



Briardale Public School

September 2011

From The Principal's Desk . . .

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back for the 2011 – 2012 school year! As the new principal here at Briardale I am looking forward to meeting all the students and families that make up our school community. Many new students and staff have joined us this year and we are all looking forward to making new friendships. An especially warm welcome is extended to all of our “newbies”. A great deal of planning has been done by the staff for the upcoming year. We look forward to another great year during which we will achieve success together.

It has been a busy summer at Briardale School with a major renovation project having been completed. The open concept area of the school was renovated to create four new classrooms. Many thanks to all of the staff for their hard work in getting the school ready for the children.

Sincerely,
Mr. P. Schuyler
Principal

SCHOOL STAFF

I would like to take this chance to welcome our new staff members, Mrs. Hanna, our Learning Resource Teacher, and Mrs. MacDougall, one of our Educational Assistants, to Briardale.

Ayotte, Betti	Grade 2/3	Palmerino, Kim	Communication Class
Baldinelli, Anthony	Educational Assistant	Phillips, Louisa	Grade 3/4 a.m.
Beard, Lynda	JK/SK	Potts, Julie	Educational Assistant
Bobinski, Sandra	Educational Assistant	Rees, Liisa	Secretary
Duff, Sandy	Educational Assistant	TBA	Youth Counsellor
Elliott, Tiffany	Grade 5/6	Sutton, Kristine	Caretaker
Gammage, Susan	French, Arts	Schuyler, Phil	Principal
Hanna, Carole	LRT	Van Manen, Terra	Educational Assistant
Hebert, Pam	Grade 3/4 p.m.	Ward, Donna	Grade 2/3
McDougall, Christy	Educational Assistant		

VERY IMPORTANT!

Today your child will be bringing home his/her “**STUDENT VERIFICATION FORM**”. Please read over your child’s form and update/correct any areas that may have changed. This can be done in the spaces provided on the right hand side of the form. Please return this form, **EVEN IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES**, to the school tomorrow. Thanks!

SCHOOL HOURS

Kindergarten

A.M. 8:50 – 11:20

P.M. 12:50 – 3:20

Grades 1-6

Bell Times

Student Entry	8:50 a.m.
Instructional Block #1	8:55 a.m.
Fitness and Nutrition Break #1	10:35 a.m.
Instructional Block #2	11:15 a.m.
Fitness and Nutrition Break #2	12:55 p.m.
Instructional Block #3	1:45 p.m.
Dismissal	3:25 p.m.

For those students who go home for a mid-day meal, the lunch break will be during the second fitness and nutrition break.

BRIARDALE SPIRIT DAY

On Friday, September 9th, we are asking all staff and students to wear our school colours. Please dress in GREEN and WHITE to show your school pride and spirit on that day!

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Briardale School Council will meet on Tuesday, September 13th at 6:00 p.m. This group is a great support to our students. The council also provides an advisory voice to the Principal and school staff for the school community. All parents and community members are welcome to attend these council meetings.

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

The school crossing guards will be on duty as follows:

Glendale Ave at Caroline St. from:
8:20 a.m. to 8:50 a.m.,
12:55 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. and
3:25 p.m. to 3:55 p.m.

Glen Morris Dr. at Adelene Cres. from:
8:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.
12:55 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.
3:25 p.m. to 3:55 p.m.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Is your child insured for medical or dental costs in case of an accidental injury? The safety and well being of students is of utmost importance, therefore it is important to insure that funds are available for necessary treatment to students regardless of fault, and regardless of coverage through OHIP or through a parent's benefits plan.

OSBIE's liability policy does not provide Voluntary Medical Payments coverage. Medical coverage is readily available to students through a Student Accident Insurance Policy.

Students and parents of students will often look to the schools for payment of medical expenses if the student is injured on school property or at a school activity. A Student Accident Policy would look after most of or all of any medical or dental expenses and would probably eliminate many claims against the school board under the liability policy.

IMPORTANT REMINDER...

Yard supervision by teachers begins at 8:35 a.m. Students are not to be dropped off or arrive at school before 8:35 a.m.

