Coming Up

**Wednesday, November 14**
PTA Board Meeting
6:30 – 8 p.m.

**Thursday, November 15**
Atelier Showcase
6 – 7 p.m.
ASL interpreter provided

Diversity Working Group Meeting
6:30 - 8 p.m.

**Friday, November 16**
Health and Fitness Day
Wear your favorite active wear
Uniform-Free Day
See attached flyer for more information

1st - 5th Grade End of Trimester Concert
6 – 6:45 p.m.
Students need to arrive at 5:45 p.m. in concert attire – white top and black pants/skirt
ASL interpreter provided

Annual Fund Event at Valor Brewpub - 723 8th St SE
4 - 8 p.m.

**Monday, November 19**
Specials Learning Showcase
Showcases will be held during specials classes. Families are most welcome to attend.

**Photos: Scenes from Math Night**

**Wednesday, November 22 – Friday, November 24**
Thanksgiving Break
No School for Students
There will be no issue of Tues News this week.

**Friday, November 30 - Sunday, December 2**
Brent Christmas Tree and Holiday Sale

**Come on Brent Elementary – Let's Move! Health and Fitness Day this Friday!**
This Friday students and staff will participate in Health and Fitness Day! The day will start off with a school wide meeting focusing on all the different ways students and staff stay healthy. Then each student can participate in two health and fitness classes led by Brent staff and some very special guests. This is a uniform-free day so students and staff should wear their favorite active wear! Attached is
a flyer with more details about the day.

Join Brent Elementary Bears Trot for Hunger
On Thanksgiving Day 2018, join the Brent Elementary Bears at the 17th Annual SOME Trot for Hunger. This is Brent’s 5th straight year participating, and in 2014 our team was the 4th-largest fundraiser in the event! SOME’s Trot for Hunger is a 5K walk/run (and/or 1-mile Fun Run) held on Thanksgiving Day to benefit the homeless and poor in Washington, DC.

More details (registration or donation) can be found here: http://bit.ly/somebrentbears2018. If you have questions, please contact Kelly Vielmo, kvielmo@gmail.com.

Volunteer at the Brent Tree Sale!!
It is hard to believe, but the 8th Annual Brent Holiday Tree Sale is just around the corner!! November 30-December 2 we will be opening the gates to the playground turned winter wonderland and selling hundreds of gorgeous Christmas trees!

This is one of Brent’s biggest fundraisers and we need your help to make it successful! Not only do we need you to buy trees, Garland, wreaths, poinsettias, and awesome Hanukkah items (pre-order now at www.brentholidaysale.com), we need your time!!! It is hard work, but it is SO much fun. It’s also a great way to get to know fellow Brent parents and be a part of the community!

Please contact Alyson Lewis at alysonandjeff@gmail if you are willing to volunteer a morning or afternoon shift on Friday, November 30, Saturday, December 1, or Sunday, December 2.

Brent’s Christmas and Holiday Sale is now taking pre-orders. Order your tree and holiday greenery today!

On November 30-December 2nd the 8th Annual Brent Elementary PTA Holiday Tree and Greenery sale will be back!!! Come get a gorgeous tree, wreath, greenery, and get in the holiday spirit all while supporting Brent Elementary School (301 North Carolina Avenue, SE). The website is up NOW, and we are taking orders at www.brentholidaysale.com. As usual, we will have great prices and the freshest items including:

- Fraser Fir Christmas trees (delivered within 2-3 days of being cut)
- Wreaths (boxwood, Fraser fir)
- Garland (boxwood, cedar, white pine)
- Poinsettias (red, white, pink)
- Winterberry
- A variety of beautiful Hanukkah items
- And much more...

Home delivery of your tree (Capitol Hill only) is available for $25 (pre-orders get delivery for $20!). Back again this year is a special “white glove service” where we will even deliver and set up your tree in a stand for $60 ($55 pre-order).

AND, making a guest appearance and available for pictures will be Jolly St. Nick himself.

Lavagna is known for its delicious farm to table Italian dishes.

