



# Brisbane Public School

## April 2019 Newsletter

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Principal: Reena Anand Vice Principal: Shan Robertson

Office Coordinator: Dawn Dolson

[www.ugdsb.on.ca/brisbane](http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/brisbane) @Brisbane\_PS

### Principal's Message

We hope you had a fantastic March Break with your children! We survived the long, cold winter this year and have had some interesting spring weather. Our Gr 3 and 6 students are preparing for EQAO testing that they will write in May by having a mock test opportunity in April. Staff will prepare the environment and practice test to reflect what it will be like during the testing period. This will give students an early opportunity to experience sample questions and allow them to prepare the best they can.



If you are able to help with EQAO scribing (recording students' ideas) please contact our Vice Principal, Shan Robertson. Training for this will be provided Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-10:00 a.m in the library.

R. Anand & S. Robertson

### Upcoming Dates - April

April	Online Auction is open	April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Yearbook Sponsors Due
April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Wear Blue for Autism	April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 6 Grad Photos
April 4 <sup>th</sup>	Jump Rope for Heart Assembly	April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Jr. Basketball Tournament (18th alt.)
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	PD Day - no school for students	April 19-22 <sup>nd</sup>	Easter Weekend
April 8 <sup>th</sup>	Green Legacy Trip - Gr. 4	April 22-26 <sup>th</sup>	Plastic Bag Grab Challenge
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	School Council Meeting @ 7pm	April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	River Run Trip - Gr. 5&6
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Green Legacy Trip - Gr. 6	April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Yearbook Orders Due
April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Green Legacy Trip - Gr. 5	April 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>PIC Event @ Brisbane - Self Regulation</b>
April 10-12 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 6 Camp Trip		<b>**all community members are welcome</b>
April 11 <sup>th</sup>	Chess Tournament - Aberfoyle		

#### Other Important Dates ...

May 8 EQAO Scribe Training (9:00 - 10:00 am)

May 22 - 24 EQAO - Grade 3 (9:00 am - 10:30 am)

May 28 - 30 EQAO - Grade 6 (9:00 am - 1:00 pm) and Grade 3 (9:00 am - 10:30 am)

# Welcome Spring ...

With the spring weather and muddy conditions, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for outdoor recess. This may include spare mittens, splash pants and rubber boots. It may also be helpful to provide a spare set of clothes to keep in backpacks for students who particularly like playing in the mud. Also, any sports equipment brought to school should be clearly labelled with a name so that it can be returned if lost or misplaced.



## EQAO Scribes Needed

Grade 3 and 6 students will be writing the EQAO test this year in May. The testing window for Grade 3 is from May 22 - 24<sup>th</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup> - May 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 10:30 am. The Grade 6 students will write on May 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. We are in need of **EQAO scribes** to assist with recording students' ideas for Reading, Writing and Math. If you are able to assist, we will be providing **training on May 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 10:00 am**. Please **contact Ms. Robertson** if you are able to assist.

## Kindergarten Registration

We are still accepting registration for new Junior Kindergarten and Senior Kindergarten students for September 2019 in both French and English.



### Moving?

If you are moving this year or know of a new family coming to Brisbane, please let the office know as we need to submit student numbers for next year.

## School Council Updates

### Spring online auction Fundraiser

Good morning!! We're so excited to say our Online Auction to raise money for our School is starting again!! As of **Saturday March 23, at 9am** the auction will be open to post items you wish to sell! Some suggestions may be, sports gear kids have grown out of, gently used household items, a gift certificate or service from your business and the list goes on!

- Bidding closes on May 1<sup>st</sup> @ 9 pm
- Drop off items at the school on May 7<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm
- Pick up your items at the school on May 8<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm (money is collected at time of pick-up)

You can be added to the Online Auction and check things out by searching **Brisbane Public School Online Auction on Facebook**. (<https://m.facebook.com/groups/927081907498535>). We have found this platform was the simplest

to run by reaching the most people! If you have any issues finding the group page please email Dayna Haw at [daynahaw@gmail.com](mailto:daynahaw@gmail.com).

Last year we had so many incredible things up to bid on and the school benefits so much from this!! So if you're doing some Spring Cleaning think of adding some articles to the auction. Funds raised go to support our students at Brisbane through School Council. ♡ Dayna Haw-Fundraising Chair

### **Playground Committee & Gardening Club Updates**

We continue to be the grateful recipients of grant funds to improve our school playgrounds and gardens! In addition to the \$15,000 TD Friends of the Environment grant awarded last fall, we have just learned that we have been awarded a \$1,400 grant from the Ministry of Education for outdoor learning! As such, \$11,000 went towards the cost of the "Natural Playground" elements in the Primary yard, \$3000 added 4 big new trees, and the remaining \$2,400 will purchase plants, shrubs and other gardening supplies. The School Board will be providing a large load of mulch.



