

# BROWN BULLETIN

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FROM THE OFFICE OF M. J. GIULIANI & G. LAROCQUE

September 10, 2007

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW ACADEMIC YEAR!!!

Welcome back to our new academic year! We were delighted to see that our students, staff and parents have returned to school with so much energy and enthusiasm. We are very excited that we will be working with you and your child(ren) this year. We thank you for entrusting your child's education to this outstanding School and our Staff.

We extend a warm welcome to our new students and parents. This is a very exciting time in the lives of our JK students and their parents. Our school and this community have enjoyed a long history of collaboration to foster excellence in our children. May this year be a continuation of that tradition.

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

Our school looks amazing! We have been very busy over the summer preparing for this school year:

- Our caretaking staff: Mark Hosmer, Wally Janakievski and Mike Boyle, under the direction of Peter Wilkinson, have put forth a tremendous effort this summer. The school is shining!
- Room 22 and Room 28 have had the carpeting removed and new tile has been installed.
- Renovations have been completed in Rooms 30 and 35.
- The Teaching Staff and Support Staff have spent many hours preparing classrooms and programs. The classrooms look so inviting for our students.
- Lynda Davenport and Dorothy Hunt have worked diligently in the office to prepare for the new school year.

## STAFF NEWS

- We offer our congratulations to Paul and Stephanie Profiti who were married on July 14, 2007.
- Geetha Padassery and her husband Michael Greave welcomed their daughter Dhillon born on August 2, 2007.
- M. Cannon has extended her leave until the end of June 2008.
- We welcome Anna Fischer Harrison to the staff at Brown School.
- M. Blanchard is currently on leave and we are fortunate to have M. Karin Warren join us in Room 34.
- We welcome back our returning staff and we are delighted to inform you of our additional support staff this year:
  - Our English kindergarten classes will benefit from an Educational Assistant, Ms Barbara Bielskis.
  - We have also been allocated an additional SNA and we welcome Ms. Talat to our school.
  - Mr. Matt Lindsay from Damien College has a teaching placement with Mrs. Hazan's class until the end of October.

## CURRICULUM EVENING – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

We look forward to meeting with you on Thursday, September 27, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the gym. You will meet the entire staff from 6-6:30 p.m., and then have an opportunity to visit your child's classroom. Classroom visits are scheduled as follows:

- 6:30 to 7:00 - JK to Grade 3 classroom visits
- 7:00 to 7:30 - Grade 3 to 6 classroom visits

Friday September 14.....	School-Wide Pediculosis screening
Monday September 17 & Tuesday September 18.....	School Photo Day
Monday September 17.....	New Parent Reception, 6:00p.m.
Monday September 17.....	Parent Council Annual General Meeting, 7p.m. in the Library
Thursday September 27.....	Toonie for Terry Walk (fundraiser for cancer research)
Thursday September 27.....	Curriculum Night, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Friday September 28.....	Professional Activity Day (no classes for students)
Tuesday November 6.....	Fall Fling – save the date – more details to come!

## PARENT COUNCIL

It has been a pleasure to work with our Parent Council co-chairs Tanya Carmichael and Linda Smith over the past two years. We thank them for all of their time and commitment on behalf of the entire school community. We have been in regular contact with them during the past two years for feedback and ideas. This close partnership has been beneficial to our students. We enjoy working with all of the members of our School Council and we thank all of the members of the Executive for their efforts. We feel that by working together we make positive improvements to our school.

**The Parent Council invites any interested parents to the Annual General Meeting on Monday, September 17 at 7:00 pm in the library**, followed by the first meeting of the year for the Parent Council Executive. All parents are invited to attend this meeting. Elections for the new executive will be held as well as a review of the upcoming activities of the parent council. It is a great way to get involved with Brown School and meet other parents.

## 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 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.

Brown School has implemented 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 if your child will be arriving late 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 continued cooperation.

## LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back! Bon retour! We are continuing to make improvements to our library. Adding quality books to our bilingual collection is always a priority. Many parents have expressed an interest in contributing to the book collection. On Curriculum Night, September 27, we hope you will visit the library. There will be pre-selected books in the library that you may choose from to contribute to the library collection if you wish. You may purchase a book that will be stamped and dedicated to the library in your child's name. Your child will have the opportunity to be the first one to sign out this book. Thank you for your continued support.

-- Marie France Gagnon, Teacher Librarian

## BROWN SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

With the start of each school year comes the daunting task of collecting student's information: addresses, names of guardians, phone and email contacts, allergy alerts, etc. During this week you will receive a number of forms. Many of these are required by the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and some are for the purposes of Brown School office administration and classrooms. Please do your best to complete the forms and return them to your child(ren)'s teachers as soon as possible. If you have any questions, you can direct them to the office or your classroom teacher. Please note that Brown School complies with the TDSB's Privacy Policy.