Jefferson Modernization Meeting
Thursday, November 15
Join the Jefferson Community at a meeting this Thursday from 6-7 p.m. at Jefferson Academy. DCPS officials will discuss the progress to date and give an overview of the project scope. There is a website with detailed information about the $72.9 million dollar renovation, including interior design plans and construction photos. https://sites.google.com/a/dc.gov/dcps-school-modernizations/home/jefferson-academy?fbclid=IwAR2WD_oXZg7ZOFKx7PBV2C9XvMG955OJwHn-szfRA-BAbX1072yL1Sueowqo

Support the Annual Fund this Friday at Valor Brewpub
This Friday, November 16th, come to the recently opened Valor Brewpub on 8th St to support the Annual Fund while also supporting local veterans. Valor Brewpub is not only veteran-owned (one of the veteran owners is a Brent parent), they also hire as many local veterans as possible through outreach to the DC Office of Veterans Affairs. This Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. when you eat, drink, and be merry at Valor, just mention Brent Elementary and 10% will be donated to the Brent Annual Fund. The restaurant is located at 723 8th St SE across from the Marine Barracks. We hope that this Veterans Day you will put Valor Brewpub on your calendar for happy hour or dinner on Friday.
Tell us about your educational and professional background.

I was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 2016. I majored in Spanish and Education with a focus on teaching students who speak English as a second language. I had a variety of great student teaching experiences, but my favorite was my last placement where I taught in a double first grade classroom with two co-teachers as well as a fellow student teacher. There was so much collaboration and energy in the room, and they gave me so many of the ideas that I use in my own classroom today. I decided to move to DC after graduation and lucked out when Principal Lycknell gave me a call to come on board for a few long-term subbing positions. The rest is history!

What is unique about 2nd graders?

One of my favorite things about second graders is how much their reading develops. It seems like they just devour books at this age, and start to have favorite series and authors. It makes me happy to see how excited they get about books!

What are your hopes and dreams for your students?

I hope that our students feel happy and excited to come to school to learn and build community. I hope that when they leave our classroom they feel empowered to be independent thinkers and learners. I also hope that they embody kindness and empathy both in and out of school.

Photos: Ms. Laskowski with father at Wisconsin football game, Ms. Laskowski with family at Thanksgiving.

Describe a typical day in 2nd grade.

A day in 2nd grade is full of fun and excitement! We start each day with a morning meeting to welcome each other into the community and share any news and announcements. Then writing, math and specials. This week we are starting off our realistic fiction unit in writing and I’m really looking forward to seeing what kinds of creative adventures our students think up! After lunch and recess, we have word study and reading. Our afternoons alternate between social studies and second recess. We end the day on a high note with closing meeting, a time to reflect on the learning we accomplished and celebrate a great day – usually involving a dance party of sorts!
You serve as one of the Brent cross country coaches. How was the season?

Coaching cross country was a blast! Coach Dunn and I learned so much about what goes into making a team. Fourth and fifth graders were welcomed to join us and we held practice twice a week. We competed in three meets across the season and both the girls and boys team did a phenomenal job. The cross country season is short, only about a month and a half, but it was really fun and I am already looking forward to next year!

Principal’s Corner

Dear Brent Families,

On Thursday of this week, we will be sending home your child(ren)’s Term 1 report card in backpacks. Because this document contains a wealth of information, it is important to look for and plan to spend some time reading and digesting.

In DCPS, we use a standards-based reporting system. The report card itself has a cover page with an overall snapshot of your child’s progress, including attendance, marks for each subject, feedback related to classroom behavioral expectations, and space for comments from the teacher. The pages that follow relay more specific information regarding student progress within each subject area, according to priority standards for that subject. These standards detail the expectations for learning, and are included in order to help students and adults gauge their performance in the component requirements that make up the overall grade. We believe that your understanding of what is expected of your child and how well he or she is progressing towards the goals at his or her grade level is very important and that the standards-based report cards assist in this endeavor.

Also included in the envelope will be a few additional pieces to help you interpret the report cards: a principal’s letter, explaining what you will see included and why some grades have been omitted, a template from the grade level team, benchmarking their expectations for students, an attendance report, and (if needed) a notice from the Health Suite regarding any missing health forms.

Photos: More scenes from math night.
This November, Brent is excited to celebrate Native American Heritage Month (NAHM), also referred to as American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month and Indigenous Peoples Month. NAHM is a time to acknowledge the diverse cultures of Native people and celebrate the many contributions they have made to our society. NAHM is also a time to raise awareness about the unique challenges Native people have and continue to face, and the ways in which they work to overcome these challenges.

