

# Brant Avenue Public School

## Newsletter

### SEPTEMBER, 2011

#### From the Principal's Desk

Welcome back! I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer with fun and relaxation. However, the end of August is usually a time when everyone is looking forward to returning to a routine.

We are looking forward to a very busy year at Brant Ave. P.S. Staff have worked hard over the summer to prepare programs and materials for the new year.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome new families to Brant Ave. P.S. We look forward to getting to know you and encourage you and your family to participate in the many wonderful opportunities available at this school throughout the year. We are also looking forward to becoming reacquainted with those faces that are more familiar and that we have missed over the summer!

There are many volunteer opportunities within the school...helping in the library, reading with students, preparing materials, helping in many ways in the classroom. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Mrs. Smith in the office. If you have

any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me. I look forward to working with you and your child(ren) over the next year.

Linda Beale, Principal

#### School Day

8:55 -	9:35	Period 1
9:35 -	10:15	Period 2
10:15-	10:55	Period 3
10:55-	11:35	First Nutrition Break
11:35-	12:05	Period 4
12:05-	12:35	Period 5
12:35-	1:15	Period 6
1:15 -	1:55	Second Nutrition Break
1:55 -	2:35	Period 7
2:35 -	3:15	Period 8

#### School Organization 2011 - 2012

The staff assignments at this time are listed below. Please welcome Ms. Nelson who will be working in the library; Ms. Nichols is now Mrs. Smith, "Congratulations", will be doing planning; Mrs. Gill who will be the core French teacher and Mrs. Pye-Clifford will be doing resource.

Principal	Mrs. Beale
Office Co-Ordinator	Mrs. Smith
KA	Ms. Davidson
KB	Mrs. Bond
Grade 1	Mrs. Crandall
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Park
Grade 2/3	Mrs. Lightfoot
Grade 3/4	Ms. Gojmerac
Grade 4/5	Ms. Fisher
Grade 5/6	Mr. Neil
Library	Ms. Nelson
Planning	Mrs. Smith
	Ms. Porto
Resource	Mrs. Pye-Clifford
	Mrs. Mitchell
Core French	Mrs. Gill
Education Assistants	Mrs. DeGreer
	Mrs. Whiteside
ECC	Ms. Zorzi
	Mrs. Marx
CYC	Mrs. Booth
Custodians	Mr. Schenk
	Mrs. Stewart

### Bring a Parent To School

Bring your parent to school and join us in the gym for breakfast on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 am. Following breakfast students may bring their parent to their classroom to participate in learning activities until 10:55 am.

Information to follow at a later date. Hope to see you then!

### Student Accident Insurance

A student accident insurance program is being offered to you by Reliable Life once again this year. The board does not carry insurance

for students. It is highly recommended all students, especially those participating in school sports and extended field trips purchase student accident insurance. Insurance envelopes will be sent home the first day. Please review the instructions carefully and return the application directly to **Reliable Life.**

### Forms Coming Home

A number of forms are attached to this newsletter. Please ensure that you read them carefully! If you have any questions regarding these forms, please contact Mrs. Smith.

- Student Verification Form – please make any changes directly onto the form and **sign** the bottom
- Freedom of Information Letter
- Community Walk Permission Form

Please complete and return these forms to your child's teacher no later than Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Milk and Pizza Order Forms will follow later this week.

### Visitors To The School

We warmly invite parents and guests to visit our school and encourage volunteers in our classrooms. For safety reasons, **all visitors must report to the**

**office**, sign in and obtain a visitor/volunteer badge before proceeding to classrooms or onto the yard.

### **Taking Students From School**

To ensure student safety, if you are taking your child from the school during the school day, you must come to the office and sign your child out after talking to the secretary. This will assist us in ensuring the safety of your child.

### **Home Safe**

After being dismissed from class at the end of the day, students are requested to go directly home or to a caregiver before proceeding to other activities.

