Coming Up

PARCC Administration Dates
May 13th through 21st - 3rd ELA and Math
May 20th and 21st - 5th Science

Tuesday, May 14
Deadline for nominations (self-nominations encouraged) for the LSAT

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

Monday, May 20
PTA Volunteer Meeting
5:30-7 p.m. @ Taft-Vazquez house: 419 1st ST SE.

Tuesday, May 21
New incoming preschool student meet and greet
9 - 10 a.m.
RSVP to Denise Diggs at denise.diggs@dc.gov

W6 Parents Meeting
6:30 - 8 p.m.
Library

Wednesday, May 22
PTA General Meeting
6:30 - 8 p.m.
ASL Interpreters
Childcare provided

There is still space in the K-1 Listening sessions!
This spring, Brent Elementary is initiating listening sessions with parents and guardians to better understand families’ experiences at the school. This year’s third round of listening sessions are being held with parents and guardians of students in Kindergarten and 1st grade who joined Brent in Kindergarten or 1st Grade (i.e., did not go to PK at Brent).

Photos: Scenes from Bike to School Day
This group includes 1st graders who joined Brent in Kindergarten. The listening sessions will be held in the science classroom (one of the trailers on the blacktop playground) at Brent. The remaining sessions will be held:
• Thursday, May 16, from 8-9 a.m.
• Monday, May 20, from 8-9 a.m.
Please RSVP to Kim Taylor at kimberlybarry563@yahoo.com
indicating which time you would prefer and if you need childcare. During the 8-9 am session, childcare for all Brent students will be provided by Springboard, and we can arrange care for siblings that do not attend Brent. We very much hope you are able to participate – better understanding your experiences and perspectives is very important to strengthening the Brent community.

Diversity Working Group Final Meeting and Election This Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Please come out this Wednesday (5/15) at 6:30 p.m. for our last Diversity Working Group Meeting of the year. We are planning our last events of the year and looking ahead at opportunities to support diversity and inclusion over the summer and into the new school year. The meeting agenda will include election of DWG leadership for 2019-20. DWG board positions are: Chair; Secretary; Rising Tides Parent Liaison and Rising Tides Academic Liaison. Each position is described in the DWG bylaws available at http://www.brentelementary.org/diversity-working-group.html We’d love for new folks to consider DWG leadership positions. If you have questions or want to self-nominate please email Danielle Drissel at danielle@websterious.com or just throw your hat in the ring at Wednesday’s meeting.

PTA Happy Hour This Monday!
Come join a PTA happy hour on May 20th to learn more about school committees and fundraising events that need your help next year. From the Welcoming Committee planning events for new families to the Green Team, Middle School, Field Experience and Teacher Appreciation committees to our Annual Fund, Holiday Sale, and Gala fundraising committees, Brent has so many ways for parents to get involved. Current chairs will share the work they have done this year, plans for next year and how you can get involved. Come for appetizers, a glass of wine and to chat with fellow parents on May 20th from 5:30-7pm at the Taft-Vazquez house (419 First St SE).

Brent Bears Bike to School
Last Wednesday morning over a dozen members of the Brent community rode to Lincoln Park before school. We joined hundreds of families from schools all over the Hill celebrating Bike to School Day. The kids enjoyed the performances and free water bottles while adults drank free coffee. The kids loved having the roads blocked for their ride to Brent at the end of the event. See photos on front page.

First Graders Visit Nats Park
Take me out to the ball game! On Tuesday, May 7, first graders from across the city got an up-close look at the Washington Nationals’ ballpark. Firsties participated in a sing-a-long of Take Me Out to the Ball Game, saw a performance from Discovery Theater about pioneering African-American baseball players and ran the bases. This trip was open to all DCPS first graders, and over 3,000 students and chaperones visited in all. First graders had a great time and loved celebrating this national pastime! See photo.

Brent Buddies Program Looking for Buddies!
Starting at a new school can be stressful, even if the school is as awesome as Brent. The Diversity Working Group and the Parent-Teacher Association are continuing the Brent Buddies program to welcome new families to our community.

As a Brent Buddy, you will be partnered with a new family transitioning into Brent for the 2019-2020 school year. We are asking our Brent Buddies to reach out to their partner family via email to make the initial introductions, call them to formally welcome them to the community, and meet up
with them at an organized school function (ECE/K playdate or the Welcome Picnic for example). Primarily, you will have an opportunity to share your experience at Brent, but mostly your job will be to make our new friends feel welcome.

