Coming Up

**Friday, November 1**
Health & Fitness Day
Uniform-Free Day
Students should wear their favorite work-out gear!

**Monday, November 4 and Tuesday, November 5**
Professional Development Days
No School for Students
Innovation Learning Programming Available. Register at innovation-learning.com

**Monday, November 11**
Veteran’s Day
No school for students, teachers and staff

**Wednesday, November 13**
PTA Board Meeting
6 - 7:30 p.m.
Library

**Tuesday, November 19**
Report Card Distribution

TB Testing - Skin prick on November 19, Test Read on November 22

**Wednesday, November 20**
PTA General Meeting
6 - 7:30
ASL Interpreters and Childcare provided

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Halloween and Nut Free School Reminders

**Brent does not celebrate Halloween.** Please leave shared snacks and costumes at home and ready for trick or treating. We look forward to hearing stories and a day of much-needed activity as we have Health and Fitness Day on Friday. It is a no uniform day so that students can wear the athletic gear they will need to participate.

**Brent is a Nut Free School.** With Halloween approaching, please remember that Brent is a nut-free school. We have several students with life-threatening nut allergies so it is critical that no food products containing nuts are brought into the building. We also strongly recommend that parents not pack candy in lunch boxes. Finally, please remind your child that students are not allowed to share or trade food during the school day. By complying with Brent’s nut-free policy, we can keep all our kids safe while at school.

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**Volunteer to Help with Parent Listening Sessions**

Last year Brent Elementary started holding listening sessions with Brent parents and guardians to get a better understanding of families’ experiences at the school and highlight areas where Brent could grow in the future. Last year, sessions were held with three groups.
military families living on base at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, families of students who joined the school in 2nd-5th grade, and families of K and 1st graders who did not attend PK at Brent. Sessions will be held with three different groups this year. Each session is an informal 1-hour discussion with 6-8 parent/guardians and is facilitated by Brent parents/guardians.

If you would be interested in helping with these sessions – as a facilitator, notetaker, onboader, or coordinator – please contact Sarah Carr at sarah@sdcarr.com. An hour-long training will be held in the coming weeks, and another may be scheduled for later in the year. The time commitment for this work can be as little as several hours over the course of the year.

The Radiant Rainbows and The Strong Little Dinosaurs Visit the Hirshhorn
On October 24th, The Radiant Rainbows and The Strong Little Dinosaurs participated in the first atelier field experience of the year! They visited the Hirshhorn Museum to participate in an interactive “Action Jackson” program that included a sing-a-long, storytime, art viewing, and art making. After being introduced to Jackson Pollock’s painting style in atelier, this field experience expanded the children’s understanding of Pollock’s artistic techniques and provided the opportunity to view his work, Tiger, in person. Upon returning to the atelier, the children were excited to receive their own individual canvases and the invitation to make their own action paintings. We look forward to watching these action painting projects evolve throughout October and November. See photos on the front page.

2nd Grade AWS Brent Family Day
On Saturday, second graders and their families participated in an extension of our partnership with the Anacostia Watershed Society. A Brent tradition each year, students participate in Project SONG - Saving Our Native Grasslands. As part of Project SONG, students collect the seeds of native grasses which will be used to help support the development of meadow ecosystems along the Anacostia River. This weekend, families enjoyed a pontoon boat tour on the river and had a chance to collect seeds firsthand. On our tour we spotted local wildlife and learned more about the history of our local watershed. Special thanks to everyone who volunteered their Saturday morning to join us! See photos.

Attendance Corner
Due to the significant increase in late arrivals at Brent this school year, the attendance has slightly altered the late arrival sign in process. Families will sign in at the security desk across from the attendance desk and complete a short late arrival form. Families will then escort their child to their child’s classroom. This process both helps the attendance team collect data for interventions but also ensures students arrive safely to their classroom.

