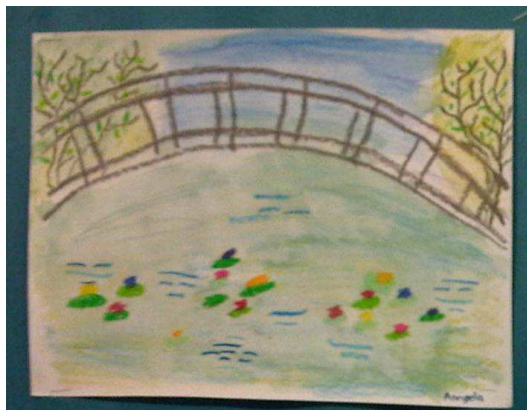


BROWN BULLETIN

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

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



*“In spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt.”
- Margaret Atwood*

Indeed, spring is in full bloom, and so are many ongoing activities at Brown!

We just had a day-long visit from Native elders to speak about native plants and how **we are all caregivers of the earth**. Our classes will be working on our own native garden, to be planted outside later this month. Murals will also be created and painted to accentuate our garden.

We are continuing our goal to reach **Eco Platinum** again this year! Come on, Brown, and remember all you can do to work toward our goal! Walk to school, carpool, or form a “walking school bus”! Bring your litterless,

boomerang lunches! Recycle and reuse materials for class projects! We can do it, because “Brown is green!” Our final certification audit will take place Wednesday, June 8th.

Despite some rained-out practices, our **spring sports** are in full gear and students are practicing for their **track and field** events in our gym classes.

As well, our music program will have a very busy month! The entire school celebrated **Music Monday** on May 2nd. This is a national annual celebration of music that occurs on the first Monday of May each year. Thanks to Mr. Ellis and staff for organizing the event. Our drumming club ended the event with a smash!

Don't forget our **Spring Concert** the afternoon of May 19th, as well as “Song Sung Brown” the evening of June 2nd.

Outreach Committee Update

In follow-up to our recent Brown Communication, the monies raised during our February fundraising initiative will be re-directed to Free the Children. To learn more about this organization, please refer to their website: <http://www.freethechildren.com/>. Their work is nicely aligned with the original objective communicated to the children.

Staff News

We are in the process of setting up our classes for next year. We will publish our staffing model with staff assignments when it is finalized in June. **Your child's final report card, sent home in June, will indicate the placement for next year.** A great deal of time is spent by the staff and administration with each child's placement.

Please be advised however, that **all teaching assignments and student placements are tentative at this time.** In the event that the projected enrolment for next year increases or decreases, adjustments may need to be made in the fall.

Wed & Thurs May 11 & 12	Grade 6 Ottawa Trip
Thursday May 19	Spring Concert (afternoon)
Friday May 20	PA Day
Monday May 23	Victoria Day (no classes for students)
Saturday May 28	Garden Fete!
Monday May 30 – June 10	EQAO Assessment for Grades 3 & 6
Thursday June 2	Song Sung Brown – evening performance
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)

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LIBRARY NEWS – NOUVELLES DE LA BIBLIOTHEQUE

Great news! Our library collection has increased from 24 069 books in 2010 up to 25 472 this year!

It is also time to do our spring clean up. **Please check at home if you have any borrowed books from our library that haven't been returned.**

Parents: the library would love your help in tidying up the library shelves so we are ready for September, if you have any spare time just drop by.

Marie-France Gagnon

SPRING MUSIC EVENTS

"Sound Garden" at Garden Fete.

As in past years, there will be a live music stage at Garden Fete. Current Brown students and Brown Alumni wishing to perform must **submit an application to Mr. Ellis by Wednesday, May 18th**. A list of all performers will be posted outside the music room on Tuesday, May 24th.

Out with the COLD, in with the WOO!

(E. Marshall)

**Spring Sing
Chantons le Printemps**

**L'école Brown School
Thursday, May 19, 2011
1:15 p.m.**

Full program posted at www.brownschool.ca

Brown Public School proudly presents:

**Song
Sung
Brown**

An evening of song with the
Brown School Junior Choir

**The Gym
Thursday, June 2, 2011
7 pm**

HEALTHY HABITS

Looking for healthy meal ideas? Need to encourage your children to eat more fruits and vegetables? The City of Toronto and Toronto Public Health have lots of information to help inspire you!