In an attempt to reduce the use of paper and to speed communication from the office to parents, Brown School has introduced an electronic delivery system for the monthly Brown Bulletin and other important notices and announcements from the office. Please be sure to indicate your email address(es) on the forms provided so that you will receive these important updates. The electronic delivery of the Brown Bulletin will begin in October.

In addition, you can regularly visit the Brown School website to find news bulletins, sporting schedules and events, archived Bulletins, forms and other important information - [www.brownschool.ca](http://www.brownschool.ca)

## FALL FLING – SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for the Fall Fling on Tuesday November 6. This is the annual social night for our parents and staff. Additionally, many wonderful crafts by the Brown students and donated items are part of a silent auction. Claire Goodman and Ian Carmichael are the co-chairs this year and can be contacted at [clairegoodman@sympatico.ca](mailto:clairegoodman@sympatico.ca) and [carmichaeli@sympatico.ca](mailto:carmichaeli@sympatico.ca). Lisa Kaplan will be organizing all donated items for the Fling so please contact her if you can arrange a donation at [brianandlisa@hotmail.com](mailto:brianandlisa@hotmail.com) or 416-651-3092.

## WRAPPING PAPER SALES

Fall is the time of year for our Wrapping Paper and Gift Fundraiser! There will be a fantastic choice of wrapping paper and great gifts. This is a phenomenal fundraiser and we hope all will participate. Look for details to follow later this month. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help, please call Hilary Zimmerman 416-960-3962.

## PEDICULOSIS SCREENING

We will have a school-wide screening on Friday, September 14. The TDSB Pediculosis coordinator and a group of trained parents will do head checks for every class. If you do not want your child involved in this screening, please send a note to the school office by Wednesday, September 12. If your child is not participating in the head checks, we ask that you check your child's hair at home. Volunteers are needed to assist, so if you can help please contact the office. Further information about Pediculosis is included in this Bulletin.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS

Each class from Grade 1 to 6 will receive 2 classes of Physical Education 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

## SPORTS CORNER

Another year at Brown School is here and that means the Athletics Program will be in full gear very soon. The students have received a package of blue permission forms and they 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 **Cross Country, Football and Slo-Pitch Teams**. The coaches are going to have a sign up meeting for the Touch Football Teams and for the Slo-Pitch Teams on Friday September 7th at morning and afternoon recess in the Gym.

## CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING TEAM

The Cross Country Team will begin practicing on Monday September 10th with students in Grade 4-6 invited. The students in Grade 4-6 will have their Cross Country practices every Monday and Thursday @ 7:45 a.m. at Winston Churchill Park.

The students in Grade 1-3 will have their Cross Country practices every Wednesday and Thursday at Winston Churchill Park at 7:45 a.m. First practice is on Wednesday September 12th.

Please note that the practices on Thursdays are for the whole Cross Country Team - Grade 1 to 6. All Cross Country practices take place at Winston Churchill Park and begin promptly at 7:45 a.m. If you plan on walking to the park with the coaches please meet them in the Principals Hallway, just outside the Gym, @ 7:30 a.m. on the day of your scheduled practice. If you want to meet the coaches at the park then students should be at Winston Churchill Park ready to run at 7:45 a.m. **Please note that students in Grade 1 or 2 must have an adult at the park with them for the duration of the practice.** If there are any questions regarding Cross Country please forward them to Mr. Pare or Mr. Macdonald.

## JR. BOYS FOOTBALL TEAM

The Jr. Boys Football Team will hold try-outs for students in Grades 4-6 starting on Thursday September 13th @ 7:30a.m. at Winston Churchill Park. The second try-out will be on Friday September 14th @ 7:30a.m. at Winston Churchill Park. All other try-outs and team practices will follow the schedule of every Thursday and Friday mornings at 7:30a.m. at Winston Churchill Park.

Students who would like to walk to the park with the coaches must be in the Principals 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 7:30a.m.

Coaches: Mr. Profiti and Mr. Daigneau

## GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM

The Jr. Girls Football Team will hold try-outs for students in Grade 4-6 starting on Thursday September 13th @ 7:30a.m. at Winston Churchill Park. The second try-out will be on Friday September 14th @ 7:30a.m. at Winston Churchill Park. All other try-outs and team practices will follow the schedule of every Thursday and Friday mornings at 7:30a.m. at Winston Churchill Park.

Students who would like to walk to the park with the coaches must be in the Principals Hallway at 7:15a.m. on the morning of the try-out or practice. If you would like to meet the coaches at the park then be at the park at 7:30a.m.

Coaches: Mr. Profiti and Mr. Wittenberg

## BOYS SLO-PITCH

Tuesday, September 11th @ 7:30 a.m. - Try-out for students in Grade 4 and 5 (schoolyard).  
Wednesday, September 12th @ 7:30a.m. - Try-out for Grade 6 students only (schoolyard).  
Thursday, September 13th @ 3:45p.m. - Try-out for only the students who made the first cut (schoolyard).

