Correction - Meet the PTA will be this Friday, from 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.

**Coming Up**

**Wednesday, September 8**
Early Childhood Fall Family Workshops
6:00-7:00 pm
Families can access the meeting by using this link.

**Friday, September 10**
Meet the Brent PTA and other parent committee members
Coffee provided
8:15 - 9:15 a.m.

**Saturday, September 11**
Brent Service Afternoon
2-4 p.m.
Come and help assemble outdoor and classroom furniture

**Sunday, September 19**
PTA Welcome Picnic
11 - 2 p.m.
X Park (Providence Park - 464 2nd Street SE)
ASL Interpreters provided

**Wednesday, September 22**
Brent Community Meeting

**Key Contact Information**

Main Office Number
202-698-3363

Main Email Account
brentelementary@k12.dc.gov

Website
http://www.brentelementary.org/

DCPS Meal Service Menus
https://dcps.dc.gov/page/sodexo-open-meal-site-person-learning-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
6 - 7:30 p.m.
Zoom login information provided in 9/14 Tues News
ASL Interpreters Provided

Tuesday, September 28
Principal Coffee
8:45 - 9:15 a.m.
Weather permitting

Thursday, October 7
Parent-Teacher Conference Day
No school for students

Friday, October 8
Professional Development Day
No school for students

Monday, October 11
Indigenous Peoples' Day
Brent closed - no school for teachers, students and staff

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

View this email in your browser

Click here to pay school supply fees for SY21-22
This fall, our early childhood team has partnered with Early Stages to host a monthly series of workshops for Brent families with children ages 3-5 years old.

**Developmental Milestones for Ages 3-5**
September 8th, 6:00-7:00 pm

**Trauma & Resilience: Building Strength in Young Children**
October 13th, 6:00-7:00 pm

**Addressing Challenging Behavior in Young Children**
November 3rd, 6:00-7:00 pm

**Early Childhood Fall Family Workshops**

This fall, our early childhood team has collaborated with Early Stages to host a monthly series of workshops for Brent families with children ages 3-5 years old. The first workshop, **Developmental Milestones for 3-5 Year Olds**, will be held virtually from 6:00-7:00 pm on September 8th. Families can access the meeting by using this link.

Workshop Description: We provide an overview of typical developmental milestones for children between the ages of 3 and 5 in the following domains: communication, gross and fine motor, social-emotional, and cognitive skills. Participants learn how understanding developmental milestones is vital to early intervention. Finally, we discuss approaches to supporting a child’s
development in each domain.

We look forward to sharing the topics, dates, and times for our October and November meetings very soon. If you have any questions about the workshops, please contact Julia Sadowsky at julia.sadowsky@k12.dc.gov. We hope to see many of you there!

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**Volunteer with the Library this school year!**

The library is looking for a few volunteers who can help out from home this school year. We need help with covering and processing new books that come into the library, as well as helping to organize library book fairs and other events throughout the year. Please email Librarian Annie Schutte if you're interested at angela.schutte@k12.dc.gov.

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**Is Your Laugh More Evil than a Librarian's?**

Record a 10-second video of your most evil laugh and enter it into this year's DC Public Library Evil Laugh Video Contest. The contest is open for anyone to enter. Videos must be submitted by October 15th, and trophies will be awarded in several categories including Best Vocals, Art Direction, and Dramatic Performance.

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**Brent LSAT August Meeting Recap**

The Brent LSAT (Local School Advisory Team) held its first meeting of the school year last Wednesday night. The LSAT discussed goals for the year and elected co-chairs, Sarah Goldsmith and La'Quontinesha Atchison. The Brent LSAT typically meets the first Wednesday evening of each month. Meeting times will be posted on the Brent website and in Tues News and meetings are open to the school community.

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**LSAT Meeting Dates for SY 21-22**

- Wednesday, September 1, 2021
- Wednesday, October 6, 2021
- Wednesday, November 3, 2021
- Wednesday, December 1, 2021
- Wednesday, January 5, 2022
- Wednesday, February 2, 2022
- Wednesday, March 2, 2022
- Wednesday, April 6, 2022
- Wednesday, May 4, 2022
- Wednesday, June 1, 2022

Please contact the any LSAT representative for details about each meeting.