- ✓ "Invite Us Along" newsletters on fruits and veggies, picky eaters and more can be found at http://www.toronto.ca/health/vegetablesandfruit/vf_newsletters.htm
- ✓ "Invite Us Along" searchable recipe database is available at http://www.toronto.ca/health/vegetablesandfruit/vf_recipes.htm
- ✓ "Cooking Up Some Fun" healthy eating guide and recipes are located at: http://www.toronto.ca/health/children/pdf/cooking_up_fun.pdf

Parents and caregivers should remember to **Be Active, Eat Well, Be Yourself**

- ✓ Parents and caregivers can play an active role in helping children develop healthy attitudes and habits that will last a lifetime. Focus on being active, eating well and being yourself.
- ✓ Plan active weekends together. Go swimming or biking. Play soccer or play in the park. Go for a walk or hike. Discover free activity programs in your neighbourhood.
- ✓ Eat meals together as a family. Start with a healthy breakfast.
- ✓ Your child is special and important. Positive language can go a long way in raising a confident, healthy child.

Scrabble Tournament

Back on March 28th, eight Grade 6 students (four teams of two players each) participated in the Toronto School Scrabble Championship held at Bessborough Middle School.

For our first experience in the world of competitive Scrabble, our students acquitted themselves well. The competition was friendly and served as an excellent learning experience. Teams played four matches over the course of the day with the Grade 6's lumped into a division that spanned Grades 5 - 8.

Highlights:

Ben A. & Isaac B. climbed to the 14th spot after their first two matches; Aden W. & Mark D. claimed 'regret' as their best word-play; Chanzo B. and Keith W. wowed their opponents with a play of 'genetics'; kudos to Chloe M. & Sophie M. on finishing 27th out of 58 teams.

See the link below for to see what happened to the two Grade 8 students that emerged victorious from our tournament:

<http://ca.news.yahoo.com/blogs/dailybrew/canadian-teen-scrabble-champions-defeat-jimmy-kimmel-style-173500725.html>



A colorful poster for the Summer Camp Program. The background is white with various colored circles (red, orange, yellow) scattered throughout. At the top, there are several circles containing text: 'Extended Hours Sports' (red), 'Swimming Day trips Science' (orange), 'Unicorn Daycare' (yellow with a unicorn illustration), and 'Drama' (red). Below these is a large red banner with the text 'REGISTER NOW!' in white. The main title 'SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM' is written in large, bold, blue letters. To the left of the title, there are circles containing 'Hot Lunches Specialty Guests' (orange) and 'Registered Early Childhood Education' (yellow). To the right, there are circles containing 'Ages 2 1/2 - 12' (red), '416.929.6841' (red), and 'Brownschool.ca 454 Avenue Rd. in Brown School' (red).

FROM THE PARENT COUNCIL

Kiss 'N Ride

We have had another great year and welcomed some new volunteers to our crew. Sadly we say goodbye to some wonderful parents who have been with us from the start. As a result we need more volunteers for next year.

Why is it necessary? Brown has a large catchment area. Kiss N Ride allows families to drop their children off safely and continue on without adding to the congestion and tie up limited parking for those who truly need it

What's the commitment? 20 minutes, one or two mornings a month from 8:30 - 8:50 a.m. It's surprisingly easy and social.

For more information please contact Yvonne Harding via Yvonne@Maclean-Howard.org

The Parent Council Needs Volunteers for 2011 – 2012

As this year draws to a close, the Parent Council is already looking ahead to next year. The continued support and generosity of the Brown community has been instrumental in enriching the school experience for all our children. Parent support and involvement is a critical component of that success!

Anyone interested in contributing their time and their talents for the 2010-2011 school years should contact Lisa Bernstein at bernstl@lao.on.ca.

Meeting Reminder

The next Parent Council meeting will be an evening meeting in June. Please watch <http://www.brownschool.ca/events.asp> for a date to be announced. All parents and caregivers are welcome!

**WE CAN'T WAIT FOR GARDEN FETE!
SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2011**

GARDEN FETE 2011: BROWN ISKICKING IT OLD SCHOOL

How to Get Involved.....Volunteer and donate!

