainy day, our mud-covered players demonstrated true perseverance, spirit and sportsmanship. Our Ultimate Frisbee Team worked very hard and played some really great games!

Coaches: Ms Fox and Ms Pietrobaun

Grade 6 Ultimate Frisbee

The Grade 6 Frisbee team has had a fantastic season and finished CITY CHAMPIONS!!!!

Three wins and a tie at our first tournament propelled us into the South Finals. Neither a bumpy nor wet nor muddy field at Riverdale Park was enough to slow us down as we defeated Palmerston 12 – 2 to win the South Championships for the second year in a row. Perhaps the most amazing part of the victory over Palmerston was the fact that nine different players combined to score our twelve points.

Monday, June 13th was the final stop on our season's journey. Winning against John Wanless in a close game and moving on to a nail biting finals match against Lambton-Kingsway. The team ran their hearts out making mad catches, big muddy dives and playing through sickness to finish off the victors winning with an 8 to 5 final score. Brown school grade 6 ultimate frisbee city champions!!!!

Congratulations to all our players on a fine, fine season and special thanks to all the dedicated parents who have shuttled us around the city.

Coaches: Ms Baptist & Mr. Mac

Grade 4/5 and 6 Boys' Soccer

Those of you long-time readers and loyal fans will remember that Mr. Ellis, Darrin and Mme B'Dacy have been slowly building a soccer dynasty here at Brown. It was only a few years ago that the Grade Six Boys brought home the first ever banner for Boys Soccer in Brown's 100 year history. The colours of the banners keep changing and the numbers keep racking up. Last year, the Grade Fours and Fives broke records and brought home the green banner. For those of you new to the legacy - a green banner is a city championship. That's right - last year, the boys were the Toronto Grade Four/Five Boys Soccer Champions.

This year ushered in a year of promise and of great expectations. The 2011 season saw the team divided: the Grade five boys had moved up to take care of business in Grade Six with some new recruits. The Grade Four players had moved up to Grade Five and welcomed a new crew of Fourth Grade athletes. Choosing these two teams was not easy. As always, the coaches, joined this year by the super sporty Mlle Ticoll, were blessed with lots of talents, yet cursed with the terrible task of narrowing it down and choosing only a few out of the great many. The coaches thank and congratulate all those who tried out and remind everyone: You are a winner just for trying. We wished that we could have taken you all.

The boys practiced in rain and, let's face it, more rain. Mondays and Tuesdays after school had to be the rainiest and coldest days on record. The boys, however, were not fazed; they had their eyes on the prize.

The Grade Sixes were the first to be tested. They faced their long-time nemesis: Allenby at Lawrence Heights in a game that will go down in history as: The Curse of the Mud. You've heard of the Rose Bowl and the Cotton Bowl? This was definitely the Mud Bowl. The curse worked and the team, down by two, accepted its first bitter defeat. Bruised, but not bent, we regrouped and handed our own defeats to each subsequent team at the Puddle Bowl, Muck Bowl and Sun Bowl. Neither scourge nor inclement weather could dampen the spirits of these brilliant warriors who finished first in their division and moved on to the next test.

Just last week they met their rivals Allenby in the Conference Finals. This tired coach is pleased to report that the weather and the curse were broken: the Brown Ligers were victorious! The warriors move on to the City Semifinal and Final games, Wednesday at Eglinton Flats. We will let you know how it all played out... in September.

Meanwhile... the other half of our championship team met one sunny day for a tournament. As the knights of yore, they played against many worthy opponents who sought to take the title. The valiant players won the tournament and moved on to meet their next competitors. On the hottest day so far that year, the team travelled afar afield to Kew Beach and played in what can only be called the Grass Bowl. In grass the height of leprechauns the boys played an excellent game, but came up a little short (leprechaun short), sadly ending our season. The team played like lions with the stealth of tigers and we are extremely proud of the Ligers who in all things, kept their heads and spirits high. We await with bated breath to see their performances next year.

But lest I forget: There is no "I" in team. We did not do it alone. Both teams owe a great debt of gratitude to all of the parents and grand-parents who acted as drivers, caterers, water boys and girls, and cheering squad for all of our games. Thank you for the laundry and the moral support. We quite literally could not have done it without you.

There is certainly a "parent/grandparent" in WINNERS! Three cheers for all of the helpers this year. A great big thank you to Mr. Ellis, Mlle Ticoll and Darrin. **We'll close out the way we do every game: Brown on three: One, two, three: BROWN!**

Coaches: Mr. Ellis, Mme B'Dacy and Mme Tocoll

Athletics Wrap-Up

What an amazing season of sports at Brown! Yet again the student athletes have performed with grate skill and sportsmanship. All in all a great year highlighted by the following:

City Champions – Boys' Football, Boys' Basketball and the Grade 6 Ultimate Frisbee Team.

City Finalists – Girls' Football and Grade 6 Boys' Volleyball.

Conference Champions – Grade 4 Girls' Swimming and Grade 6 Boys' Swimming along with the Grade 6 Boys' Soccer Team playing in the South Conference Finals on June 9th.

Thanks to all the students who contributed to this years' sports season at Brown; you certainly made the coaches, parents and the school very proud of you. A special thanks to the classroom teachers who always accommodate our hectic sports schedule and a big thank you to the office staff and administrators.

Finally a special thanks to the parents who are always present for a try-out, practice, game or even weekend tournament. The Athletics program would not be what it is without your constant support.

On a personal note I wanted to say a special thank you to Mr. Wittenberg who has dedicated countless hours coaching so many of our teams here at Brown over the past 8 years. It goes without saying that we'll feel his absence throughout the school in so many ways including and especially the Sports Teams. We wish you the best of luck always (except if Whitney is competing against Brown in any sporting event). "Tip of the cap to you my friend..."

Mr. Profiti