Coming Up

**Wednesday, October 11**  
PTA Board Meeting  
6:30 - 8 p.m.

**Friday, October 13**  
Principal Coffee  
8:30 - 10 a.m.

PTA Family Movie Night  
7 p.m.  
Brent Playground

**Tuesday, October 17**  
Family Pizza Night  
6 - 8 p.m.  
Taoti Creative  
530 8th Street SE  
See attached flyer for ticket information and event details.

**Wednesday, October 18**  
Diversity Working Group  
6:30 - 8 p.m.

**Thursday, October 19**  
Math Night  
6:30 - 8 p.m.  
ASL Interpreters Provided

**Wednesday, October 25**  
PTA General Meeting  
6:30 - 8 p.m.  
Childcare provided  
ASL Interpreters Provided

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**PTA Annual Fund Drive Kicks Off Today**

Brent PTA’s Annual Fund Drive launches today. The goals are to raise $120,000 and have 90% of Brent families participate.

The Annual Fund raises money for the PTA’s budget which funds teaching fellows supplies for the school so DCPS budget can be used to hire more staff, teacher professional development, Rising Tides tutoring program and more.

Whether you can donate $25, $250, $1,000, $2,500 or more, every donation makes a difference. And we’re making this year’s drive shorter, so give soon!

Ways to Donate:

1. Write a check to the “Brent PTA” and put it in the lock box in the front office
3. Ask your employer about matching contributions

If you have questions, contact us at BrentAnnualFund@gmail.com.

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Photo: Ms. Wilson’s 5th grade class leads the Brent Class Banner Parade.
Brent Family Movie Night - This Friday, October 13
Bring the family to the PTA movie night on the blacktop this Friday, October 13th! We will be showing Big Hero 6 and serving popcorn. Big Hero 6 is an unconventional story that focuses on brotherhood, friendship, and using your unique gifts to help others. Remember to bring chairs, blankets and a picnic.
We’ll start the movie when the sun goes down around 7 p.m. but feel free to bring a picnic and gather beforehand. Parents are invited to access the American Legion front lounge for additional beverage options from 6-7 p.m.!
Suggested donation is $10+/family to cover costs. Please bring cash on Friday as we will not be checking people in with credit card options.

Brent’s 10th annual Math Night - Thursday, October 19
Brent’s annual Math Night will be held Thursday, October 19 from 6 until 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The event is open to all families and their children in K-5. Families will come together and celebrate the wonder of mathematics through games and math demonstrations. Pizza will be served at 6 p.m. Bring personal water bottles. Come and have sum fun! Please see attached flyer for more details.

Volunteers Needed for Brent Math Night + Math Night Going Green!
Volunteers are needed to help with Math Night on Thursday, October 19. This is a very fun and educational event and a great way to learn math games you can play with your child at home. Some of the volunteer activities are for the weeks before the event, and others involve helping out that night.

You can sign up to help at http://bit.ly/2fImTX0.

Also, this event is going green! We ask all participants (adults and children) to bring their own water bottles so that we do not create a lot of plastic waste from the event. The water fountains at the school will also be available for use.

3rd Grade Attended Special Library of Congress Event Featuring Percy Jackson Author Rick Riordan
The third grade visited the Library of Congress for the unique and amazing opportunity to hear from beloved author, Rick Riordan, best known for the Percy Jackson series. Students learned about upcoming books and series, and were able to ask questions about favorite characters and books. A huge thank you to Ms. Bettina for helping to arrange this experience, and to the chaperones for joining! See photos.
Dear Brent Families,

Thank you to all those who attended the Banner Parade on Friday and helped us to celebrate our classroom identities! This week we will turn our attention to our school rules; each classroom elected delegates to represent one classroom rule, coming together to prioritize and summarize these five school rules:

BIG IDEA: Everyone at Brent should be able to learn and have fun:

- Rule 1: Be safe: control your actions and words.
- Rule 2: Be a good friend to everyone.
- Rule 3: Take responsibility for your actions.
- Rule 4: Give your best effort in everything you do.
- Rule 5: Be ready to learn and have fun.

Grade levels will engage in assemblies this week to review these rules and develop a common idea of what they mean for our community. Parents can reinforce their meaning and purpose by having discussions about what these rules look like, feel like and sound like in our school setting and beyond.

Last week, I noted our three core goals as part of our comprehensive school plan and promised to revisit each goal in more depth over the next three weeks. This week we will focus on our Literacy Goal: Planning With Intentionality. Our two strategies for planning with intentionality are:

- We will emphasize the “analyze” and “adapt” stages of the teaching and learning cycle to ensure student-centered planning.
- We will use student feedback/data/work to make instructional decisions according to the standards/units/projects in process.

These strategies allow us to look at and understand student work as the driver of our planning each day. For example, we might study reader’s journals, conference with a student about their just write text or analyze a draft of a writing piece in order to highlight what a student is able to do and what goal meets their individualized needs for what comes next. This strategy is built around the idea of equity in the classroom, that all of our students are receiving the instruction (content, style and time) that they need to grow their skills.

We will measure our progress by collecting ongoing data and by aspiring to reach end-of-year student achievement goals. Our ongoing data will include weekly classroom plans, GOLD data (for ECE classrooms), classroom walkthroughs by faculty and the Academic Leadership Team, and Middle of Year Fountas and Pinnell Reading Assessments and Writing On Demand (writing pieces crafted all the way to the publishing stage within a limited period of time).

Our end-of-year student achievement goals include student writing growth on a PARCC-aligned rubric, an increase in PARCC level 4/5 scores of 5% and a growth of 5% or overall proficiency of 75% on 2nd grade Fountas and Pinnell reading assessments (2nd grade is a target because it a key year for reading proficiency as we shift to a complete focus on comprehension in 3rd grade). Monthly LSAT meetings will focus on our progress and places of improvement so that our larger community can stay informed about each of our Comprehensive Plan School Goals.

Another great place to bring questions and get information is our monthly Principal’s Coffee – October’s coffee is on Friday the 13th from 8:30-10 a.m. in the main vestibule.

Sincerely,

Norah Lycknell