If anyone in the school community is able to **donate compost or top soil**, that would be very appreciated! We will also be looking for **volunteers** to help with **preparing the soil, weeding, planting, and spreading mulch**.

Please send a message to [BrisbanePlayground@gmail.com](mailto:BrisbanePlayground@gmail.com) if you can help.

Thank you to Mme Dyer and Mme Gagnon for contributing their knowledge and passion to designing the new learning gardens that are an important part of the entire playground project.

Any questions or connections to possible donors are welcomed at [BrisbanePlayground@gmail.com](mailto:BrisbanePlayground@gmail.com)

**Donations for the playground can be made to the Upper Grand Learning Foundation:**

[https://www.uppergrandlearningfoundation.com/uploads/userfiles/files/uglf%20donation%20form-dec%202-16%20fillable\(1\).docx](https://www.uppergrandlearningfoundation.com/uploads/userfiles/files/uglf%20donation%20form-dec%202-16%20fillable(1).docx)

### **Yearbooks**

The yearbook will have 80 full colour pages. Highlights include: grad photos, school trips, spirit days, team competitions, class candids, and more. The yearbook will be a wonderful keepsake of all of the school events. Yearbooks can be ordered through School Cashonline. Each yearbook is \$20. Orders must be placed no later than April 26<sup>th</sup> by using School Cashonline. No late orders will be accepted.



### **Yearbook Sponsorship**

We would like to give you the opportunity to sponsor the Yearbook. A **business card size full-colour ad** costs \$60, the same price as the last several years.

If you are interested, please email Norma at [n.macdonald@bell.net](mailto:n.macdonald@bell.net)

**by Friday April 12<sup>th</sup>.**

All ad images must be submitted using a .jpeg, .tif, .png, or .eps format.

Money from sponsorship will be used for the production of the yearbook and maintaining equipment. Any profits will go towards Brisbane school council.

Thank you for your support.

## School Council presents - How to Break the Stress Cycle with Self Regulation & Mindfulness - April 30<sup>th</sup>

**SAVE THE DATE \*\*\*\*FREE Parent Night Out\*\*\*\***

This event will take place at Brisbane Public School on April 30<sup>th</sup> from 6 pm - 8:30 pm. There will be three amazing presenters. Ann Douglas's newest parenting book will be available for sale with free book signing from the author. This event is brought to you by the Erin Parent Connection (Erin P.S., Erin District High School and Brisbane P.S.) and the Ministry of Education PRO Grant.

## Thank You to our Food & Friends Volunteers

Thank you to all of the volunteers who have helped to make our Food & Friends Student Nutrition program such a success this school year. The donation of time that you have given and your ongoing support says so much about your capacity for compassion and generosity.



## School Parking Lot



A reminder that students are strongly encouraged to be on the bus to come to school and to go home, as there is **very** limited parking at the school. The school is designated as a Bus Community. We recognize this may not always be possible, so **if you must pick up your child(ren), please do so quickly to make space for other parents**. Kindergarten students can be picked up at 3:15 pm to help with staggering pick up. Also, a few other reminders:

- Please watch car doors when opening and closing the doors, as we have had some door dings.
- Please do not park in, or block, accessible parking spots, even if it's just a quick drop off. We have families and students that need to use these spots.
- If you park in the accessible parking spots, please make sure that your permit is visible.
- Please only park in designated parking spots to help keep our parking lot safe for our families and to keep the traffic moving.

## Door Side Pick-Up for the Bus

If you feel that your child spends **too much time on the bus** in the morning or afternoon, you can **request non-door side pick up or drop off**. This can potentially reduce the amount of time your child spends on the bus. The default bus procedure is that the child only gets on/off the bus when the bus is on the same side as the child's bus stop/home. When doing a non-door side pick up or drop off, the child will have to cross the road. The buses' flashing stop sign will pop out when the child is getting on/off the bus. The stop sign remains out until the child has fully crossed the road. If

you are interested in this, you can contact Wellington Dufferin Student Transportation Services at 519- 824-4119. This may not be possible in certain situations. Requests will be looked into on a case by case basis.



# Programs at Brisbane

We continue to have lots of amazing clubs and sports at Brisbane including our French Club, Chess Club for Juniors, Skills Club, Choir, reading programs, Gardening Club, basketball and more! We are so fortunate to have such dedicated and caring staff who enjoy providing wonderful opportunities for our students to be engaged both inside and outside of the classroom.