**LSAT Members for SY 21-22**

- LSAT Brent Staff Members
  - Norah Lycknell, principal
  - Sara Evbank, assistant principal
  - LaQuontinesha Atchison, teacher
  - Stacy Miller, teacher, early childhood
  - Chloe Patterson, teacher, 1st grade
  - Sarah Werstulk, teacher, 5th grade
- LSAT Parent Representatives
  - Jean Blackerby Strich
  - Sarah Carr
  - Chuck Divine
  - Sarah Goldsmith
  - Ann Heilman-Dahl
  - Lindsay Mc Donough
  - PTA, DWG, and SIT representatives (TBD)
Brent Diversity Working Group - September Meeting - Wednesday, September 15

Wednesday, September 15

Brent Diversity Working Group Meeting

6:30pm-7:30pm

Zoom login info:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84380131486?pwd=dTFvenRiU3dHamIzRFdkWU4vSGxDUT09

Meeting ID: 843 8013 1486

Passcode: 542724

Join the Diversity Working Group September meeting to:

1. Talk about inclusion and belonging at the beginning of the school year. New families and those who have recently joined Brent are especially encouraged to join and share their perspectives.

2. Begin planning for the joint October Community Meeting with the PTA, which will focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion within the school community.

The Brent Diversity Working Group, or DWG, advances Brent’s commitment to cultivating an equitable and inclusive community where everyone feels a strong sense of belonging. The DWG is a resource and liaison on issues of equity through education, outreach, and advocacy.

Visit brentelementary.org for Zoom login information.
encouraged to join and share their perspectives.

2. Begin planning for the joint October Community Meeting with the PTA, which will focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion within the school community.

The Brent Diversity Working Group, or DWG, advances Brent’s commitment to cultivating an equitable and inclusive community where everyone feels a strong sense of belonging. The DWG is a resource and liaison on issues of equity through education, outreach, and advocacy.

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**Brent PTA September Post**

Hi Brent Families!

Welcome to the first full week of school with all of our Brent Bears in the building! It’s so exciting to see the school buzzing with kids and families - we hope you are feeling as excited as we are!

The Brent PTA Board has one overarching goal for this year - to inclusively rebuild our amazing Brent community! We are committed to working with each of you and the entire Brent faculty and staff to achieve this objective. So, we’re kicking off September with a lot of ways to get involved! Come on out and support our community!

**Important Announcements and Action!**

**Sign up to be a room parent!**

- Are you interested in building your child's class community? Becoming a room parent may just be the role for you! Some of the responsibilities include facilitating play dates and meetups, distributing emails informing families of school activities, and serving as a resource of information for your class!
- We are still looking for room parents for the following classes: Montgomery, Copeland, Meneghello, Santora, Arbuckle, and Lee.
- Email Bhavna (bpandit@panditsc.com) and Charrise (charrise1977@gmail.com) to sign up!

**Register for the Brent Family Welcome Picnic -- Sunday, Sept 19, 11am-2pm at X Park**

- Families of all Brent students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to attend.
- Attendance is free, but please register to confirm your attendance and food selections.
- All participants at the Picnic are requested to wear masks for safety.

**Pay your school supply fee!**

- The supply fee is collected by the PTA to cover the direct costs of annual classroom and specials supplies and books for classroom libraries. Buying in bulk allows for considerable cost savings on yearly supplies!
- Families who are eligible for free or reduced price lunch do not need to participate in the supply fee program. Families who have other financial considerations are encouraged to contact Denise denise.diggs@k12.dc.gov.

**Submit your Volunteer Clearance Form!**

- All parents and caregivers who wish to volunteer inside the school and / or as field trip chaperones (once restrictions allow) must complete a DCPS Volunteer Clearance Form. We recommend completing the process as soon as possible!

**Subscribe to the Brent calendar!**

**Support Brent!** Check out our site to find out how your purchases at Safeway, Amazon, and more can support Brent

**Upcoming September PTA Events**

**Meet the PTA!**

- Friday, September 10, after drop off, X park
- Come meet PTA and other parent committee members, drink coffee, and find out about volunteer opportunities!

**Brent Service Day!**

- Saturday, September 11, 2 - 4 p.m., Brent
- Come have fun and help our Brent team assemble new furniture!

**Rooftop Party (adults only)**

- Friday, September 17, 6pm, Taoti Creative on 8th St. SE
We are still selling tickets to the Welcome Back Rooftop Party, originally auctioned off at last year’s Gala. Come meet and mingle with other parents and caregivers, while enjoying cocktails and beautiful views of the city. Tickets are $50, all money directly goes to support Brent. Tickets are limited, email kellienasser@gmail.com to purchase!

