**Enrollment Season Begins Today!**

Today, every student will receive a re-enrollment folder. All returning families must submit the required enrollment forms and present current residency verification documents to the front office by May 1, 2018. Given the large number of families on the waiting list for a seat at Brent, it is important that current families complete this process by the deadline. If your child is NOT returning to Brent, please complete the red form attached to Tues News and return the green enrollment folder to the front office.

For families who will be using utility bills as part of residency verification, please note that this year, utility bills must have a separate proof of payment. The proof of payment can be a receipt, a cleared check, a printout of an online payment or the next month’s bill showing the payment for the previous month.

If you have any questions about the enrollment process, please contact Denise Diggs at denise.diggs@dc.gov.

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**Spirit Day – This Thursday – Support the Nats’ Opening Day**

Show spirit for the Washington Nationals or your favorite baseball team to celebrate the first day of the baseball season in Washington D.C.

**School Calendar for 2018-2019 Released**

DCPS has released the finalized 2018-2019 school calendar - visit dcps.dc.gov/page/dcps-calendars to view the calendar. The first day of school is confirmed as Monday, August 20, 2018. See below for a summary of calendar changes:

- February Break. Similar to other school districts in the Northeast, DCPS will have a week-long vacation in late-February. This gives families an opportunity to rest
during the long period between Winter Break and Spring Break.

- Longer Thanksgiving Break. We want teachers and families to have sufficient time for restful holidays. In the past, we heard many community members advocate for vacation on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We were able to implement that change this year. Families will have more time for travel under the new calendar.
- Non-instructional days clustered around the change of term. Teachers expressed that it’s easier to conduct PD at the change of term.
- More 5-day weeks. Last year many parents expressed displeasure around the number of Fridays off.
- Eliminated half-days for students.

Friday Half Day Logistical Information
Friday, April 6th is a Half Day for Students. After clubs, students will return to their classrooms and specials schedule. Students will not follow our recess/lunch schedule. Those students who wish to eat cafeteria lunch will be picked up, by floor, at 11:45 a.m. (students should be ready with their belongings as they will dismiss to classroom lines at 12:15 p.m.). Those students who bring their lunch will have time to eat in aftercare or should plan to eat when they arrive home.

Calling all Brent Volunteers!
We are looking for parents to support our Earth Day Celebration on Monday, April 23rd. During recess, we will have tables set up for children to either get an Earth Day inspired facepainting or temporary tattoo. No artistic talent required! Facepainters will be given a facepaint palette as well as step by step visual directions for 3 simple facepaint choices. Tattoo volunteers will support children in applying their temporary tattoos with a wet cloth.

If you are ready to get into the Earth Day Spirit, please sign up for a time slot here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jRW4choPSZEyJ9CX7afsAn_4NNxTxCrJOM_wtc2RMXE/edit?usp=sharing

2nd Graders See The Wiz

Prior to visiting Ford’s Theatre, students explored how different artists have shared their perspectives by comparing and contrasting The Wiz and The Wizard of Oz. The original production of The Wiz was led and performed by African Americans: the song lyrics, script, sets, and costumes all reference and champion the struggles and triumphs of African Americans.

Science Marsh Madness!
During the week of April 2-6, all 1st-5th grade science classes will be participating in the Marshmallow Challenge, an engineering challenge using dry spaghetti, tape, string, and a marshmallow. We’ll be comparing our work and collecting school-wide data on how students from across grade levels solved the challenge. Adults from the Brent community are invited to participate too, so we can see how your results stack up to your students’ work. You are all invited to the Wonder Room (room 208) to try your hand at the Marshmallow Challenge after school Wednesday, April 4, 3:30-4:15, or before school Friday morning, 8:15-9:00. RSVP to Mr. Mangiaracina, mike.mangiaracina@gmail.com

3rd Graders Visit NASA Space Center
Third graders visited the NASA Goddard Visitor Center. A huge thank you to Adam Matuszeski, Lucy’s Dad, for setting up this awesome opportunity. See photo.

Save the Date! Capital Pride Parade June 9
Save the date! Brent Elementary will be marching with D.C. Public Schools in the 2018 Capital Pride Parade on Saturday, June 9th. Hope you can join us! More information will be shared as the date approaches.

Take Advantage of Barracks Row Proceeds for Brent
Keep those New Years fitness resolutions alive and help earn money for Brent. Summit to Soul on Barracks Row sells women’s active wear and will donate 10% of sales proceeds during their Giving Week, April 7th-15th. When making a purchase, you must mention Brent Elementary. Weather is getting warmer soon so consider stocking up on gear and benefiting Brent!