**THE TUES. NEWS 11.02.2021**

**BRENT ELEMENTARY**

**Brave Empathetic Active Responsible**

### Coming Up

**Tuesday, November 2**  
Election Day  
No school for students and teachers

**Wednesday, November 3**  
LSAT November Meeting  
6:30 p.m.  
Join Zoom Meeting  
https://zoom.us/j/92845391378?pwd=T3hYy202cnorTzRlRy9CbzVa  
Meeting ID: 928 4539 1378  
Passcode: 809371

**Thursday, November 4**  
Brent Banner Celebration  
Uniform-Free Day

New Date: Jefferson Academy Virtual Open House  
6 p.m.  
https://tinyurl.com/JAfamily20

**Friday, November 5**  
Records Day  
No school for students  
End of Term 1

**Saturday, November 6**  
Brent Veterans Day Celebration at JBAB  
2-5 p.m.  
Joint Base Anacostia Bolling (JBAB)

**Thursday, November 11**  
Veterans Day  
Brent closed

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

**Thursday, December 2 - Sunday, December 5**  
Brent Holiday Sale

### 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/sodexamagic-elementary-menus

**Facebook**  
facebook.com/BrentElementarySchool

**Twitter**  
twitter.com/brentelementary

**Instagram**  
instagram.com/BrentBears

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
Please consider volunteering some time and indicate if you have time/day preferences on the [signup sheet](https://outlook.office.com/mail/BrentElementary@k12.dc.gov/AAMkAGQwMjFiZDI1LTZlODAtNDU5NS04MjQ3LTYwNDU0MWJkMzA0MAAuAAAAAA).

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

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
- Daily Screening Questions for Families with Students Attending Schools

View this email in your browser

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**Annual Banner Celebration**

This Thursday is Brent's Annual Banner Celebration! This is a celebration of our classroom community and school community and provides an exciting opportunity for each class to officially reveal their class name. **This is a uniform-free day.** Please refer to communication from classroom teachers regarding which color(s) each class is encouraged to wear for the celebration in a demonstration of unity with their class name and community.

While we are thrilled to be able to hold an in-person banner celebration this school year, in order to promote health, safety, and an enjoyable experience for our students, this will be a student and faculty event only. We are sorry not to be able to invite caregivers, but we will share this event with families by sending home a link to a video recording for all to watch and enjoy. We thank you for your understanding and look forward to inviting families to events before long – stay tuned!

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**You Can Help Secure Parking Passes for All Brent Staff**

We have parking for almost all the Brent staff who have requested it. If you live near Brent and are able to share some of your parking privileges with Brent staff, please consider signing up to share a parking pass with a teacher or staffer. We need just four families to share parking passes, as there are no on-campus spaces for any staff. You can easily share one for 90 days at a time and still have 90 additional days of time to share with visitors.

To help out, use this [spreadsheet](https://outlook.office.com/mail/BrentElementary@k12.dc.gov/AAMkAGQwMjFizDI1LTZlODAtNDU5NS04MjQ3LTYwNDU0MWJkMzA0MAAuAAAAAA) to coordinate with the highlighted staff who need a pass, and refer to this document explaining how to create and share passes. Zia (faruqui@gmail.com) or Andrew Pratt (appratt@gmail.com) can answer any questions.
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!
Calling all Scientists!
Mr. Mangiaracina wants YOU to join his Brent Science Brain Trust. We know Brent has a thriving community of active and former scientists out there, and Mr. Mangiaracina is hopeful that you’ll want to use your science powers to help with the Brent curriculum. Activities may include: “Meet the Scientist” zooms for students, offering your ideas for how to teach science concepts, and more!

EMAIL ERIKA BERG TO GET INVOLVED
ERIKAGEBEL@GMAIL.COM

Announcing the 2021 Brent Donate a Tree Program

As the kick-off to Brent’s Holiday Sale, we are now accepting donations and sponsors for the Donate a Tree Program.

This program was started last year to provide trees to local families who may be experiencing financial hardship. The trees, along with a stand, lights, and
ornaments, are purchased and delivered by parents through the Brent Holiday Sale and in partnership with Everyone Home DC - a Capitol Hill-based charity that has served the community for more than 50 years.

Last year we successfully delivered over 30 trees to deserving families and raised approximately $2,000 for Brent!

You can support this program by donating a tree as an individual donor or asking your business or organization to be a recognized sponsor:

**Individual Donors**

For a $175 donation, we will deliver a 5’-6’ tree, stand, lights, and ornaments on your behalf.  [Click Here to Donate a Tree to a Local Family](https://www.brentholidaysale.com)

**Brent Bear Sponsors**

For a $500 donation, local organizations can be a "Brent Bear Sponsor." For sponsors, in addition to delivering a tree, stand, lights, the organization's logo is included on a hangtag attached to all trees we will deliver to families all over the Hill (approximately 500).  [Click Here to Donate a Tree and Be a Brent Bear Sponsor](https://www.brentholidaysale.com)

(The above links can be accessed from the Brent store webpage at www.brentholidaysale.com)

This program is a great way to support education and the wider community and brighten the holidays of many families, so please spread the word.

For any questions, please contact Marisol Bello at mbello27@gmail.com.

