



Brisbane Public School

December Newsletter

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Message from the Office

On vous souhaite un joyeux Noël et une Bonne Année!! On espère que vous trouverez des moments pour célébrer la beauté de cette joyeuse saison avec votre famille et vos amis. We wish you a wonderful holiday season filled with happiness and quality family time. We have a lot of great things happening this month at Brisbane including a festive door decorating contest to show celebrations in December and school spirit days!

It was great to have so many parents participate virtually or by telephone to discuss their child's progress during interviews. Parent-teacher communication is an important part of student success. Thank you for continuing to support home and school communication. If you did not have a chance to meet your child's teacher, please contact them to set up a meeting. All parents are encouraged to have a meeting to discuss student progress.

We continue to encourage home reading for 20 minutes each night. Parents play a vital role in supporting this initiative. Parents can read to their children, share interesting articles they have read, and model both the love and importance of reading at home. Students in French Immersion do not start formal English instruction until grade 3, so please support reading in English at home regularly.

Brisbane continues to stay committed to ensuring a safe, inclusive and healthy environment. Thank you for continuing to screen your children daily, following Public Health protocols and for staying home when ill. We look forward to an exciting New Year and wish you all the best in 2022!

R. Anand

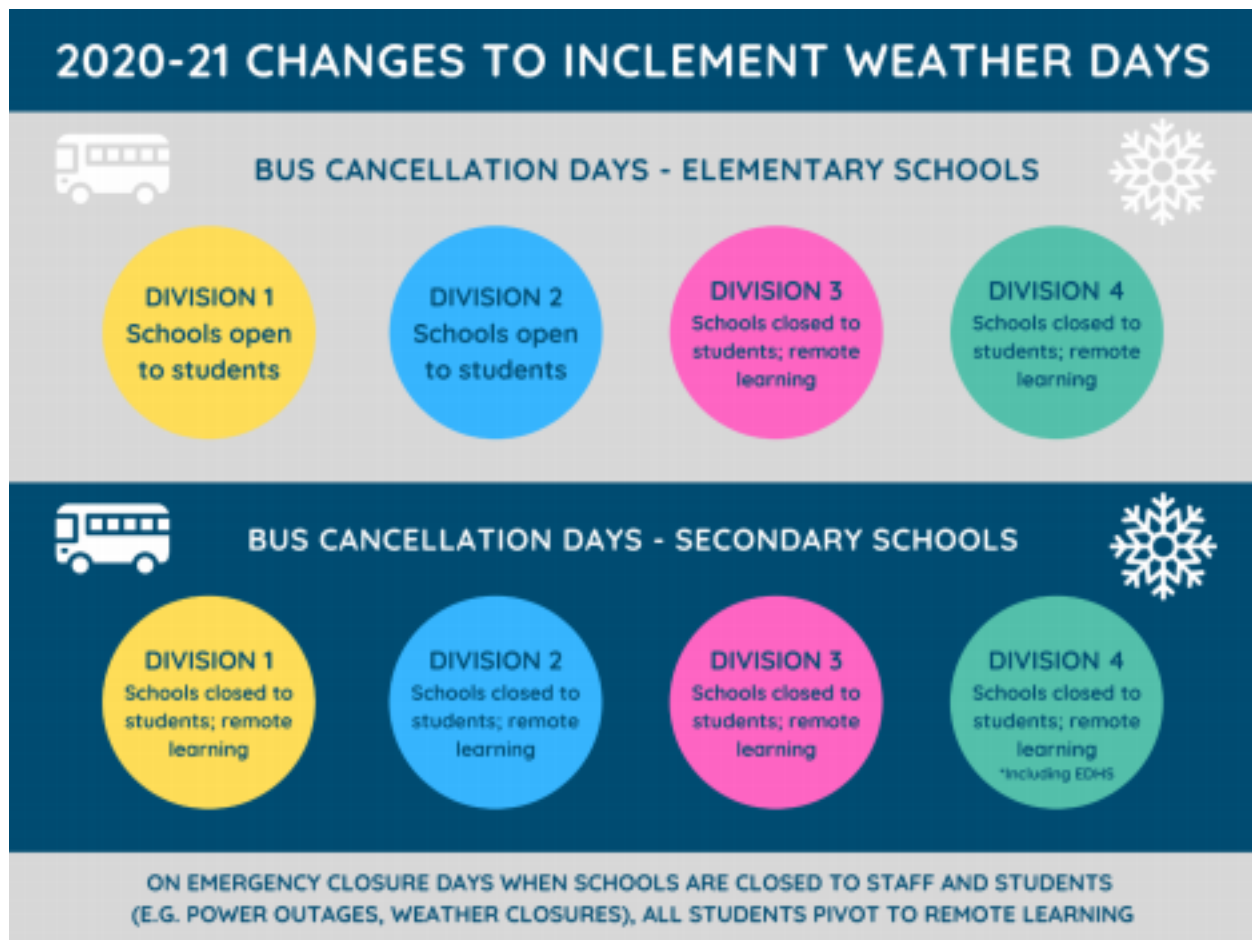


Upcoming Events

December	January
14 Sparkle and Shine Day	3 Back to school, Happy New Year!
15 Wear Red, Green and Black	4-21 JK Registration
16 Festive Sweater/Santa/Elf hat day	7 Wear Red & White for school spirit
18 Bundle up and be cozy day	
Dec 18- Jan 2nd-Winter Holidays	

