Coming Up

Tuesday, November 16
Brent’s Vaccine Event
3:45 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 17
DCPS SY23 Budget Meeting
5:30 p.m.
Want to know more about how DCPS allocates funding to schools? Join us on November 17 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss how we are updating our budget model that determines how funding is allocated to schools. http://bit.ly/dcpsbudget1117

Brent Diversity Working Group Meeting
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Zoom login info:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84380131486
pwd=dTFvenRiU3dHamlzRFdkWU4vSGxDUT09
Meeting ID: 843 8013 1486
Passcode: 542724

Key Information

Main Office Number
202-698-3363

Main Email Account
brentelementary@k12.dc.gov

Website
http://www.brentelementary.org/

DCPS Reopen Strong School Reopening Information
https://dcpsreopenstrong.com/

DCPS Meal Service Menus
https://dcps.dc.gov/page/sodexomagic-elementary-menus

Facebook
facebook.com/BrentElementarySchool

Twitter
twitter.com/brentelementary

Instagram
instagram.com/BrentBears
Term 1 Report Cards Sent Home for K - 5th grade students. Report cards will also be posted in Aspen.

Wednesday, November 24 - Friday, November 26
Thanksgiving Break
No school for students and teachers.

November 29 - December 5
Brent Elementary Book Fair
East City Book Shop
- https://eastcitybookshop.com/
645 Pennsylvania Ave SE, Unit 100
Open Tues-Fri 11am to 7pm • Sat 10am to 7pm • Sun 11am to 6pm • closed Mondays

Thursday, December 2 - Sunday, December 5
Brent Holiday Sale
Order today at www.brentholidaysale.org
Please consider volunteering some time and indicate if you have time/day preferences on the signup sheet.
Working hours for volunteers are:
Thursday - 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Friday - 4 p.m. - 9 p.m., Saturday - 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Sunday - 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Thursday, December 23 - Friday, December 31
Winter Break
No school for students and teachers.

Join the A-Z Brent Directory
https://atozconnect.com/cls/related_entities_list.php

DCPS School SY21-22 Calendar

From the DCPS Chancellor
https://dcpsreopenstrong.com/category/chancellor/

Sign up for Tues News and other community communications
http://eepurl.com/gzPB8z

Innovation Learning Contact Information
Site Coordinator - Monique Davis - brent@innovationlearning.com
Customer Service Number - 866-239-3661
www.innovationlearning.com

Asymptomatic Testing Information
OSSE Letter to Families
Accessing Test Results Instructions

New - Return to School Guidelines
Exclusion and Dismissal Criteria and Protocols for Schools

New - Daily Screening Questions for Families with Students Attending Schools

View this email in your browser
Celebrate National StoryWalk Week: November 15-22

Take a walk around the block at Brent this week to enjoy writing from our very own Brent authors. You will find stories posted on the school’s outside fence from students in grades K-3, including authors in Mr. Berg, Ms. Copeland, Ms. Laskowski, Mr. Meneghello, Ms. Santora, and Ms. Maslin’s classes.
The outdoor display will be up through the weekend and taken down on Monday, November 22.

Photo: Brent Librarian Ms. Schutte!

Capitol Hill Arts Workshop (CHAW) Opens Registration for Winter Classes on Monday November 29 and Announces Brent student Cheshmei Lin as the CHAW Artist of the Week!

CHAW registration for the new year is approaching and will go live on Monday, November 29th. Interested parents should go to chaw.org to register and/or call me at CHAW for more information on how to register their child. We would also like to highlight 3rd grader Cheshmei Lin on being our CHAW artist of the week! She has been coming to CHAW since she was in Kindergarten and her love of art shows in the work that she does. We are so proud of all of the CHAWsome work that she does.
BRENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL’S ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS TREE & HOLIDAY SALE

Fantastic Fraser fir trees, wreaths, garland, poinsettias, and Hanukkah items.