## Junior Basketball



For the past few weeks, co-ed intramural teams have been busy practising their basketball skills during recess! In addition to our intramural basketball teams, our team tryouts will begin soon as the competitive tournament is scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup> at Erin P.S. Over 50 Junior students have actively participated in intramural basketball! Way to go Bears! A big thank you to our coaches: Mr. Carter, Mlle Vosper, and Ms. Geddes.

## Chess Club

Our school will have a team competing at the annual UGDSB chess tournament taking place on April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Puslinch Community Center in Aberfoyle. More than 160 students from 14 schools play 5 matches each in an exciting head-to-head tournament. Brisbane will send a team of 12 Junior players and two substitutes from grades 4-6. Thank you to M. Siegel for organizing this!



## Choir

The choir worked very hard in the new year to prepare for the Upper Grand Music Festival, where the adjudicators noted that The Singing Bears' enthusiasm for the songs and performing "shows with lots of smiles!" The Bears are excited to take the feedback that they received and continue to sing and grow as a group for the rest of the school year. Well done, choir!

## Mission Possible Math

Again this year the students will be participating in Mission Possible Math organized by M Siegel, M Henke and Mme Gagnon. Each Monday we play the Mission Impossible music on the announcements and students from K-6 work on a problem solving problem in math. The problem is the same school wide and adapted by the Mission Possible team for each division. Student work is displayed in the front foyer and the Kindie work is displayed outside room 3. Next time you are in the school please check it out!

## Mindfulness Moment

In April, the students will participate in a mindfulness activity each day after 2nd recess to support student mental health. Research has shown that mindfulness changes the structure of the brain, increases the parts of the brain responsible for learning and memory, and reduces the part of the brain that is connected to anxiety and stress. Mindfulness can also improve attention and focus, mental health and well-being, and social skills. Teaching the students mindfulness connects to our school's goal of creating mentally healthy classrooms. It also connects to the Zones of Regulation that we have been using throughout the school (mindfulness is a strategy to self-regulate and get back to the optimal "Green Zone"). Our hope is that this mindfulness moment will provide a positive transition, help dissipate any social issues after recess, and get students ready to learn. Thank you to Mme Schefter and Mlle Johnson for helping to support the mental health of our students.



## **Jr. Comic Club**

Junior Comic Club sign-up will be happening on April 10<sup>th</sup>, and our first session will be taking place on April 16<sup>th</sup>, with Jennifer Haines from 'The Dragon' in Guelph as a special guest! The club will meet on Tuesdays following the first session. Thank you to Mlle Vosper for organizing this experience for our students.

## **Plastic Bag Challenge**

The **Brisbane Grade 5 Earthkeepers** are thrilled to announce that the "Plastic Bag Grab Challenge" is back for 2019!



"Since 2016, more than 502,000 students across Canada have taken action to reduce plastic waste in their school communities while collecting more than 52 metric tonnes of single use plastic bags for recycling.

Now in its fourth year, the program will continue to focus on reduce and reuse – the most important step in the 3Rs hierarchy. As such, the challenge will reward schools that encourage and promote ideas and solutions that result in reducing how many bags are used and wasted in their communities" (<https://plasticbaggrab.com/en/about-the-challenge>).

**Brisbane will be collecting plastic bags after the Easter break from Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019.** Students and families can drop off their plastic bags in their classrooms or in the front lobby.

Thank you in advance for helping us with this environmental initiative and to Ms. O'Shea and M. Siegel for organizing the Plastic Bag Challenge with the help of our budding Earthkeepers.

## **Jump Rope for Heart**

On April 4th we will be having our Kick off Assembly for Jump Rope for Heart and students will bring home their pledge forms. The Jump Rope for Heart event date is May 10th. Our fundraising goal is \$6000. Thank you to Mr. Henke for organizing this event for our students. Stay tuned for more information....

# **Help for parents with children in French Immersion**

"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader" - Margaret Fuller.

In education, we strive to teach our students how to be critical readers so that they can flourish in their future endeavours whether in English or in French. Reading skills in French are not unlike reading skills in your first language, however, reading in French does require attention to a different sound system, different vocabulary and at times an understanding of contexts or cultures that may be different than those in another language.

### **How can parents support student reading at home when they don't speak French?**

One way to do this is to read with your child in their first language. Research shows that reading behaviours and skills are transferable across languages. For example, understanding how to retell a story in English using the beginning, middle, and end structure is a skill that is transferable to French.