Inclement Weather and Transportation

When you hear the radio announcement, “**All school taxis and buses in Centre Wellington and the Town of Erin will not be operating today**” - your child’s bus or taxi is cancelled and the school remains open. During inclement weather, please listen to: Erin Radio 88.1 FM; 1460 AM CJOY; 106.1 Magic FM; Oldies 1090 AM; 99.1 FM CBC; 105.3 Kool FM; Newstalk 570 AM; 96.7 FM CHYM; or, watch CKCO-TV. These stations will announce cancellations. Bus cancellations are also reported on the Transportation website after 6:30 a.m. at: <https://stwdsts.ca/> and on twitter @STWDSTS **Brisbane is in the blue division. See below image for more details.**



Winter Recess & Weather



With the winter weather upon us, this is just a reminder that **all students are expected to go outside** for recess and students need to bring the necessary clothing to make recess enjoyable (ie. **winter coats, snow pants, hats, mittens and winter boots**). Students must go outside for physical activity and health benefits. Time outside is important as students are able to re-focus and concentrate better. Recess allows them time to get some fresh air, unmask and time to run around. If the weather is extremely cold (-25 Celsius or colder), we modify time outside or students are kept indoors.



School Spirit Days-Winter Celebrations

In recognition of winter celebrations, spirit days, we will be about raising awareness of various celebrations. Students, staff and volunteers are invited to get creative and dress up for our spirit days to celebrate the upcoming holidays and have some fun!

In January, we will have a school spirit day on Jan 7th. Students are encouraged to wear red & white, our school colours to show that we are off to a great start full of spirit and pride in the New Year!

Tues Dec 14	Blue and Sparkle Day celebrating Hanukkah Hanukkah is the Jewish festival of lights lasting eight days and this year it is being celebrated from December 1st to the 6th. On each night of the celebration a new candle is lit in the menorah. Blue and White are the traditional colours associated with Hanukkah. Let's sparkle and shine or wear blue and white this Friday in celebration of Hanukkah!
Wed Dec. 15	Red, Green and Black Day honouring Kwanzaa Kwanzaa is an annual celebration of African culture from December 26th to January 1st. Kwanzaa has seven principles to live by and each day focuses on a different principle. During the seven days of Kwanzaa, celebrants light one new candle per day, three red, one black and three green. Students are encouraged to wear red, black or green to show their recognition of the celebration of Kwanzaa.
Thurs Dec 16	Ugly Festive Sweater/Elf Santa Hat Day - Christmas/Winter Solstice Christmas is celebrated by Christians on the 25th of December and honours the birth of Jesus. Winter Solstice is celebrated by many cultures around the world and is also known as Yule. The winter solstice happens on Monday, December 21, 2021 . This is the first day of winter in the Northern Hemisphere and the shortest day of the year. Fire and light are traditional symbols of celebrations held on the darkest day of the year. After the winter solstice , days start becoming longer and nights shorter as spring approaches.
Fri. Dec. 17	Bundle up, be warm and cozy day! Let's celebrate the last day of school by wearing warm and cozy clothing! Students can wear the PJ's or anything they find comfy. Have a wonderful, relaxing, restful and joyous holiday!! We wish you all the best in 2022!!

Kindergarten Registration

Important information about Kindergarten registration this January. We're getting ready to welcome our newest group of little learners to the school! **Kindergarten registration for the 2021-2022 school year takes place from Jan 4-21, 2022!**



Online, pre-registration for the 2021-2022 school year will open on January 4, 2022. All Junior and Senior Kindergarten students who are new to the UGDSB must pre-register online at www.ugdsb.ca/jkregistration. Please call your school office to set up an appointment to virtually submit your documentation and complete your registration. A google meeting will be held to review documents.

Parents/guardians applying to register their child for Junior Kindergarten French Immersion will need to contact your French Immersion school for information about program space and waiting lists. Please note that Junior Kindergarten is the only entry point into the French Immersion program in the UGDSB. For more information on Kindergarten registration, including how to pre-register online and what documentation must be provided to the home school, visit www.ugdsb.ca/jkregistration.