Throughout the month of November, many classrooms at Brent will be engaging in school-wide readings of two texts: *Encounter* by Jane Yolen and *What's My Superpower?* by Aviaq Johnston.

*Encounter*, written by Jane Yolen, a highly acclaimed author who has written hundreds of books for children, is set in 1492, when Christopher Columbus lands on the island of San Salvador discovering the Taino Indians. The story is told from a young Taino boy’s point of view, who tries to warn his people against welcoming the strangers.

*What's My Superpower?* is written by Aviaq Johnston, a young Inuk author from Igloolik, Nunavut. The book tells the story of a young girl named Nalvana who feels like all of her friends have some type of superpower. Nalvana thinks she must be the only kid in town without a superpower. But then her mom shows her that she is unique and special, and that her superpower was right in front of her all along.

There are many resources available to help you continue conversations about Native American cultures and history at home. Native Knowledge 360° [http://nmai.si.edu/nk360/](http://nmai.si.edu/nk360/) is the National Museum of the American Indian's national initiative to inspire and promote improvement of teaching and learning about American Indians. Native Knowledge 360° provides materials that incorporate Native narratives, more comprehensive histories and accurate information, and offers a view that includes not only unvarnished history but also the richness and vibrancy of Native peoples and cultures today. You can also check out the NAHM Reading Spotlight from the October 30th TuesNews for books available from the Brent Library that you can enjoy at home.

Sincerely, Diversity Working Group

*Diversity of Voices = Stronger Brent CommUNITY*
Brent’s Health and Fitness Day

FRIDAY
November 16th

Get excited for...

Brent's Annual Health & Fitness Day!

It will be a fantastic day filled with fun activities and events. We will start the day with a special all-school morning meeting. Throughout the day each child will have the chance to participate in two health and fitness classes led by a variety of Brent staff and special guests.

No Uniform Day - Wear your active gear!

- Football
- Yoga
- Healthy Cooking
- Dance
- Cheerleading
- Soccer & More
BRENT 2018-19 ANNUAL FUND
THIS FRIDAY NOV. 16!

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This Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. when you eat, drink, and be merry at Valor, just mention Brent Elementary and 10% will be donated to the Brent Annual Fund. The restaurant is located at 723 8th St SE across from the Marine Barracks.

We hope that this Veterans Day you will put Valor Brewpub on your calendar for happy hour or dinner this Friday!

The PTA spends an average of $750 per student on programs, activities and teacher development....

Goal: $120,000; Family Participation 100%
Current: $23,890 raised

COME ON OUT TO SUPPORT THE AF, YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ESSENTIAL!
GIVE now to Brent’s Annual Fund!

You may have seen the Thermometers go up on the playground last week. We’re at 20% to goal and with a goal of $120,000 and just two months left we still have a ways to go!

What is the Brent Annual Fund?
Once a year we ask families to give to this fund in support of our children’s education. We don’t sell wrapping paper, candy or walk for dollars but we do look to every family to help give to all the great programs that we keep funding and adding to our rich student experience. This year we have a goal of 100% family participation.

This year your contribution will continue to support Brent’s Atelier Program, improved programs in PE, Science, Spanish, Music and the Arts, further investments in recess and sports, Smartboards in classrooms, laptop access, and professional development for our teachers and staff, the school play, PTA family nights and so much more.

Whether you can donate, $10, $50, $500 or even $5,000 – every donation is deeply appreciated and will be put to use helping every grade and every student.

HOW DO I GIVE?

1. Make a contribution today securely through the Brent website using a credit card or PayPal here: http://bit.ly/BrentFund
2. Write a check to the “Brent PTA” and drop it in the lock box in the front office – no processing fees are applied, so every cent goes to Brent!
3. Make a monthly contribution through the secure site here http://bit.ly/BrentFund or arrange for your bank to send Brent a check each month written to “Brent PTA”.

Questions? Contact:

AF Co-Chairs

Tara Goldenberg - taragoldenberg@gmail.com
Nicole Prather - nicole.prather@gmail.com

Make Your Donation Today!!!