### **Safety First**

During the school day, your child's safety is of the utmost importance to us. It is imperative that you call the office before 8:50 am if your child is going to be absent or late. For your convenience, we also have voice mail which allows you to contact the school at anytime during the night, over the weekends and early in the morning. The phone number is 519-824-2671. When you leave a message, please be sure to note the child's full name, teacher and reason for absence.

If a child is absent and we have not heard from you a parent/guardian, we will attempt to contact the parent/guardian to ensure that the child is "safe". If a parent can not be reached, we will contact the emergency number provided.

It is very important to let the school know if there is **any change** in personal information: home or work numbers, cell numbers, address changes etc. In the event of an unexplained absence or emergency, we will then be able to contact your immediately.

If your child's dismissal arrangements change in any way, please send a note in the morning. It is extremely busy in the office at the end of the day, and messages left on the machine may not be retrieved in time to pass onto the teacher.

### **Brant Avenue School Dress Code**

At Brant Ave we promote a respectful and professional student image. Appropriate dress is defined as attire that is free of symbols of hate, gang membership or images that portray violence, death, abuse, cigarettes, drugs, alcohol, racial slurs, obscene words and political or sexual statements explicitly or by implication.

Clothing that is revealing and

shows an excessive amount of skin such as muscle shirts, low scooped necklines, tops with spaghetti straps, bare midriffs and open backs are unacceptable. Shirts must not be excessively tight. Shorts and skirts must be longer than finger tip length on the legs. Undergarments should not be visible. Hats must be removed upon entering the school.

### **Lates**

The curriculum is so packed now that teachers need to use every period they have to complete it. Lessons need to start on time. Late students disturb the lesson flow, because teachers have to re-teach to ensure the late student is brought up-to-date. The consequence increases to the class when students are repeatedly late for class. Please help by getting your children to school on time. Everyone benefits!

### **Bus Behaviour**

Students are expected to follow the rules of the bus, listen to the driver, remain in their seats, refrain from eating and drinking anything while on the bus, and follow the directions of the bus patrols when entering or exiting the bus.

### **Agendas**

Once again all students will be receiving a school agenda. The agenda is an important organizational and communication tool for the student, and provides excellent communication between home and school. We ask that you send \$3.00 to your child's teacher to help cover the cost.

### **Safety Patrols**

Student patrols are on duty for fifteen minutes before classes begin and after classes end.

Patrol Time: 8:40 - 8:55  
am

3:15 - 3:30 pm

### **Allergies**

Many students suffer daily from allergies. Reactions to allergic substances vary from relatively mild irritations to potentially fatal conditions where the sufferer experiences breathing problems and/or anaphylactic shock. We have students at Brant who are allergic to peanuts and fragrances who fall into the severe category. Please be aware that there may be restrictions in your child's class to protect a student with such an allergy. We ask that you abide by any restrictions that may be imposed in these cases.

Parents of students with potentially life threatening allergies are asked to inform the office.

## **Polar Bear Club**

Free after school program for children ages 4 – 8 (must have completed JK). Programs run 4 days a week Monday – Thursday from 3:30 – 5:30 pm at Brant Avenue P.S. To register contact Brett at 519-362-5874.

## **Child and Youth Counsellor**

Kim Booth will be returning as our Child and Youth Counsellor. Mrs. Booth will be at the school all day Monday, Tuesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday mornings. Mrs. Booth can be reached at 519-824-2671 ext 227.

The Child and Youth Counsellor's role is to support students, staff and parents. Some of the topics include social skills development, anger management, bereavement, family separation or divorce, self-esteem, conflict between friends, bullying, anxiety and family issues. Support for the students will be focused on social, emotional and behavioural concerns. Support can be individual, classroom or group.

## **Dates to Remember**

September 21	Milk Orders Due
September 23	Pizza Orders Due
September 28	Terry Fox Walk
September 29	Bring A Parent to School
October 3/4	Dental Screening - Whole School
October 19	Lifetouch Pictures