If you are interested in volunteering for this role, please complete the google form:
https://forms.gle/vPefX9ESYX5pGATP9

In the next couple of weeks, volunteers will be matched with families and the real fun begins!

**Mark your Calendars for the Spring Atelier Showcase**

Early childhood and kindergarten families, please mark your calendars for the final Atelier Showcase of the year on June 6th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Children are invited to wear any outfit for the performance that makes them feel happy and special. Doors open for families to enter the multipurpose room at 6:50. Children should be dropped off with their teachers at the stage and family members may take a seat in the audience.

The performance will be followed by time to explore child-created art and science exhibits throughout the Brent’s first floor. Please contact Julia Sadowsky (julia.sadowsky@dc.gov) if you have any questions about spring showcase logistics. We look forward to an evening of celebrating the children’s work!

**Pride Parade Poster Party**

For the 3rd year, Brent Elementary School is joining D.C. Public Schools to march in the Capital Pride Parade. To prepare for the parade, the Diversity Working Group would like to invite you and your child to a Pride Poster-making Party on Monday, June 3, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in Room 210.

All poster making supplies will be provided. However, this event is designed for students who will be accompanied by an adult or caregiver. Please email Mr. Berg with any questions at jon.berg@dc.gov.

**Join Brent friends in Tai Chi fun and active celebration of the cultures of Asian & Pacific Islanders**

On Saturday, June 1 meet at Brent at 9:20 a.m. to walk/metro to Chinatown Park and join in a free Tai Chi class sponsored by the Mayor’s Office on Asian & Pacific Islanders Affairs. The event celebrates the end of Asian & Pacific Islanders Month. Please let Piper Campbell (piper@pipercampbell.com) know if you’re coming or have any questions.

If you can’t make this but are interested in other Chinatown events
Consider the below:

Come out and experience the sights and sounds of Asian & Pacific Islander cultures at the 2019 Chinatown Community Festival! Free and Open to the Public.

Date: Saturday, June 15, 2019
Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Location: Chinatown Park (located on 5th and I Street NW)

Performances and Activities:

• Japanese Drumming, Indonesian Dances, Hawaiian Halau Hula, Turkmen Folk Dance, Wushu, Dog Tricks Show, and Other Performances
• Fitness Demonstrations
• Face Painting, Henna Design, 3D Paper Cutting, Korean Beauty & Make-up, and other Asian Arts and Crafts
• Free Bike Repair and Much More

From the Health Suite - Health Office News

Spring to Summer – UV protection and Keep Hydrated!

Heat-related illness happens when the body’s temperature control system is overloaded. Infants and children up to 4 years of age are at greatest risk. Even young and healthy people can get sick from the heat if they participate in strenuous physical activities during hot weather. For heat-related illness, the best defense is prevention:

• Slip on a shirt
• Slop on sunscreen – SPF of 15 to 30. Choose one that protects against UVA and UVB rays.
• Slap on a hat
• Wrap on sunglasses to protect your eyes and sensitive skin around them

Important Notification: Measles – See attached Measles Fact Sheet for more information.

You may have recently heard about the rise in Measles cases in the U.S. Measles is a very serious, and very contagious infection that spreads quickly, and can have dangerous outcomes in unimmunized children, children with a weak immune system, and unvaccinated pregnant people.

Measles typically begins with high fever, cough, runny nose (coryza), conjunctivitis and 2-3 days later Koplik spots appear (red spots with whitish background inside the mouth) and 3-5 days later rash appears.

Students suspected to have measles may not return to school until they have been evaluated and cleared by a health care provider. They should bring a note on the provider letterhead stating that they have been cleared before they can return to school. Students confirmed to have measles will not be allowed to return to school until four days after the appearance of a rash (according to DC health guidance and recommendations). Isolation is extremely important in preventing the spread of the measles virus to other students in the school.

If a case of measles is reported in the school, all unvaccinated children – including those with exemptions – may be excluded from school for up to 21 days.

Brent is currently at 92% of immunization compliant (as of May 13, 2019). The reason for the remaining 8% are as follows.