Opportunities for shared reading will support motivation and skills in reading no matter the language. Asking your child to predict what the text will be about or what will happen next, to visualise what is happening as you read, and to use picture clues to better understand the text are all activities that will positively impact reading.

Another way to support and motivate your child is to encourage them to read to you in French and then ask them to summarize or retell what they have read. This shows them that you are interested in, and value, their reading experience in French and may even teach you some new French vocabulary along the way. Simply having a conversation with your child about what they are reading in French and asking questions is an additional way to show your interest and support.



**What happens when students are not moving forward in their reading or parents have concerns about student progress?**

Research shows that interventions can be effectively delivered in the student's first language, as well as in French, at a time when the gap between strong and weak readers is still relatively small. Early intervention is key. Discussing your concerns as soon as they arise by speaking with your child's teacher and then examining appropriate courses of action and supports as a team are important first steps.

It is important to remember that a student struggling in reading does not mean that the student is not a good fit for learning French. French as a second language programs are for all students. Promoting this belief helps to create a supportive environment where students feel more confident and can be successful.

**Further Reading**

1. What Works? Research into Practice. "Supporting Early Language and Literacy. Dr. Janette Pelletier OISE, University of Toronto. The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat.

2. What Works? Research into Practice. " Early Identification and Intervention for At-Risk Readers in French Immersion. Nancy Wise and Dr. Xi Chen. OISE, University of Toronto. The Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat.

## **Data Diversity Survey**

The UGDSB is conducting a system-wide survey, to help the board understand the demographic makeup, diversity and ongoing needs of our student population. The sole purpose of this survey is to gain a better understanding of the students and families in our communities, so that the board can program effectively and provide the right support for every student to achieve their full potential.

General info:

- The online survey is voluntary and anonymous
- The survey is open to all UGDSB staff, parents/guardians of students under Grade 4, and students in Grades 4-12+
- A webpage has been set up with additional information and a Q&A at [www.ugdsb.ca/diversity-data](http://www.ugdsb.ca/diversity-data)

Complete the parent survey:

Please complete the parent survey at [www.ugdsb.ca/diversity-data](http://www.ugdsb.ca/diversity-data) between March 22 and April 18, 2019.



# 2018-2019 YEARBOOK

**Buy your Brisbane Public School Yearbook for \$20**

**It's easy to place your order using our SchoolCashOnline**

**website:** (starting April 1st)

**SchoolCashOnline.com**

**Order By Friday April 26th**

The yearbook will have 80 full colour pages and will include grad photos, school trips, spirit days, team competitions, class candid and more. The yearbook will be a wonderful keepsake of all the school events.

The yearbooks will be distributed in June.



## Would your business like to sponsor the 2018-2019 Yearbook?

Hello Brisbane Families,

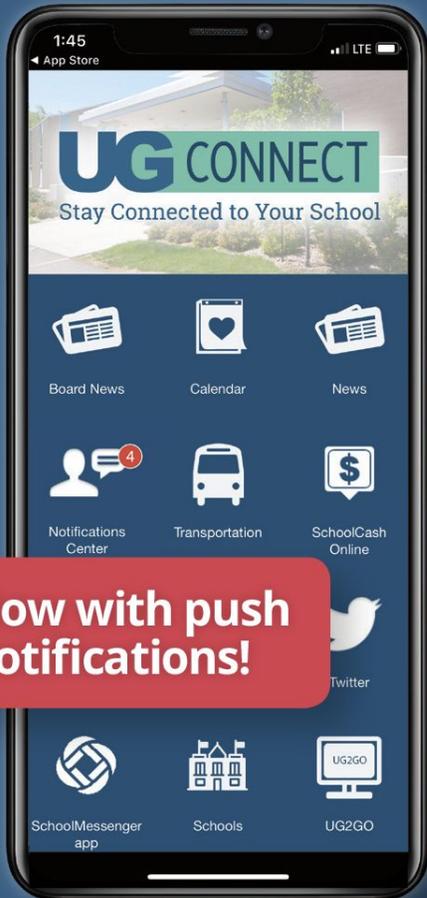
A business card size full-colour ad costs \$60, the same price as the last several years. If you are interested, please email Norma at [n.macdonald@bell.net](mailto:n.macdonald@bell.net) by Friday April 12th. We have 7 spots available.

All ad images must be submitted using a .jpeg, .tif, .png, or .eps format.

Money from sponsorship will be used for the production of the yearbook and maintaining equipment. Any profits will go towards Brisbane school council.

Thank you for your support.

# Stay in the Know... On the Go!



Now with push notifications!

