

# Briarcrest Banner

## E a r t h H o u r P a r t i c i p a t i o n

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Congratulations  
Boy's Basketball  
Team

West Division  
Champions

Good Luck  
at the  
City Finals on  
March 9th at  
Hoop Dome.

Earth Hour is a global event to build awareness of the connection between energy use and climate change. When we practice using less electricity (and other sources of energy such as oil and gas), we do our small part to slow climate change.

In response to significant interest from elementary and secondary students and staff, the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) will once again be supporting the global Earth Hour campaign to raise awareness about climate change. Earth Hour uses the simple action of turning off the lights for one hour to deliver a powerful message about the need for action on climate change.

Last year, 1.3 billion people

in 128 countries in 4616 cities and towns participated in Earth Hour. In the TDSB schools and offices reduced their electricity use by 23.9%.

Since the official Earth Hour occurs on Saturday, March 26, 2011, between 8:30 -



9:30 p.m., TDSB will take part in a “warm up” or (“cool down!”) in preparation for Earth Hour. Every school or office will be

challenged to develop its own plan to be as electricity-free as possible for one hour, from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2011. Then on Friday night of Earth Hour weekend, care-takers will be asked to shut off all interior lights except

for emergency lighting, and turn off exterior lighting starting at 8:00 p.m. In addition, computer monitors will automatically be put to sleep and fan use will be minimized.

The TDSB Schools’ Earth Hour awareness campaign is a simple and powerful way for staff and students to become active environmental ambassadors, as well as, creating hope by giving everyone a glimpse of what can be accomplished if we work together.

**Go beyond the hour! Be part of the global campaign to slow climate change. Visit <http://wwf.ca/earthhour/> or <http://www.earthhour.org/> for more information regarding Earth Hour.**

## B e e a r t h - F r i e n d l y

In an attempt to continue reducing our carbon footprint here at Briarcrest, we are offering families the opportunity to receive future Briarcrest Banner Newsletters via email. Forward your email address to

our school address <http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/briarcrest> to be placed on our distribution list.

Also, in order to reduce the number of duplicate notices being sent home

during the month, each family will now receive only one notice. This will be sent home with the youngest school-aged child of the family unless you indicate otherwise.

## Congratulations February future aces

All JK and SK children in Rooms 1 and 4

Room 2—Lana O. and Akash K.

Room 3—Mahala Z.

Room 5—Nolan M.

Room 7—Matthew L.

Room 8—Michael S.

Room 9—Theertana S.

Room 11—Anna K.

Room 14—Anthony B.

Our February Character Education theme was Fairness.

Our March theme will be Honesty



## Ghanaian drums arrive



On February 23rd, the junior classes participated in their first drumming session with master African drummer Kwasi Dunyo. Kwasi has been working within TDSB schools bringing the love of music to students since 2000.

For the next three months, students will be engaged in learning to play hand-carved kpanlogo drums and many traditional rhythm instruments. Each junior class will receive four lessons with Kwasi. Following each lesson,

classes will practice their new learning with their teacher. In early April, each of the junior classes will perform their new skills at our Spring Concert.

More information will follow.

## Eco schools update

### Thank You

The Briarcrest Eco Team would like to thank Mrs. Goncalves. Not only does Mrs. Gonclaves maintain our kindergarten gardens in the warmer weather, but she now assists us each week with our green bin program.

A "Thank you" also goes out to our School Council Pizza Committee for helping us reduce waste during pizza lunches. Almost all waste is being recycled or composted and very little is left for the garbage.

### National Sweater Day

Thank you Briarcrest community for helping us collect seven boxes of sweaters during National Sweater Day on February 17th. All are being donated to Canadian Food for Children for needy children in developing countries.

# Briarcrest's Eco Team is Planning a Used Book & Board Game Sale



Date: Tuesday, April 19, 2011

- \* Used books & board game donations will be accepted until Friday, April 15th.
- \* Please ensure that board games contain all required parts.
- \* Books & board games can be dropped off in Room 3 or Room 6.
- \* Eco friendly items will also be on sale (tetra bags, wrap mates, pop tab belts).

Proceeds will go towards adopting endangered animals through World Wildlife Fund.