Coaches: Jona, Darrin, Mme B'Dacy and Mr. Ellis

## GIRLS SLO-PITCH

Tuesday September 11th @ 7:30 a.m. -Try-out for students in Grade 4, 5 and 6 @ **Winston Churchill Park**. More dates to be posted soon.

Coaches: Mr. Wittenberg, Mme Legge and Mrs. Regan

## AQUATICS NEWS

Welcome back Everyone! As soon as we have water in the pool we will be back in the swim of things!

## RECREATIONAL SWIM – GRADES 1-6

This program will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning at 12:00 pm. Students are required to bring his/her bathing suit, bathing cap and towel. PLEASE NOTE: Sorry, during this program we do not lend swim equipment.

## PRIMARY SWIM TEAM - GRADE 2-3 \* DEEP-END SWIMMERS\*

In the beginning of October, we will be talking to all Grade 2 & 3 classes about the fun of joining our primary team. After their swim class, the students who are interested will be given the opportunity to sign up. Further team information will follow in mid-October regarding try-outs, practice days/times. We will keep you updated!

Please feel welcome to give us a call if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you,  
Mrs. Jeffery (Mrs. J.) and Mr. Daigneau (Mr. D.), Brown Aquatics

To find out more information about the sports teams at Brown, please visit the school website at [www.brownschool.ca](http://www.brownschool.ca) . The coaches will do their best to update the website as much as possible. You can also find information posted in the Principals Hallway just outside the gym.

## EVERY PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW THE FACTS OF LICE (PEDICULOSIS)

Head lice and their eggs (nits) is a nuisance that can affect any of us. If you have experienced them, you know how frustrating and time-consuming it is to eliminate the lice and nits from your child(ren). This memo aims to answer questions you may have and provide you with alternatives in treatment.

### What are Head Lice?

Head lice are small gray or reddish brown wingless bugs, 1-4mm long depending on their age. Lice live on human heads. They do not live on pets or on other parts of the body. They feed on blood and cannot survive off the head for more than 24-48 hours. They do not hop, jump or fly. Lice lay eggs called nits. They are teardrop shaped and are glued to the hair shaft on an angle on one side of the hair shaft. The viable eggs are usually brownish-yellow. Female lice lay 3-5 eggs per day and live for 30 days. Lice eggs take 7-10 days to hatch and another 7-10 days to be mature enough to mate.

### What Do I Look For?

Look for lice and nits in the hot spots. These are around the ears, at the crown of the head and at the nape of the neck. It is best to do this in bright light and with magnification. Look for red scabs caused by scratching, nits and bugs crawling through the hair. Lice lay their eggs close to the scalp but look along the entire hair shaft.

### How to Treat Head Lice

Lice treatments and lice combs are available at your local drugstores and through other sources. Whatever treatment you choose to use – whether commercial or all natural alternative methods (such as vinegar and oil) – you must follow the same steps:

- Shampoo your child's hair according to the instructions
- If you use the oil method, leave it on the head for 2-3 hours covered with a plastic bag
- Wash the hair with regular shampoo
- To help loosen the eggs, rinse the hair with a mixture of warm water and vinegar (half and half)
- Separate hair into sections and remove all the nits with a lice comb and your fingernails
- Treating head lice requires several treatments 4-5 days apart for the next few weeks
- Each day for a month continue to inspect the hair for lice and nits

**To succeed at eliminating head lice, you must physically remove all nits and lice from the hair.**

For those who feel uncomfortable using commercial treatments (pesticidal lice treatment products), there are a number of more natural products and in-home nit/lice removal services, easily located under "lice" in the telephone book and on the internet.

If the person with lice or nits has allergies, asthma, epilepsy or other medical conditions, please consult your pharmacist or doctor. If you or the person with lice or nits is pregnant or nursing, please consult MotherRisk at 416-813-6780.

### Three Easy Steps to Cleaning Your Home

1. Place items that can safely be dried on high heat in a drier for 20-30 minutes
2. Vacuum items that cannot be dried
3. If an item cannot be dried or vacuumed, put it in a plastic bag for 24-28 hours

### Preventing the Spread of Head Lice at School

It is critical that you let your child's teacher know that your child has lice, even if you have already treated him/her. Often by the time you discover lice on your own child it has spread to others in the class. The teacher can alert other parents to inspect their own children, decreasing the chances that lice will reproduce and spread further. Within a few weeks, lice can easily find their way back to your child's head and the cycle continues.

Your child may return to school after the first treatment and **after all nits are removed**. Regular combing of your children's hair with good quality lice combs can reduce the chances of recurrence. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.