December 3-6
at Brent Elementary School
301 N. Carolina Ave. SE

HOURS
Thurs & Fri: 4 - 7 pm
Sat & Sun: 9 am - 5 pm

Supply limited. Order your tree, Hanukkah items online now through Nov. 30!

www.BrentHolidaySale.org

* Greenery available at the sale only.
SUPPORT THE BRENT ELEMENTARY

DONATE-A-TREE PROGRAM

In partnership with Everyone Home DC, Jefferson Academy, Elliot-Hine Middle, Amidon-Bowen Elementary

Your donation will brighten the holidays of local families who may be experiencing hardship and support public education.

DONATE A TREE

$175

INCLUDES
5’-6’ tree, stand, lights & ornaments—delivered to a local family experiencing hardship

BECOME A BRENT BEAR SPONSOR

$500

INCLUDES
5’-6’ tree, stand, lights & ornaments—delivered to a local family experiencing hardship

PLUS
your logo on sponsor ornament
Brent Diversity Working Group Meeting

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Passcode: 542724

Join the Diversity Working Group November (11/17) meeting to:
1. Unpack and discuss the DCPS approach to supporting gender-expansive youth, and begin planning for the next Community Meeting collaboration with the PTA, which will focus on gender.
2. Connect with other parents, caregivers, and school staff in an inclusive environment.

Visit brentelementary.org for Zoom login information and links to optional readings.
2. Connect with other parents, caregivers, and school staff in an inclusive environment.

Optional readings:

- DCPS Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Policy: brochure, full policy
- LGBTQ+ Support & Inclusion
- DCPS Equity Framework
Brent PTA Update

Dear Brent Bear Families,

November is a month of giving, and we’re happy to be supporting our community this month and into December. A few highlights:

SAVE THE DATE!

Brent Book Fair
@ East City Book Shop

November 29 - December 5

We are partnering with East City Book Shop for this year’s Library Book Fair! 20% of all purchases you make online or in person will go to the Brent Library (just make sure to tell them you’re shopping to benefit Brent)!

You will also be able to shop teacher wish lists or gift books directly to the library!
Our JBAB volunteers assembled 13 care packages for deployed service members from all of the generous donations from our Brent community!

Brent Bears are running at the Trot for Hunger. We’ve raised over $700 so far to benefit our DC neighbors through SOME. There’s still time to join and donate: Brent Bears team sign up!

We are continuing our Donate a Tree program this year at the holiday sale. Through individual and corporate donations, we are delivering trees with a stand, lights, and ornaments to local families in need. Donate now!

We are supporting the Brent Spirit Team in their annual holiday food drive!

We are hosting a Thank You Breakfast for Brent staff this week. Help us spread the love - send a note of appreciation to your child’s teacher!

What are you doing this month? Let us know! Tag @brentelementarypta on Instagram or Facebook, send us an email rsaxtonf@gmail.com or tell us how you and your family are spreading the Thanksgiving spirit!
Important Announcements!

Volunteer to drive food to the National Capital Food Bank!

- Calling parent volunteers! The PTA is offering support to the fabulous Brent Spirit Team who is organizing the annual holiday food drive (more details coming from them soon). We are looking for a few volunteers to help drive the collected food from Brent to the National Capital Food Bank the weekend of Dec. 17. Please email Tara Ramchandani (tramchandani@gmail.com) if you are able to help. Thank you!

THE HOLIDAY SALE is ONLINE!

- Go to www.brentholidaysale.org
- Be sure to buy your tree early to get the size you want
- This year’s ONLOT sale is Thursday, December 2 - Sunday, December 5
- PLEASE volunteer to HELP - signup sheet.

Upcoming PTA Events

Vaccine Clinic at Brent!

- Tuesday, November 16 3:15pm-7pm

Brent Bears at the Trot for Hunger 5K!

- Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, November 25, Freedom Plaza
- We have 26 Brent Bears signed up so far! Join the Brent Elementary Bears at the 20th Annual So Others May Eat (SOME) Trot for Hunger. This will be Brent's 7th year participating, and our teams have a sterling record of placing in the top 10 fundraisers--in 2019 we were able to raise almost $2500. So far this year we’ve raised $700!
- More details can be found by going here: Brent Bears team sign up or contacting Mary Claire York, maryclaireb@gmail.com.
Brent Holiday Sale!

- Thursday, December 2 - Sunday, December 5
- Go to www.brentholidaysale.org on Wednesday November 10th

Best,

Your 2021-22 Brent PTA Board

Contact us!

Email: rsaxtonf@gmail.com neeraj.bhat@gmail.com
Brent PTA website: http://www.brentelementary.org/pta.html
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BrentElementarySchool
Instagram @brentelementarypta

Want to know more about how DCPS allocates funding to schools? Join us on November 17 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss how we are updating our budget model that determines how funding is allocated to schools.
DCPS Stronger and Safer Together Pledge

To help protect our students, support DCPS staff, and safeguard our community, I pledge to:

- Wear my mask at school and on school grounds at all times, and when in close proximity to others outside my household.
- Get the COVID-19 vaccine if I’m eligible.
- Whenever possible, maintain physical distance from those outside my household.
- Practice safe hygiene, like washing my hands for at least 20 seconds and using hand sanitizer regularly.
- Limit or postpone nonessential travel to areas outside of the DC, Maryland and Virginia region.
- Choose family activities that minimize the risk of COVID-19 spread.
- Complete my daily health assessment to monitor any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Stay home if I do not feel well, or have any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Immediately alert my school if I test positive for COVID-19 and work with contact tracers to identify any close contacts.
- Be a champion for health and safety within my community.

Take the pledge and commit to doing your part in keeping our schools open and our community safe. Share your commitment to stay safe with #DCPSStrong.

Brent COVID Reporting - Covers Previous Seven Days - Staff and Students on Campus

Asymptomatic Testing - November 11, 2021 - 59 students tested with accepted test samples - 11% of Brent's student population. One test was positive. All other tests were negative.

- Positive cases reported at school - 3
- Close contacts identified at school - 10
- Number of close contacts positive - 0

Principal Corner

Dear Brent Families,

It’s a beautiful week to be a Brent Bear! The leaves on Capitol Hill boast their brightest shades against the old brick buildings and mostly blue skies. The air is just cool enough to encourage vigorous running play at recess, especially with new bags of recess equipment in tow, though not so cool that the jackets
tossed on the ground will solicit scolding (still, dress in layers!). Today’s vaccination clinic is a practical reminder that another age group has access to a critical layer of prevention, reinvigorating our hope for normalcy even as we take joy in our present.

There is also a different kind of beauty present: the beauty of productive struggle. As is often the case at this time of year, our students are confronting more challenges, both social and academic. You might hear glimmers of frustration at home like “I’m bored,” a misleading reflection or “they are being mean to me,” which may prove to be part or all of the story. To help keep the struggle productive Brent adults, both caretakers and faculty, can:

- Create or allow situations that necessitate productive struggle, whether an open-ended math problem with a variety of solutions, games that require competition and cooperation, or space for independent (if monitored) conflict resolution
- Ask questions that encourage perspective-taking
- Celebrate missteps that present opportunities for learning and effort over outcomes
- Provide space for practice, whether by talking through various scenarios or by setting a goal and then reflecting and revising based on what happens next
- Give time to consider problems and work towards solutions; value persistence and beware of the quick fix

Productive struggle requires learning moments within a child’s grasp; we are not talking about algebraic equations in kindergarten or asking a child to independently navigate a potential bullying situation. But when a learning moment is within a child’s cognition and development, allowing space for productive struggle means that mistakes are honored and that lessons from one situation can be applied to similar ones in the future.

Sincerely,

Norah Lycknell
Want to change how you receive these emails?
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