



Briarcrest Banner

Volume 4, Issue 5

January, 2011

Welcome back and Happy New Year to our Briarcrest community. May 2011 let peace and knowledge shine into each and every corner of your life.

Holiday Spirit

Thank you to all families who were able to join us at our December 9th Holiday Concert. The primary students and staff did a wonderful job of providing a lively and entertaining evening.

Our Holiday Food Drive collected over 600 food items and toys for distribution to families throughout Toronto. Thank you for your generous contributions.

Bus & School Cancellations

Severe weather conditions may require the TDSB to cancel transportation or, in extreme conditions, close schools. In the event transportation is cancelled or schools are closed, the local media will be informed by 6:00 a.m. Tune into your local radio and television stations for the latest information. If weather conditions

become extreme after students are in school, a decision to close schools will be made by 11:00 a.m. and broadcast by noon. In this case, elementary students will remain in the school until they are picked up by a parent or parent designate.

It is recommended that parents/guardians:

1. Keep children at home if weather conditions appear to be extreme;
2. Become familiar with the Severe Weather procedures on the Board web site at www.tdsb.on.ca;
3. Listen to designated radio stations for school closures beginning at 6:30 a.m. or for possible early closing at noon;
4. Provide the school with emergency telephone numbers;
5. Be prepared to pick your child up or make arrangements for the welfare and safety of your child if required.

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Superintendent:
Susan Winter

Cold Weather Warnings

As the cold weather encroaches upon us, we are constantly monitoring the weather conditions as reported on local news stations. Students are kept indoors when the temperature is extremely low and it becomes unsafe to spend an extended period of time outside. However, most days are tolerable and students are expected to go out at recess.

Parents are asked to please keep ill children at home in order to prevent germs and viruses from spreading. Requests that your child remain in school during recess breaks due to illness, often means your child should be at home getting better.

For detailed information visit the Board web site at www.tdsb.on.ca

Safety Matters

During the winter months, the small hill behind the bike rack becomes very icy and dangerous. Students are not permitted to slide down this hill during the school day as they can get caught in the fence. Parents are advised not to use this hill after school as there have been various accidents in the past.

The adventure playground is closed during the winter months due to ice accumulation. Please do not use the apparatus during this time.

Each morning and at home time, the hallways are extremely congested with children taking off or putting on their winter clothes. Adding parents to this mix creates havoc in the hallways. Although we understand your desire to help your child with his/her winter clothing, this support interferes with teachers' classroom routines and school safety procedures. Preparing for transitions is a key learning opportunity in your child's day. Developing independence and life



skills are essential components to your child's future success. Your child independently dresses before each recess break. Allow your child to develop these skills before and after school as well. Parents are more than welcome to wait between the exit doors in order to stay warm, but please do not interfere with teachers' entry and exit routines by filing into the hallways.

Kindergarten Registration

Children are eligible for junior or senior kindergarten in September of the same calendar year they turn four (JK) or five (SK). We are registering children born in 2007. Registration is being held at Briarcrest on Friday, February 25th between 8 & 11:00 a.m. and Monday, February 28th between 12:30 & 6:00 p.m. Call Briarcrest

Junior School at 416-394-6180 to schedule your registration time. Please bring proof of address, proof of birth date, landed immigrant papers, health card, and proof of immunization with you when registering. If you are not able to attend one of these dates, you may register your child at any time during the school year.

We would appreciate your informing interested neighbors of our kindergarten registration. We look forward to welcoming new families to our Briarcrest community.

**"Our children must never lose their zeal for building a better world."
Mary McLeod Bethune**

Special Events Photo Album

