Coming Up

April 2- May 1
New Enrollment and Re-Enrollment
All packets due Wednesday, May 1

April 23 - May 7

PARCC Administration Dates
April 29th through May 3rd - 4th/5th ELA
May 6th through 10th - 4th/5th Math
May 13th through 21st - 3rd ELA and Math
May 20th and 21st - 5th Science

Wednesday, May 1
LSAT Meeting
6:30 - 8 p.m.

Wednesday, May 8
National Bike to School Day
See Flyer on page 2

PTA Board Meeting
6:30 - 8 p.m.

Wednesday, May 15
Diversity Working Group
6:30 - 8 p.m.

Enrollment Forms Due Tomorrow - May 1!
Please complete and return the enrollment forms sent home in brightly colored envelopes at the beginning of April. Brent needs all returning families to complete these forms and present residency verification documents. The front office will be reaching out to families who do not complete the re-enrollment process by the May 1st deadline via phone calls, emails and home visits. Please get those forms in this week. If you have any questions, please contact Denise Diggs at denise.diggs@dc.gov.

Kindergarteners Visit Marine Barracks
On Friday, April 26th, the Kindergarten classes of Brent visited the Marine Barracks on 8th Street SE. The Oldest Post of the Corps, the barracks was found in 1801. During their visit, students and chaperones had the opportunity to learn the history of the post, listen to a live rehearsal by The Commandant's Own United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, and meet the mascot of the Marine Corps, Private First Class Chesty XV (a rambunctious bulldog). After the rehearsal, students were invited to try the various instru-
ments on the parade deck, and ask questions of the Marine musicians. Many thanks to Barracks Chaplain Lieutenant Commander Bernard (aka Annabelle’s Dad) for arranging this wonderful culmination to the Month of the Military Child. See photos.

Springboard’s Financial Assistance for SY19-20
Springboard, Brent’s after school program, is working to finalize its financial assistance program for SY19-20. Those families in need of financial assistance for the next school year, are strongly encouraged to contact Brent’s regional director, Ashley Olt at aolt@springboardkids.com to receive information about the financial assistance application process.

Teacher Appreciation Week
May 27 - 31
Plans are currently in the works for this year’s Brent Teacher Appreciation Week, which is the week of May 27th. In preparation, the PTA is asking families to bring any medium-sized vases that they no longer need and leave them in a collection box in the front hallway. Thanks to all who are willing to donate a vase!

Reading Spotlight for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month
May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. In celebration, please consider reading:

*Hot, Hot Roti for Dada-ji* by F. Zia (32 pages) Overflowing with family and food, this story is sure to warm the heart and tickle the tummy. A fun way for children to learn about the cultural traditions and foods of India to be enjoyed by the whole family. Recipe included.

*Drawn Together* by Minh Lee (40 pages) When a boy visits his grandfather, their lack of a common language leads to confusion, frustration, and silence. But as they sit down to draw together, something magical happens.

*Festival of Colors* by Surishtha Sehgal (32 pages) It’s almost time for Holi, the Indian Festival of Colors. Siblings Mintoo and Chintoo are gathering flowers to make into colorful powders to toss during the festival, which results in a vibrant celebration.

*Big Red Lollipop* by Rukhsana Khan (40 pages) Rubina has been invited to her first birthday party, and her mother insists that she bring her little sister. Not only does her sister demand to win every game, but she steals Rubina’s party favor, a red lollipop. What’s a fed-up big sister to do?

*The Name Jar* by Yangsook Choi (40 pages) Being new in school is hard, especially when nobody can pronounce your name. Instead of introducing herself on the first day, Unhei tells the class she will choose a new name. Encouraged by her classmates, Unhei chooses her own Korean name and helps them pronounce it.

*The Ugly Vegetables* by Grace Lin (32 pages) A Chinese-American girl wishes for a garden of bright flowers instead of one full of bumpy, ugly vegetables until harvest time, when neighbors agree that her Chinese vegetables become the tastiest, most aromatic soup.

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**Brent Elementary**
**is participating in Bike to School Day on Wednesday, May 8**

Join children and adults around the nation to celebrate the benefits of bicycling and walking.

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**About our event:**
- **When:** Wednesday, May 8, 7:30-8:15 am (get to school on time)
- **Where:** Lincoln Park - near Emancipation Statue
- **What:** This is Capitol Hill’s local celebration, and also the national event for the National Center for Safe Routes to School. Activities, snacks, local and national speakers, local businesses and organizations, and of course, all your neighborhood friends.

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**Learn more at**
[walkbiketoschool.org](http://walkbiketoschool.org)
The Great Wall of Lucy Wu by Wendy Wan-Long Shang (320 pages) Lucy Wu is ready to rule the school as a sixth grader and finally have her own bedroom. But her plans are shattered when she finds out that her great aunt is coming to stay—in Lucy’s room.

Project Mulberry by Linda Sue Park (235 pages) Julia would love to win a blue ribbon at the state fair. Julia’s mother offers a suggestion: to raise silkworms, as she did when she was a girl in Korea.