As always, this great day would not happen without the help of many volunteers! There are lots of ways that you can help:

Volunteer to help out on May 28th. Your class rep has a sign-up sheet for you to participate!

Or **Donate** the following:

Baked goods: contact Ashley@marlabrown.ca

Salads – contact Ashley@marlabrown.ca

Prizes for the prize table – contact hunterhome@rogers.com

Or make a **financial donation** – there's a box in office! Make cheques payable to "Brown School Parent Council".

This year we are bringing the **Dunk Tank** to Brown School. Make sure to get your tickets to dunk your favorite Brown School Teachers.....you don't want to miss out on this!!!! ☺

Brown is Green will still be going strong; we will continue to educate our children and our community while reducing our ecological footprint in all we do.

Look out for our **Waste Depots**, "the" spot to put our compostable cutlery, napkins, dishes and cups.

The **Lemonade** and water will be flowing, be sure to bring back your bottle from last year or your own cups for the whole family. Look out for the special instructions at each station that will let kids and parents know how to eliminate the waste that is generated specifically at the station.

Looking forward to a great day! Please contact Marla Brown if you have any questions: Marla@marlabrown.ca

Brown is "Green" at Garden Fete!

The following initiatives are in place to help make Garden Fete as "green" as possible. Please help Brown School reduce the amount of waste that is generated by participating in the following ways.

Water Bottles & Cups

Bring a water bottle or cup from home or buy a stainless steel water bottle for \$5.00 at the lemonade stand. Free compostable cups will be made available at the lemonade stand and water trailer.

Free Lemonade

To reduce the amount of waste generated at Garden Fete there will be no pop or bottled water sold at the event. Free lemonade will be provided instead.

Water trailer

You can fill up your water bottle or cup at the water trailer that will be located near the tennis court.

Compostable Items

The napkins, plates, cups and forks used at Garden Fete are all compostable. They are made from a corn based material that breaks down in the composting process. When you are finished eating, take your items to one of the Waste Depots and place them in the containers designated for compostables.

Waste Depot

There will be two waste depots at Garden Fete. One will be in the JK/SK play area where seating will be set up and the other will be at the end of the artificial field near the cafe. Bins will be available for recyclables, compostables and garbage. If you are not sure what item goes in which bin, check out the signs or ask one of the Eco-Committee volunteers.

Thanks everyone, for helping to reduce waste at Garden Fete.
Brown School Eco-Committee

SPORTS CORNER

Track & Field

Track and Field try-outs are wrapping up and the team has almost been finalized. If your child has made it on the Track and Field team: the first competition is on Friday, May 27 at U of T, Varsity Stadium. A letter will go home with your child in the next week or so with more information.

Grade 6 Boys' Soccer

Game # 1: Monday, May 16 at Lawrence Heights vs. Allenby

Game # 2: Wednesday, May 18 at Glenpark or Glenview vs. John Ross Robertson

Game # 3: Tuesday May 24 at ????? vs. Clinton (location to be determined)

Parent drivers are needed to help out with the transportation to and from the games. If you can help out, please see Mr. Ellis.

Coaches: Mr. Ellis, Mme. B'Dacy, Mme. Ticoll

Grade 4/5 Boys' Soccer

Tournament Date: Wednesday May 25

Tournament Location: Lawrence Heights MS (Allen Road and Lawrence)

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Parent drivers are needed to help out with the transportation to and from the tournament. If you can help out, please see Mr. Ellis.

Coaches: Mr. Ellis, Mme. B'Dacy, Mme. Ticoll

Girls' Soccer

Tournament Date: Wednesday May 25

Tournament Location: Forest Hill Memorial (Chaplin and Roselawn)

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Coaches: Mr. Wittenberg and Mr. Profiti

Grade 6 Ultimate Frisbee

Tournament Date: Tuesday May 17

Tournament Location: Danforth Tech

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

More info to follow.

Coaches: Mr. Macdonald, Ms Baptist, Ms Fox and Ms Pietrobon

Grade 4/5 Ultimate Frisbee

Tournament Date: Wednesday May 18

Tournament Location: Winston Churchill Park (St. Clair and Spadina)

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Coaches: Mr. Macdonald, Ms Baptist, Ms Fox and Ms Pietrobon

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