1. Families have not submitted the student’s immunization record to school on time.
2. Students received an immunization before valid date – DC Department of Heath requires the provider’s note if additional vaccinations are not required.
3. Students with a history of illness – DC Health requires the date of illness with provider’s sign.

The health suite will notify families of students who are due or overdue for immunizations. If the health suite immunization data is not accurate, please email Nurse Lee at jlee6@cnmc.org.

Thank you for your cooperation and partnership in ensuring a safe and healthy school environment.

Help us Drive out Summer Hunger – Bring in a cereal box

From May 8 to June 9, Children’s will be participating in a national cereal drive to donate to the Capital Area Food bank. These donations are often the only source for breakfast during the long summer school break for at-risk area children. The donation boxes will be on the main office.
Principal’s Corner

Dear Brent Community,

In case you missed it, please review last week’s Tues News for the announcement about Brent’s May 28th conference pilot. By the close of business today, your grade-level teacher(s) will send a link to collect your questions for the May 28th conference sessions.

To add even more value to the May 28th conference day, we have partnered with the PTA to invite an expert from the Parent Engagement Program (PEP) for an 8am-9am Tackling Technology training and discussion. Tackling Technology will be held in the multipurpose room and will finish in time for attendees to transition to the first conference session at 9am. For more information, please see the flyer in this week’s Tues News.

Sincerely,

Norah Lycknell
Principal

You’re invited to join a team from Brent Elementary School to march with D.C. Public Schools in this year’s Capital Pride Parade!

Saturday, June 8, 2019

The DCPS Contingent will be gathering at 23rd and O Streets NW at 4:00 p.m. All registrants will receive a logistics email before the parade with any updates.


Remember to wear a Brent shirt and rainbow accessories on parade day!
What is Measles?
Measles is an infectious viral disease occurring most often in late winter and spring.

What are the symptoms of Measles?
Symptoms begin with fever lasting a couple of days, followed by cough, runny nose and conjunctivitis (pink eye). A rash is then seen, starting on the face and upper neck, spreading down the back and trunk, then extending to the arms and hands, as well as the legs and feet. After about 5 days, the rash fades in the same order in which it appeared.

How is Measles treated?
There is no specific treatment for the virus, though medications are available to decrease the severity of some symptoms.

Is a person with Measles contagious?
Measles is highly contagious. Infected people are usually contagious starting about 4 days before their rash appears to 4 days afterwards. Approximately 90% of non-immune individuals exposed to an infected person will become infected.

How is Measles spread?
The measles virus is present in the mucus in the nose and throat of infected people. When sneezing or coughing, droplets containing the virus are sprayed into the air and can remain active and contagious in the air or on infected surfaces for up to 2 hours.

How soon do symptoms appear?
Appearance of symptoms can range from 7 – 21 days after exposure to a person infected with Measles, though it is most common to become ill 14 days after exposure.

Who can get Measles?
Anyone who is not immune to Measles can become infected. People are considered immune if they have previously had the disease or had a full course of the MMR vaccination. Individuals born in 1957 or before are considered immune, as they lived through several widespread measles epidemics.

Can Measles be prevented?
Yes! Measles can be prevented byensuring that you are immune. This can be done by getting vaccinated.

Who should get the vaccine?
Anyone who has not had the disease and cannot confirm their immunity should get vaccinated. Individuals born before 1957 are considered immune, and do not need the vaccine. People vaccinated in between 1963-1967 may have received an ineffective form of the vaccine, and should consult with their healthcare provider. If you do not know you have been vaccinated, and cannot confirm your vaccination record, you should get vaccinated. Unless travel is involved, measles vaccinations are not given to children before the age of 12 months, but are recommended at ages 12–15 months and again between the ages of 4–6, prior to entering school. If you have certain health conditions, you should not receive the vaccination, so please consult with your health care provider.

Is it true that the vaccine can cause autism?
No. Current medical research demonstrates that Measles vaccination is safe and effective.

Should a person with Measles be excluded from work or school?
A person diagnosed with measles should remain home for 5 days after the rash first appeared.

Where can I get more information?
Information about Measles and other related health topics can be found at www.cdc.gov. DC Health promotes the health and safety of the District residents. For additional information, please visit dchealth.dc.gov or call (202) 442-9371.