Each of these books is in the Brent Library or DC Public Library collections and can also be ordered from your local bookseller.

2nd Graders Meet with DC Fair Food
For the 2nd grade’s social studies activism unit, representatives from DC Fair Food visited Brent to teach second graders about the work they do to advocate for tomato pickers. This visit helped students connect the work of activists like Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta to the present day. See photo.

Reminder: Brent Cellphone Policy
Brent does not allow the use of student cell phones—or other devices actively connected to internet/cellular data such as smart watches or e-readers—on its campus. This policy includes all indoor and outdoor spaces and before, during and after school programs.

Students are welcome to have cell phones in backpacks provided that they are powered off, or devices such as smart watches or e-readers provided that they are not connected to internet/cellular data. If students and parents need to communicate travel plans to/from school, they are welcome to use the main office phone (202-698-3363) or use their cell phones once they step off the campus.

This wide-reaching policy is in place to ensure that students focus on their work at school, whether academic or social. Should a student violate the policy, they will:
1. Receive a warning.
2. Have their cell phone or device collected for parent pick up.
3. Have their cell phone or device collected permanently.

Last Call - Nominate Yourself for the Local School Advisory Team (LSAT)!
Brent’s LSAT is a group of parents, teachers, administrators, and a community member that meets once a month to advise the principal on critical school issues and
priorities - including curricular matters, school budget, enrollment, staffing, school culture, and parent and student engagement. Joining the LSAT is an exceptional opportunity to get a better understanding of how school decisions are made and how DCPS works AND to have a positive, long-lasting impact on the school.

There are three parent openings for the next school year. Representatives serve two-year terms.

If you have any questions about joining the LSAT, feel free to contact Sarah Carr at sarah@sdcarr.com or Kim Barry at kimberlybarry563@yahoo.com or any current/former member of the LSAT.

If you are interested in nominating yourself, please send a statement of interest that includes your children and their grades and why you are interested in joining the LSAT to incoming PTA co-presidents Nazanin Ash (nazanin.samari.ash@gmail.com) or Genevieve Taft (sgtaft@gmail.com) by Tuesday, May 14th. The date of the election will be announced soon.

May is National Foster Families Month

If you know anyone who would be interested in learning more about becoming a DC foster parent you can visit www.fosterdckids.org or call us at 202.671.5683. Also, you can follow us on social media where we continuously post information and news on our Twitter account (@DCCFSA) and on our Facebook Page.

Join the PTA!

The PTA Nominating Committee is seeking great candidates eager to support our kids’ experience here at Brent. The PTA Nominating Committee works to select and recruit a diverse set of parents to serve on the PTA Board. The Brent PTA brings parents, teachers, and administrators together to foster cooperation and engagement that helps ensure that Brent meets its ambitious goals in support of our children’s social, emotional, and academic development. Each position on Brent’s executive board is filled by a pair of parents who agree to serve together--ensuring partnership and support for each role. For the 2019-2020 school year, we seek candidates for the following positions:

Co-Vice Presidents: The co-vice presidents help coordinate the work of the officers and committee of the PTA in partnership with the PTA co-presidents. Importantly, co-vice presidents succeed automatically to the position of co-presidents at the end of their term.

Co-Treasurers: The co-treasurers provide oversight of all the funds of the PTA, supported by the PTA Board’s bookkeeper. Working closely with the PTA’s bookkeeper, the co-treasurers keep account of receipts and expenditures, make disbursements in accordance with the budget adopted by Brent’s PTA, present financial statements at each meeting of the Board, and oversee planning for the PTA budget.

Co-Secretaries: The co-secretaries play key roles in informing and ensuring transparency for the Brent community, recording and making available to the public minutes of general membership meetings and meetings of the PTA Board. They also serve as Room Parent coordinators.

Co-Community Liaisons: The co-community liaisons engage community members to understand and represent the concerns and interests of parents at the PTA Board and inform families about PTA activities and issues.

At the PTA General Meeting last week, the Brent PTA approved three at-large members to serve alongside the Board’s incoming co-presidents, Principal Lycknell, and one faculty representative as the PTA’s nominating committee for PTA Board positions. Huge thanks to Laura Martinez, Dunnzy Levin, Adi Segal, and Mrs. Miller for joining the nominating committee! The nominating committee will help recruit candidates and serve as a resource for community members who’d like to learn more about positions on the Board. If you are interested in any of the above positions or want to learn more, please contact any member of the Brent PTA Nominating Committee by Monday, May 13th:

Nominating Committee for the Election of PTA officers:

Laura Martinez: laura9@gmail.com (at-large member)
Dunnzy Levin: dunnzy@gmail.com (at-large member)
Adi Segal: adisegaladi@gmail.com (at-large member)
Genevieve Taft: sgtaft@gmail.com (incoming PTA co-president)
Nazanin Ash: nazanin.samari.ash@gmail.com (incoming PTA co-president)
Stacy Miller: stacy.derr@dc.gov (faculty representative)
Norah Lycknell: norah.lycknell@dc.gov (Brent Elementary School Principal)