Coming Up

**Monday, December 16 - March 2**
Myschooldc Lottery Opens

**Wednesday, January 8**
Jefferson Open House
801 7th Street SW
6 - 7 p.m.

LSAT Meeting
Brent Library
6 - 7:30 p.m.

**Thursday, January 9**
Atelier Learning Showcase
(ECE - K)
Multipurpose Room
5 - 6 p.m.
ASL Interpreters provided

**Friday, January 10**
Spirit Club Day #2
Uniform-Free Day:
Dress News Year’s Best

**Wednesday, January 16**
PTA Board Meeting
6 - 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, January 17**
Parent Teacher Conferences
No school for students
No Innovation Learning programming

**Monday, January 20**
Brent Closed
MLK Day

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**Spirit and Club Day #2 - This Friday, January 10**

This Friday, January 10th is our second club day of the year! We will begin the day with a schoolwide morning meeting led by 4th grade. Clubs will take place from 10:05 to 10:55 a.m. Our Spirit Theme is New Year’s Best! Children and faculty are invited to wear a fancy, special outfit for ushering in the new decade! Children who are not choosing to participate in this theme are expected to wear their school uniforms.

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

Early Childhood and Kindergarten families, please mark your calendars for the Winter Atelier Showcase, January 9th from 5:00-6:00 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 4:50 p.m. 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 Brent’s first floor. Please contact Julia Sadowsky (julia.sadowsky@k12.dc.gov) if you have any questions about winter showcase logistics. We look forward to an evening of celebrating the children’s work!

**Black History Month Living Wax Museum**

Do you love going to museums?

Have you ever wished you could be a part of a museum exhibit?

Well come out to our informational meeting on how you can be in Brent’s first Black History Wax museum on Tuesday January 14 at 8:00 a.m. in room 302. You will have the opportunity to become a famous African American politician. Our wax museum will take place on Friday February 28 at 1:45 p.m.

**Spelling Bee Time!**

Thank you to all of the students who participated in their classroom spelling bee and to the top three winners of all 3-5th classes. Since the classroom spelling bees are over we will start a spelling bee club on Tuesday’s and Wednesday’s in room 302 at 8:00 a.m. to provide space for students to practice. The schoolwide bee will be on Friday January 24 at 1:45 p.m.

**Correction to community email sent 1/1/2020 - Student Arrival Times**

Students should arrive for school by 8:35 a.m. to line up with their class on the playground. Students who arrive after 8:45 a.m. into their classrooms will be marked tardy.

**Rising Together**

Rising Together ended their fall session with a celebration and a visit to the Kennedy Center to see Nkula, heart like drum beats combined with deep bass grooves which guide Nkula’s listeners to that special place that only reggae lovers know and adore—but, it is the band’s lyrical message of peace, love, and unity that brings true meaning to Nkula’s music and the reggae adage “word, sound & power,” and our Rising Together Program. See photo below.

However, we are sitting at 78% to goal. With $94,040 raised to date, and still $26,000 left to go, we are still a way away from hitting our goal! Ask yourself, what would happen if we didn’t have these funds to help afford nearly all the non-personnel items at Brent like libraries in every classroom, unique enrichment programs like Atelier, Science labs, musical instruments, or any of the equipment and resources our teachers need to educate and engage with our children. $26,000 could be the result of cutting a program or two!!

We raise nearly $750 per child per year through our fundraising efforts so please if you have not yet given, or perhaps you’re capable of giving more, please take the time to do so today!

Just snap a picture of the QR Code below with your camera phone then click on the notification to take you to the secure PayPal site for the Brent PTA and make your donation today! Thank you and Happy New Year from the Annual Fund.

**Annual Fund - It’s Not Too Late!**

A huge thank you to all the families that have taken time to donate to Brent’s Annual Fund. We had a bit of an uptick over the holidays, so for those that have taken the time to give, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.
Dear Brent Families,

The turn of a new year is typically a time for reflection. In fact, we organize January’s calendar to support that mindset.

This Thursday’s Atelier Showcase (5:00-6:00 p.m.), like all Learning Showcases, offers an opportunity to celebrate the work accomplished so far this year. Through student work displays and performance, students are able to reflect on what they have learned and make connections to the learning of their peers.

Our second of three Parent Teacher Conference Days is on January 17th and is an important mid-year check in. It is a chance to learn more about student progress towards grade-level and individual goals. We are primarily asking and answering: what could they do before, what can they do now, and what will they be able to do next? And what continued or new behaviors does that progression require?

The two Professional Development Days on January 27th and 28th mean no school for students but Brent faculty will be hard at work reflecting on and growing our practice. Teachers and staff will contribute to a range of sessions from exploring Balanced Literacy practices to collaborating with Music, Science, Art, PE and Early Childhood teachers across the city.

Finally, our annual State of the School Community Meeting will be on January 29th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. In many ways, it’s like a Parent Teacher Conference for the school rather than an individual student. I will communicate our progress toward school goals and how that progress will shape our aspirations in the second half of the school year. Our Parent Leadership Group (composed of LSAT, PTA, DWG, and SIT Chairs) will share the work they are doing to support school goals and our community as a whole. And the most significant portion of the meeting, in terms of content and time allocated, will be dedicated to updates on our pending modernization and expansion, highlighting the story of what has been accomplished and the community actions that are now required.

Sincerely,
Norah Lycknell