Innovation Learning - Programming on PD Days - November 4 and 5
Innovation Learning is providing full day programs on Monday November 4th and Tuesday November 5th beginning from 7 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. at $80 per day. All students who attend Brent are welcome to register for one or both days of programming. Since cafeteria will not be open on those days students should bring snacks (2) and a lunch. Your child’s day will be comprised of Free Play, Tinker Time, Tech & Media, Arts & Crafts, Innovation Stations and Discovery Play. For further information about the details of our program or registration please email Nia Holmes at brent@innovationlearning.com or call at (720) 594-8987.
Happy Halloween from the Annual Fund

Isn’t it creepy, isn’t it fun to give to Brent Elementary’s PTA Annual Fund! This week drop off your loose coins, spare cash or anything else you can gift, to the LOCKBOX (dressed in disguise) in the main office and enter your name in a raffle to win one of many great prizes!!

The Annual Fund, one of three major fundraisers at Brent, contributes to the PTA’s 2019-20 total fundraising budget of $329,000. With a GOAL of $120,000, we have currently raised $34,444, with 13% family participation, so we still have a ways to go! We all want the brightest futures for our children. At Brent we believe in meeting every child where they are and ensuring exceptional academic and social experiences during these formative years. But, with increasing class sizes, government mandates and shrinking budgets these challenges can be daunting. The PTA works hard every year, alongside Brent’s incredible administrative staff, to raise money for nearly all non-personnel budgeted items, and partner on ways that make our community and school the best and strongest it can be.

So whether it’s $10, $50, $100, $200, or a small recurring gift, every donation counts! If you have questions or to learn more: http://www.brentelementary.org/support-brent.html


Health and Fitness Day
Friday, November 1st

We are really looking forward to teaching students the importance of fitness and nutrition through fun and interactive activities!

• Make sure your child wears comfy clothes, layers (some classes will be held outside), and sneakers. This is a uniform-free day.
• Optional: Choose a Healthy Challenge to complete as a family.

Healthy Challenges:

1. Eat a balanced breakfast every morning. Choose 2 of the following food groups: grains, fruit, dairy, or vegetable, with your protein choice.
2. Exercise (play outside) for at least 30 minutes every evening.
3. Drink water or milk with your meals. Avoid juice or soda.
4. Eat a vegetable with your dinner every night.
5. Create your own healthy challenge as a family.

Our family is committed to the following Healthy Challenge:

__________________________________________
from Tuesday, October 29th to Friday, November 1st.

*This form does not need to be returned to school.

2. Drop off a check payable to “Robert Brent Elementary PTA” memo: Annual Fund, in the lock box in the front office.

3. Snail mail it to Brent Elementary School c/o Annual Fund, 301 N. Carolina Ave. SE, Washington DC 20003

Brent’s Annual Fund ends Nov. 29, don’t be a GHOST & GIVE TODAY!

4. Scan Brent’s QR Code here to pay securely via PayPal:
Our commitment to the “whole child” runs through our operating principles, even if the exact phrase doesn’t appear: seek and leverage understanding, depth of learning, student goals, intentional and consistent social emotional learning, all aspects of the school day, broad and inclusive. On Friday Night, Brent’s music teacher, Josh Krohn, Diversity Working Group members, our Operations Team, and our community came together to celebrate at Multicultural Night. Students and families shared their cultural identities through crafts, a fashion show, food and, perhaps most importantly, conversation. It was a fun event and one that exemplifies our value in embracing the whole child.

At Multicultural Night, families shared elements of their unique cultures with the Brent community. We invite families to extend conversations held during multicultural night with playdates, family gatherings and other outings. Please use the A to Z directory to reach out to families. If you have not registered your family on the App, please do so at https://atozconnect.com/clsl/login.php. Issy LeBon is our site administrator (isabella.lebon@k12.dc.gov) whose primary A to Z responsibility is making sure app users are verified members of the Brent community. Ms. LeBon can also respond to any questions about the application.

Photos: Scenes from last Friday’s Multicultural Night