



Briarcrest Banner

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Trustee:

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The first Elementary Provincial Report Card will be coming home to parents on Monday, February 13th. This report has been is part of the Ministry of Education's new policy *Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting in Ontario Schools, Grades 1—12*.

This document reports on your child's achievement of curriculum expectations and development of the learning skills and work from September 2011 to January 2012.

Superintendent:

Susan Winter

The achievement of curriculum expectations for your child is reported on using letter grades. Comments that highlight your child's strengths and next steps for improvement are also included in the report card from your child's teacher.

Principal:

Jackie Stafford

Learning skills and work habits are determined based on a scale of excellent, good, satisfactory and needs improvement.

The night of Thursday, February 16th and morning of Friday, February 17th have been set aside for parent/teacher conferences. Although an interview will not be necessary for all children, parents can request an interview in order to discuss their child's strengths and growth. This is an opportune time to support and build upon the home and school connections.

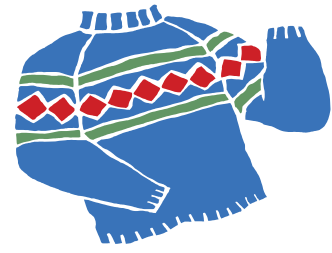
CENSUS INFORMATION

The TDSB collects data on their student population through a census every five years. This information is used for research and the individual data is completely confidential. The census asks demographic information as well as attitudes about the school. The results are sent directly to our research department in the sealed envelopes you will receive. The results are then collated and the school receives a report. This provides the school with parent perspective and allows us to set goals for improvement with this data in mind. Please make every effort to return your completed census.

FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN

We have begun planning our transition to full day kindergarten. During our next school council meeting on February 27th, Ms. Stafford, together with the daycare, will present an overview of the program.

Please ensure that you set an appointment for kindergarten registration on either the morning of February 24th or the afternoon of February 27th. Call Mrs. Durbano in the office at 416 394 6180.



ECO SCHOOL NEWS

National Sweater Day

On February 9, join Briarcrest in celebrating National Sweater Day. Turn down your thermostat by 3 degrees and put on a sweater to show your commitment to the planet. Lowering your heat lowers your ecological footprint, so wear a sweater and help spread the word about energy conservation.

If every Canadian turned down his or her thermostat by even just 2 degrees in the winter, we would save the equivalent of taking 350,000 cars off the road for a year in greenhouse gas emissions. Get involved by hosting a sweater party at home and sharing this news with friends and work colleagues. Plan a hockey game or a skating party.

Students are invited to bring in a mug between Monday February 6 and Wednesday February 8. If they bring in a mug, it will be filled with hot chocolate during Sweater Day, courtesy of the Eco-team!!!

Visit wwf.ca/sweaterday for more information, to find out how you can get involved and to enter your name into a Sweater Day contest.

FOREST OF READING

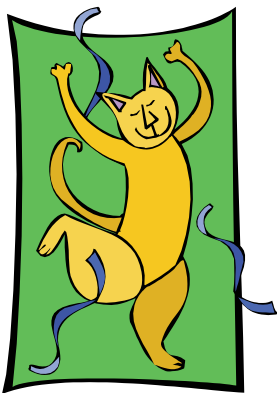
The Ontario Library Association's Forest of Reading program has once again arrived at Briarcrest. Our students will be participating in the Blue Spruce and Silver Birch Reading Programs.

Blue Spruce features 10 recently published Canadian picture books. The children from kindergarten to grade two will hear each of the selections as a read-aloud.

For students in grades three and four, the Silver Birch Express program offers a selection of both fiction and non-fiction books to choose from and read independently. For grades four and five students, the Silver Birch Fiction and Non-fiction programs offer a challenging selection of great literature to read. Students discuss the books they read with the 'Teacher Expert', a teacher who has read the selection. Come and see our Forest of Reading Tree on display in the hall blossoming with leaves as more and more books are read!

In April, all Blue Spruce and Silver Birch participants will have an opportunity to vote for their favourite book ...then wait to see which book titles win from the voting taking place across the entire province.

A very special "Thank You" to our School Council for purchasing the books for our Forest of Reading programs!



BRIARCREST DANCE-A-THON 2012

Once again, Briarcrest School Council is organizing a dance-a-thon fundraiser. The event is planned for the afternoon of Friday, February 10th. A \$5 pledge is your child's entrance into the dance.

Each \$5 pledge enters your child's name into a draw for a chance to win family movie passes and other prizes. The more pledges a child receives the more times their name is entered into the draw. Students not

participating will remain in a supervised classroom until the dance-a-thon is over. Monies collected from this fundraiser will be used toward purchasing technology for the school.

GRADUATION TRIP



We know it's a long way off, but the grade five teachers have been busy planning graduation celebrations. This year's graduation trip will take place on June 25 and June 26. We will be going to the day camp programme at **Robin Hood Camp**, in Markham. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of traditional camp activities including ropes, archery, basketball, field sports, and cooperative games. Water activities will NOT be included.

Students will be bussed each day from Briarcrest. Details of the timing for each day will follow closer to the trip day.

The cost will be approximately \$80, and will include a cookout lunch and snack each day.



SPORTS REPORT



The athletic spirit is alive and healthy at Briarcrest even through the winter months.

Ms. Smart has had the hockey team practicing at the Master Card Centre in preparation for their tournament in February.

"She shoots! She scores!"



Mr. Phillips and the Boy's Basketball team have a tournament on February 3rd at Daystrom Public School.

Ms. Grace has been practicing with the girls volleyball team throughout January in prepara-

tion for their tournament on January 31st.

Again this February, Mrs. Reilly, and Madame Goldberg will be starting folkdancing in preparation for Folkdance Jamboree—this coming May at Centennial Park. Practices will be Mondays and Wednesdays.

Ms. Smart is anxiously awaiting the spring thaw so that students may begin training for Track and Field. Practices will be on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays as soon as conditions allow.

Primary Yoga—Erin Jeroc, a student-teacher who volunteers here at Briarcrest, will be forming a Yoga club for primary students on Fridays at lunch. Ms. Smart will supervise as well.