Making Math Meaningful

Every day children go about their daily lives exploring and discovering things around them, and by doing so they're exposed to the world of mathematics. Since mathematics has become increasingly important in this technological age, it is even more important for our children to learn math at home, as well as in school.

Attitude is Important

How do you as a parent feel about math? Your feelings will have an impact on how your children think about math and themselves as mathematicians. Take a few minutes to reflect on these questions:

- Do you think everyone can learn math?
- Do you think of math as useful in everyday life?
- Do you believe that most jobs today require math skills?
- If you answer "yes" to most of these questions, then you are probably encouraging your child to think mathematically.

Positive attitudes about math are important for your child's success.



Mathematics as Problem Solving, Communication, and Reasoning

Helping your child learn to solve problems, to communicate mathematically, and to demonstrate reasoning abilities are fundamental to learning mathematics. These attributes will improve your child's understanding and interest in math concepts and thinking.

A problem solver is someone who questions, investigates, and explores solutions to problems. They stick with a problem to find a solution, understand that there may be different ways to arrive at an answer, and attempt

different ways to get there. You can encourage your child to be a good problem solver by involving him or her in family decision making using math.

To communicate mathematically means to use words, numbers, or mathematical symbols to explain situations; to talk about how you arrived at an answer; to listen to others' ways of thinking and perhaps alter their thinking; to use pictures to explain something; and to write about math, not just give an answer. You can help your child learn to communicate mathematically by asking your child to explain a math problem or answer. Ask your child to write about the process she or he used, or to draw a picture of how he or she arrived at an answer to a problem.

Use of Technology

A reminder that technology items should be kept at home unless there is a special project going on at school and students have been given permission by their teacher to bring it in to support learning. The school is not responsible for lost devices including cell phones, ipods, etc.



Helping your child with Language

As a parent, the best thing you can do to help support your child's learning is to talk with him or her in the spoken language used at home. Talking helps build communication skills. These skills are transferable from one language to another. (Cummins, 1998)

When engaging with your child, consider the following:

- listen to a television program together and ask your child to share his/her thinking
- listen to music and ask your child why he/she thinks the artist wrote the song
- listen to the radio and ask your child to share his/her opinion about what is happening
- use a variety of words (i.e, friendly, kind, considerate)
- tell your child a story about when you were little or tell him/her a story about something that happened at work that day and leave off the ending for him/her to provide
- ask your child to provide 3 things and make up a story that includes all three (example: a princess, a car, and an ice cream cone)
- read aloud daily to your child, talk about the pictures, make predictions and see if they come true
- read to your child on vacation or during a long wait at the doctor's office
- read a book to your child and ask him/her what he/she would do if he/she was the main character
- leave notes for your child in his/her lunch box or school bag
- ask your child to leave notes for you around the house
- have your child create a to-do list

Pizza Days in January?

Great news! We have been given the go ahead for pizza days to start provided we have enough parent volunteers to help support the program! Volunteers are needed to help organize and distribute food and they must show proof of full vaccination and wear a mask as per Board and Public Health guidelines. **If interested, please reach out as soon as possible by emailing Kirsten Tugman kirstentugman@gmail.com as we are hoping to start in the New Year.**

Upper Grand Free to Achieve Fund

The Upper Grand District School Board is raising money for students through the Upper Grand Learning Foundation's Free to Achieve fund. The Upper Grand Learning Foundation was set up to support student success through public education for each and every student. Imagine a child who does not receive a daily breakfast or adequate lunch; a child who walks to school without a backpack, proper footwear or even a warm coat. Imagine a child who does not have books in their home or learning and social experiences like organized sports, camp trips, zoo visits or swimming lessons, or a child who needs a hearing aid or wheelchair. This child faces obstacles to becoming a successful community member.

The Free to Achieve Fund is focused on providing underprivileged students with learning experiences outside the classroom. A gift to this fund will give students opportunities which they would not ordinarily have. These experiences will allow students to make connections to their in-school learning, enhance their desire to learn and help them reach their potential. With your help, we can ensure that each child is successful.

The last few years, our focus as a school community has been on raising funds for our playground which we have been fortunate enough to do with your assistance and generosity. We are now welcoming donations to support students within our school board community who need support and equity of access to funding. As a school, we will be listed as a donor to this fund. Opportunities to donate funds will be provided from Dec 1st until Dec 17th on schoolcashionline.com. Donation amounts are open from \$2 to \$50. Thank you in advance for your donation. Tax receipts for donations above \$20, where requested, will be issued by the Upper Grand Learning Foundation. Your name, address and amount of donation will be provided to them for this purpose. Thank you in advance for your donation.

From the Brisbane staff, we wish all families a wonderful and joyous holiday season!