PICTURE DAY

School photographs will be taken in the near future. Additional information will be sent home regarding this. Please try to avoid this date for appointments for your child, as we would like all students to be present for their class picture.

EARLY RELEASE DAY

Friday, September 23rd will be an Early Release Day for students. School staff will be involved in professional development activities. There will be **no classes for students in the afternoon**. Students will be dismissed 3 hours earlier than the regularly scheduled time (i.e. at 12:25 p.m.) and there will be no afternoon Kindergarten class that day. Morning Kindergarten students will go home at the regular time but there will be no busing provided for them. Parents should make appropriate arrangements for picking their Kindergarten child up. All other students that are regularly bused at the end of the day will have their bus pick up 3 hours earlier than usual.

BRIARDALE SPIRIT DAY

On Friday, September 9th we are asking all students to wear our school colours. Please dress in GREEN and WHITE to show your school pride and spirit on that day!

SEVERE ALLERGY ALERT

We have several children in our school who have severe allergies with sensitivities which may threaten their lives. This is referred to as anaphylaxis. It is a life-threatening allergic reaction that can be triggered by accidentally inhaling, injecting or absorbing an allergen. Some sources include: foods, insect stings, latex, and medications. To ensure that all of our children are offered a healthy, safe environment to learn in, we are requesting that you not send any nut products.



MEDICALLY AT-RISK STUDENTS

Please inform your child's teacher and Mr. Schuyler in writing if your child is at risk of anaphylaxis or has a serious medical condition. Forms for you to complete (available at the office) should outline the expected symptoms and your requested intervention from the school.

TOYS AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

We strongly discourage students from bringing these items to school. If they are lost, stolen or broken, we will not be held responsible for them. Please be sure to label coats, backpacks, etc. with your child's name so that we can return them if they go missing.

ORAL MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Staff members are not permitted to administer medication to students without a written request by parents and a physician's authorization indicating the name, dosage, frequency, time and method of administration of the drug. Forms are available from the school office. This practice follows District School Board of Niagara policy. For safety reasons, please to not send any medication to school in the hands of your child.



MAGAZINE FUND RAISING

We will be offering magazine subscriptions again this year to our school community. A reminder that renewals can also be purchased through this program regardless of when they come due for renewal. Mr. Craig Roberts from QSP will be at our school on Thursday, September 15th, at 12:30 p.m. to kick off our campaign. We will be running the event from September 15 – 26th. More information will follow. Thank you for your continued support of this venture.

VISITORS

All visitors are required to report to the office. Only the front doors will be open during class times. Parents volunteering in the school or picking up their child for an appointment are asked to enter the building using the front doors and present themselves to the office. We thank you for observing this practice in the interest of staff and student safety.

FORMS, FORMS, FORMS!

Today, your children will be bringing home a number of forms. These forms help us to have up-to-date information about medical, personal and other information for our records at school. It is critical that you let us know if this information changes over the course of the school year. Please complete and return these to the school as soon as possible. Thank you for your assistance!

All students should have brought home the following items the 1st week of school:

1. Student Data Verification Form – to be checked, corrected if necessary, signed by parent and returned by September 16th
2. Acceptable Use Agreement for Student Use of ICT – Agreement and Consent Form
3. Student Accident Insurance Information
4. DSBN School Year Calendar
5. Lunch Room Application
6. Voluntary, Confidential Aboriginal Student Self-Identification Form

STUDENT AGENDAS

Each student in Grades 1-6 will be provided with an organizer. Being organized and completing assignments on time are positive life long habits. Let's start now. Also, this planner will be an extremely useful tool in helping to facilitate good communication between home and school. Please take time to read over the Briardale Code of Conduct with your child. It is located in the front of the organizer.



LUNCH

Lunch supervision is provided for students who live a far distance from the school or for those parents who are at work. All parents are asked to please complete the lunch permission form for each child and return it to the school by Monday, September 12th, 2011. This way we have a record of procedures for each student.

LOST AND FOUND

Please identify your child's clothing, outerwear, lunch bag and backpacks. It only takes a moment to write the name or initials (with permanent marker) on all items. All items that are identified are returned on a regular basis. Please encourage your children to be responsible and assist them with the identification of their belongings.