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**Fall Family Workshop Update**

The Fall Family Workshop, Addressing Challenging Behavior in Young Children, scheduled for November 3rd has been cancelled due to very low attendance at our first two Family Workshops this fall. Thank you for your understanding.

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**PTA Update**

Dear Brent Bear families,

We hope you had a fun weekend full of Halloween excitement! We had a great discussion last week about race and identity in the Brent Community. Parents, caregivers, and faculty talked about a variety of important themes, including: the importance of creating an environment of excellence and support for Black students; the importance of white parents talking openly about race early with their kids; and normalizing community conversations about race and identity. Thanks to all who joined and big thanks to our facilitators and organizers. We look forward to continuing the conversation in future Diversity Working Group and PTA events.

Coming up this weekend is our highly anticipated JBAB Veterans Appreciation event! We can’t wait for Saturday!

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**Important Announcements!**
The Brent PTA is now on Instagram! Follow us @brentelementarypta!

Upcoming PTA Events

Brent Elementary Veterans Appreciation Day!

- Saturday, November 6, 2-5pm, Joint Base Anacostia Bolling (JBAB)
- Thanks to those who registered! More details will be sent soon!

Brent Bears at the Trot for Hunger 5K!

- Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, November 25, Freedom Plaza
- We have 20 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. We'd love to revive this tradition for 2021!
- More details can be found by going here: Brent Bears team sign up or contacting Mary Claire York, maryclaireb@gmail.com.

Volunteer for the Holiday Sale!

- Thursday, December 2 - Sunday, December 5
- The Brent Holiday Sale is one of the biggest sources of funds for the PTA and fun for volunteers! It will start with unloading of the trees the afternoon of Wed, Dec 1. We need lots of help! 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.

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
VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Come join us to learn more about Jefferson! Can't make it in person? No problem!
Join us virtually on Microsoft Teams:
https://tinyurl.com/JAfamily20

NOVEMBER 4
DECEMBER 1
JANUARY 5
FEBRUARY 2
MARCH 2
APRIL 6

@ 6 PM

RSVP TO MS. WINTERS
MELISSA.WINTERS@K12.DC.GOV
DCPS Impact Aid Survey

Each year, DCPS asks all families to complete the Impact Aid survey to generate additional federal funds for DCPS. This year, the survey will be available in both an electronic format using the Seamless platform as well as hard copies. All eligible applications received by December 22, 2021 will be submitted as part of the initial application due on January 31, 2022. All DCPS families should complete one survey per child, not household, in their preferred language until May 30, 2022 as we can include these in our amendment.

Please refer to this FAQ document for additional guidance. Each child will be sent home with a paper survey to complete and return to their school’s business manager. If a family prefers to complete the survey electronically, they can utilize the links below. Only one method of submission should be utilized to avoid duplicate submissions.

- English
- Spanish
- Amharic
- Chinese
- French
- Vietnamese

If you have questions, please contact us at DCPSImpactAid@k12.dc.gov
Brent COVID Reporting - Covers Previous Seven Days - Staff and Students on Campus

Asymptomatic Testing - October 28, 2021 - 91 students tested with accepted test samples - 21% of Brent's student population

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

Principal Corner

Dear Brent Community,

As our PTA Presidents captured in their update above, leaders and members of the Diversity Working Group facilitated our Community Meeting last Wednesday, centering our conversation around race and how our racial identities shape the ways we show up in the Brent community.

Some participants engaged in the provided readings, podcasts and videos in advance of the meeting, and all participants brought their own ideas and questions to affinity groups, a designated "safe space" in which all members of the group shared a common racial identity, this case: Black, People of Color Who Do Not Identify As Black, and White.

Part of maintaining a safe space meant also maintaining confidentiality, at least when attributing comments; however, the following themes emerged and were shared:

Black Affinity Group Discussion Themes:

- The examination of the DC Equity Framework as a foundational resource
- The identification of Brent's opportunity gap and the urgency of response it requires
- The importance of holding high expectations for Black students and accompanying those expectations with encouragement and a range of techniques to motivate
- The difference in a child's experience with Black teachers versus white teachers
- The desire to augment grading to prepare students for middle school and beyond

People of Color Who Do Not Identify As Black Affinity Group Discussion Themes:

- The discussion of relatively low attendance at this community meeting despite the significant role of race in our school
- The question of how to help conversations about race become more normalized
The question of how to support students who identify as a person of color but may pass for different identities

White Affinity Group Discussion Themes:

- The question of how discussions about race vary by age
- The discussion of the way that social dynamics reveal racial segregation, especially among older elementary kids
- The question of how students experience Brent depending on the point they enter and exit the school, and how others may incorrectly attribute those experiences to race

Though the work of becoming an Antiracist school and community is far larger than one meeting, the connections formed during this hour and a half are part of a critical process of research and action to shift Brent’s outcomes towards more equity. We need a broad range of voices to make our work meaningful. The timing is not always convenient or the format comfortable and yet these moments beg the question: when and how will you opt into the work?

With that, I hope to see you at the next of DWG's three-part community meeting series on the role of race, gender and ability as at Brent. We also welcome your feedback about the types of engagement offered: email brentdiversitywg@gmail.com or brentelementary@k12.dc.gov with your perspective and ideas about how we might move forward together.

Sincerely,
Norah Lycknell