**Family Welcome Picnic!**

- Sunday, September 19, 11am-2pm, X-park (across from Brent)
- Come meet new families and reconnect with old friends at this family-focused event with activities, food and fun for the whole family!
  - Featuring: Music, bounce houses, book exchange, burgers, snacks, and more!
- Register! And please volunteer to help out!

**September Community Meeting**

- Wednesday, September 22, 6pm, virtual. Look out for a link in a future Tues News.
- Our monthly community meeting will be all about Back to School! The PTA will present our plan for the year!

Contact us! rsaxtonf@gmail.com neeraj.bhat@gmail.com

Resources:

- Brent PTA website: [http://www.brentelementary.org/pta.html](http://www.brentelementary.org/pta.html)

Best,
Your 2021-22 Brent PTA Board

Co-Presidents (future Brent Bear) Neeraj Bhat, dad to Naveen (4th), Aria (2nd), Jaiden
Rebecca Saxton-Fox, mom to Sally (1st), Ziad (Brent alum)

Co-Vice Presidents (1st) Margaux Manley Lima, mom to Catalina (2nd), Marina Bhavna Pandit Ghia, mom to Aria (1st), Devin (K)

Co-Secretaries Katherine Holt, mom to Daniel (K), Hannah (PK) Charrise Robinson, mom to Savannah (5th)
Co-Treasurers  
Joby Fortson, dad to J.B. (2nd), Ruthie (K) 
Laura Martinez, mom to Livia (3rd)  

Community Liaisons  
Tara Ramchandani, mom to Roopa (3rd), Vaasu (PK4) 
Kim Stokes, mom to Cassidy (3rd)  

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Please join the PTA at  
Brent’s Annual Fall Welcome Picnic!  
Come meet new families and reconnect with old friends at this event with activities, food and fun for the whole family!  

Sunday, September 19, 11am-2pm at X-Park  
Featuring: Music, bounce houses, book exchange, burgers, snacks, and more!  

*** REGISTRATION NOW OPEN ***  
The event is free for families of Brent students, faculty, and staff, but please register your family’s attendance and (if you plan to have lunch) meal preferences at the following link:  

https://forms.gle/cqxb14ZBAfrKN759A  

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Brent ES Asymptomatic Testing
For school year 2021-22, DC Public Schools will be participating in a new saliva-based testing COVID-19 testing program administered by the Office of the State Superintendent (OSSE). Last week, Brent had its first weekly asymptomatic testing for a random selection of 10 percent of students. 44 students were tested. Unless the DCPS Health team makes scheduling adjustments, Brent’s asymptomatic testing window is on Thursdays from 1:00-3:15 p.m. Families will receive an email notification from Brent if their student was tested. Families will also receive information on how to access those results online. For accurate test results, students should not eat or drink 60 minutes before the test. We will stagger the testing to take into account student lunch schedules. The testing vendor, Shield T3, prepared a three-minute student video found here. Please direct questions to brentelementary@k12.dc.gov.

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**Principal Corner**

Dear Brent Community,

I hope you enjoyed your long weekend. I am proud of our students, faculty and families for easily jumping into the school routine this morning – at least you made it look easy!

Routines, along with building a sense of belonging, are still our schoolwide focus this week. Classes will increasingly introduce academic blocks as the points from which routines and belonging will be established. For example, in week one, a class may have explored and built free projects with math manipulatives; in week two, classes may use those same math manipulatives to explore problem solving dynamics in groups.

As a community that values research, we are also staying curious. We respond to the information we learn about students with more questions, seeking rather than prematurely declaring understanding. We gather layers of information by observing, listening, collecting and reviewing student work, conferencing, hosting small groups and, in the coming weeks, formally assessing for student strengths (beginning of year assessments will be this column’s focus next week).

We are applying the same research stance to our health and safety procedures and noting points where planned procedures look different and therefore need to be modified in execution. Among the questions we are considering: What does spacing actually look like in a kindergarten classroom that functions around safety and child development? How can we schedule bathroom breaks to prioritize student needs and the flow of the day? What during-the-day procedures can be better amplified within Innovation Learning? Because some of the first week dust is sure to settle this week, we
have not made significant changes to the procedures presented as part of the video orientations; if and when procedures do change, we will share both the content and the why with you.

Until then, please reach out with any questions or feedback to brentelementary@k12.dc.gov or norah.lycknell@k12.dc.gov.

Sincerely,
Norah Lycknell