MILK PROGRAM

We will begin selling both white and chocolate milk for 75¢ starting in October. All milk sales will be done on a pre-ordered basis only. A pre-ordered milk form will be sent home with each child before the end of September. On World Milk Day, every student will receive a complimentary carton of milk that day. Please note that any student with allergies to milk products will receive a juice box.



PARKING



Please be aware that parking is controlled by the City of St. Catharines. The Parking Enforcement Officer has and will ticket cars in NO PARKING ZONES. The front of the school is a pick-up and drop-off zone for school buses as well as a fire entry route. Safety is our greatest concern. Please do not block this area!

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Punctuality and consistent attendance are important and expected. Our Board of Education has a call-back policy for absent students. Therefore, it is very important that you contact us if your child will be either absent or late. Otherwise, we must attempt to reach you to verify the child's whereabouts by calling all numbers available to us, including your work and emergency contact numbers. The school answering machine is available 24 hours per day for your convenience. Please call **905-684-9259**.

IS YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION UP TO DATE?

Every September our thoughts are turned towards preparing our children for return to school. Have you thought about checking your child's immunization to make sure it's up to date for his or her age? Immunization is often neglected and that's why we remind you to check your child's yellow immunization card to make sure it is up to date. **If you're unsure if your child requires any needles, you can call the Regional Niagara Public Health Department at 905-688-3762, ext. 7396 and speak to a public health nurse.** In addition, you are required to report your child's immunizations to the Public Health Department. So each time your child gets a needle you need to let us know about it. Call our *Immunization Report Line* at 905-688-8248, ext. 7459. The line operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and it's confidential.

Six Simple Steps to Help Stay Healthy

1. Wash your hands often using soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
Ensure hands are washed:
 - After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose
 - After shaking hands
 - Before eating
 - Before putting in contact lenses
 - Before touching your face
2. Avoid touching your face as much as possible.
3. Cough and sneeze into a tissue or your elbow. Throw out used tissues right away.
4. Do not share objects that have been in other people's mouths, eg. toothbrushes, drinks and water bottles, unwashed utensils, lip products, and mouthpieces of musical instruments.
5. Stay home if you feel sick and talk to your doctor. Staying home will help prevent the spread of infections.
6. Frequently clean common surfaces such as keyboards, doorknobs, countertops, etc.





DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
Achieving Success Together

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR - ELEMENTARY
2011 - 2012

SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER					NOVEMBER					DECEMBER					JANUARY								
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F				
			1	2	2-10	3-1	3-2	3-3	3-4		4-3	4-0	3-1	3-2					7-1	7-2				2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	8-8	8-9	8-10	8-11	8-12	8-13	8-14	8-15	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
26	27	28	29	30	31					28	29	30			26	27	28	29	30	30	31							

FEBRUARY					MARCH					APRIL					MAY					JUNE				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
		10-4	10-5	10-6				12-4	12-5	15-08	14-1	14-2	14-3	14-4		15-3	15-10	15-1	15-2					17-18
		1	2	3				1	2	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5					1
6	7	8	9	10	5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8
13	14	15	16	17	12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15
20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22
27	28	29			26	27	28	29	30	30					28	29	30	31		25	26	27	28	29

Holiday Early Release Day P. A. Day

IMPORTANT DATES

- September 5, 2011 Labour Day
- September 6, 2011 First Day of School
- September 23, 2011 Early Release Day
- October 7, 2011 Professional Activity Day
- October 10, 2011 Thanksgiving Day
- December 26, 2011 to January 6, 2012 (Inclusive) Winter Break
- January 9, 2012 First Day of Class After Holiday
- January 20, 2012 Professional Activity Day
- February 17, 2012 Early Release Day
- February 20, 2012 Family Day
- March 9 to March 16, 2012 March Break
- April 6, 2012 Good Friday
- April 9, 2012 Easter Monday
- May 18, 2012 Professional Activity Day
- May 21, 2012 Victoria Day
- June 8, 2012 Professional Activity Day
- June 28, 2012 Last Day of School