## UG CONNECT

Stay Connected to Your School

Newly updated, this handy app is the one-stop resource for parents and guardians.

Download for free at



School Newsletter Insert from Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health  
April 2019 – Elementary & Secondary Schools

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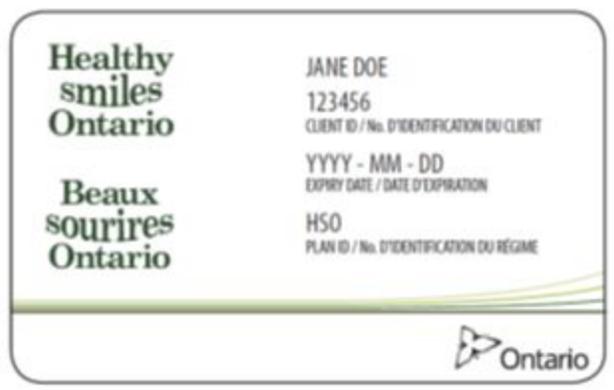
**Information from Public Health:**

**Free dental care for children and youth (17 and younger)**

If you can't afford dental care, we have FREE services for your children at Public Health. We provide free basic dental care, including cleanings, x-rays, check-ups and treatment to children and youth.

Our dental hygienists provide preventive services (e.g. cleanings) out of all Public Health locations. Our dentist also provides dental care to children and youth enrolled in the Healthy Smiles Ontario program, and is located in Guelph at our 160 Chancellors Way office.

Have this card? Call Public Health to book an appointment.



For more information about our dental services or to book an appointment, call our Dental Line at 1-800-265-7293 ext. 2661. Visit our website for more information:

<https://www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca/your-kids/dental-oral-health>



# UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Jennifer Passy BES, MCIP, RPP

Manager of Planning

Board Office: 500 Victoria Road N. Guelph, ON N1E 6K2

Email: [jennifer.passy@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:jennifer.passy@ugdsb.on.ca)

Tel: 519-822-4420 ext. 820 or Toll Free: 1-800-321-4025

27 March 2019

PLN: 19-027

File Code: B01

Sent out by: schools

Dear Parents/Guardians;

In 2016, the Upper Grand District School Board directed staff to investigate establishing an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) in Dufferin County and/or the County of Wellington.

In 2018, the Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP) included a French Immersion/International Baccalaureate (FI/IB) Impact Assessment for Orangeville/Dufferin and Erin secondary schools.

As a first step, the Board needs to confirm interest in and the feasibility of establishing an IB Programme in Orangeville/Dufferin or Erin. A survey is available online from March 28 - April 12, 2019 at [www.ugdsb.ca/IBsurvey](http://www.ugdsb.ca/IBsurvey). Survey results will be included in a report to Trustees in June 2019 and will be one of several factors considered in determining the potential for offering IB.

***Important note: Subsequent review processes are necessary to implement changes. At this time, the earliest a Grade 9 IB preparatory programme could start is the 2022/23 school year. Therefore, the survey is primarily applicable to students in Grade 4 or lower.***

#### Description of the International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme (DP):

The IBDP is respected by leading universities across the globe. IB offers an education focused on teaching students to think critically and independently, and how to inquire with care and logic ([www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)). The Diploma Programme is two years and covers Grade 11 and 12. In preparation, IB students enrol in Grade 9 and complete a Grade 9 and 10 preparatory programme. Students who successfully complete the DP will also attain their Ontario Secondary School Graduation Diploma (OSSD).

There is an application process to be accepted into the IB Programme and students must be academically capable and must have or must be working toward the following characteristics:

- Self-motivated, self-disciplined and demonstrate intellectual curiosity and a strong desire for learning
- Organized and have strong time management skills
- Demonstrate strong academic potential with high academic standing
- Have demonstrated coping strategies with assignment timelines
- Possess a commitment to second language learning
- Possess a global perspective with an interest in international issues
- Competent reader and possess a broad range of academic and other interests
- Understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others
- Show commitment to community service

## Upper Grand District School Board

• Linda Busuttill, Chair  
• Mike Foley

• Mark Bailey, Vice-Chair  
• Barbara Lustgarten Evoy

• Jolly Bedi  
• Martha MacNeil

• Gail Campbell  
• Robin Ross

• Jen Edwards  
• Lynn Topping

If there are any questions about this survey, please contact the Planning Department for more information:  
[planning.info@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:planning.info@ugdsb.on.ca) or 519-822-4420, extension 821.

Sincerely,  
**Upper Grand District School Board**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Passy', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Jennifer Passy, BES, MCIP, RPP  
Manager of Planning