



Briardale Public School

October 2011

From The Principal's Desk.....

What a great start! The first month of school has quickly passed by. The students have been working hard to get back to school routines. It is great to see so many students helping out at the school!

Our school BBQ/Open House on September 22nd was very successful. I was very pleased to see so many parents and family members come out to visit and meet their child(ren)'s teachers. Thanks to all those parents and staff members who helped out with shopping, barbecuing and preparing buns. Your efforts to make the event successful are much appreciated.

We will continue to be busy here at Briardale. Our cross country and soccer teams will compete in their events, School Spirit Days will continue and we will hold our traditional collection for UNICEF. These are just a few of the events that staff and students will be engaged in.

At this time I would like to wish all of you a very happy Thanksgiving on October 10th.



LATES

School begins at 8:55 a.m. If you are driving your children to school, please ensure that you arrive at least 5 minutes ahead of the bell. We have supervision for all children 15 minutes before that bell.

Please remember that a child entering late to class is disruptive to the others in the room. Regular lates make it more difficult to deliver a consistent program to a student. Thank you for your assistance with this serious matter.

MAGAZINE FUND-RAISER

Thank you for all of your help with our magazine fund-raiser. Your support is greatly appreciated. Approximately 40% of the money raised stays in the school to benefit our students subsidizing such things as school

agendas, class trips, graduation and special performances.

STAFFING

Our staffing allocation remained the same and we are very happy that we could continue with our current class structure and timetables.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The first meeting of the Briardale School Council will be on Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. We welcome new faces to our Council and continue to have a great group of parents who work extremely hard for the benefit of all our students. Please consider coming out to join this very important group within our school community. All parents are welcome.

TERRY FOX

On Wednesday, September 28th Briardale joined many schools across Ontario and participated in the School Terry Fox Run. All of our students and staff walked around the neighbourhood and adjoining park to raise money for Cancer Research. Every year as we discuss the amazing spirit and dedication of Terry Fox, our students continue to be awed by this true Canadian Hero.

ANAPHYLAXIS AWARENESS

Please keep in mind that many people have a condition called Anaphylaxis - a severe allergy that can result in death. We are asking all parents in the Briardale community to help us reduce the risks for these people by not sending any peanut or nut products for lunch/snack time. We appreciate the support and co-operation that we have received from our school community so far and ask that we have the co-operation of our entire school community. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the school.

CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country is underway. Students are focussed and hard working. There are 2 meets at Burgoyne Woods; one on September 26th and another on October 4th. The final meet will be held on Tuesday Oct 12th at Fireman's Park.

Thanks to Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Beard for coaching. Team members are: Marshall B., Ethan C., Brendan C., Oreoluwa F., Sarina L., Mackenzie M., Dustin N., Kieleley P., Paige P., Colby R., Elena Y., Lichi C., Caira H., Grace J., Katie M., Hawkin P., Kaelen P., Max P., Dylan V., Madeline W. Go Bulldogs!

SCHOOL NURSE

The Youth Connection Nurse assigned to our school is Viviane LeBrasseur. She will be promoting good health among our students and assisting us to develop healthy school programs and workshops for students.

Our nurse can be reached at The Regional Niagara Public Health Department at 905-688-3762, ext. 7369. or viviane.lebrasseur@regional.niagara.on.ca.

HALLOWE'EN

We will be having our annual Halloween Parade and UNICEF Carnival on October 29th in the afternoon. More details to follow.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7TH P.A. DAY & MONDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

There will be no classes for the students on Friday and Thanksgiving Monday. On Friday, teachers will be working at the school involved in analysing school data and planning to ensure student success.

EQAO Results

Each year Briardale's Grade 3 and Grade 6 students participate in the EQAO Provincial Assessment measuring their performance in reading, writing and mathematics.

Results of the Primary (Gr. 3) and Junior (Gr. 6) assessments of Reading, Writing and Math for 2010-2011 have been received. The percentages indicate the number of students at or above the provincial standard (Level 3):

Grade 3 Reading - 75%
Grade 3 Writing - 61%
Grade 3 Math - 50%

Grade 6 Reading - 90 %
Grade 6 Writing - 81 %
Grade 6 Math - 67 %

Analysis of this information, trends over a number of years, along with other information gathered by your child's teacher will identify strengths and areas

requiring extra work as we focus on instructional improvement

We will also be examining the individual student responses to determine student strengths and needs on the P.A. Day.

SOCCKER

Briardale has been busy playing soccer to prepare for their tournament. Team members are: Marshal B., Brendan C., Oreoluwa F., Kieley P., Colby R., Sydney W., Davis F., Caira H., Grace J., Joshua L., Katie M., Hawkin P., Kaelen P., Katie R., Hashim U., Dylan V., Taylor W., Madeline W. Go Bulldogs!!

Thanks to Ms. Gammage for coaching and to our parent volunteer drivers who drive us and who stay to cheer us on.

Good News Assembly

At our September Good News Assembly, the following students were recognized for their contributions to their classes and the school:

Medin B., Aidan L., Gracie J., Katie M., Caira H., Elena Y., Dustin N., Colby R., Ben C., Liam P., Cassie C., Norah R., Britton B., Alisha S.

BRIARDALE SCHOOL SPIRITWEAR

We are currently offering students and family members the opportunity to purchase Briardale School Spiritwear. The purchase of these items is completely optional. These sales conclude on October 14th.

PICTURE RETAKE DAY

Our picture retake day is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25th. Bring your smiles!

Communication Matters: Vocabulary Development

“Smart talk from your DSBN Speech-Language Pathologist”

We learn the meanings of words throughout our lives. Word skills are important as the foundation for learning to read. Follow the suggestions below to make vocabulary development fun:

Play ‘I Spy.’ (e.g., I spy something blue. I spy something round. I spy something you use to wash dishes. I spy something in the sky. I spy something small, red, with a peel). If your child has trouble guessing the answer, provide hints. For more of a challenge, use the variation of this game, “ I am thinking of something....”

Read joke or riddle books to teach about multiple meanings. Discuss how the play on words makes you laugh. Also, look for books that include pictures that illustrate how words can be misinterpreted.

Play a ‘homonym’ game to teach alternate meanings of words. Think of a word that has many different meanings and try to come up with as many meanings as possible (e.g., The word ‘rock’ can mean ‘to rock in a chair’, ‘rock music’, ‘a rock you throw’ or ‘rock hard’). Other homonyms include: saw, rose, pop, watch, block and bank.

Consider commercially available games such as Pictionary, Scrabble, Scattagories, Password or Outburst or access vocabulary games and activities on your computer at home.



SAFETY REMINDERS FROM THE NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE

When walking to school...

- ☞ choose the safest, most direct route with the fewest street crossings, - walk it with your child ahead of time.
- ☞ use intersections with crossing guards
 - ☞ children under 10 should walk with an adult or older child every day - use a buddy system
 - ☞ stay away from parks, vacant lots, fields and other isolated or unpopulated areas
 - ☞ be aware of your surroundings
 - ☞ go directly home after dismissal
 - ☞ do not talk to strangers
 - ☞ teach children to obey all traffic signals and markings
 - ☞ make sure children look to the left right and left again for moving vehicles before crossing the street - instill the STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN rule
- ☞ teach children not to enter the street from between parked cars or from behind bushes
- ☞ know the "stopping zones" - kids should stop at all driveways, alleys and area without curbs - NEVER run out onto the street.

Please detach and return to the office by: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19th.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER QUIZ

When is the first meeting of the School Council for the 2011-2012 school year ?

Why do students NOT go to school on October 10th ?

Name _____

Grade _____

Parent Signature _____