



# Brisbane Public School

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## September Newsletter & Startup Information

Welcome to the 2022 - 2021 school year, Brisbane Community! We hope you had a safe and fun summer and we're excited to welcome you back to school this September 6th.

I'm very happy to join your school community as your new principal this September, and I can't wait to meet and get to know our students and school community.

Our staff have been preparing classrooms and learning spaces for our students; thank you for all of your hard work to make sure our students have engaging learning environments and activities this school year.

We have some new staff members joining our Brisbane team this September: welcome to our new staff! For a full list of Brisbane staff, please see the staff list at the end of this newsletter, or check our website.

A huge thank you and merci beaucoup to Mrs. Pell, our custodian, for preparing our school to safely receive students on September 6th, and to Mrs. Dolson, our office coordinator for getting everything organized so we can start the school year right!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Oussoren, Principal



## **Upcoming Dates**

Sept. 16	Spirit Day! Wear Red and White or Brisbane wear
Sept. 20	School Council Meeting - 7 PM in the school library
Sept. 23	Terry Fox Walk/Run
Sept. 27	Picture Day
Sept. 28	Rowan's Law Day - Concussion Awareness - Wear purple
Sept. 30	Orange Shirt Day / National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

## **COVID-19 Screening and General Illness**

The Ministry of Health and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health have provided a new "School and Child Care" screening tool. It is recommended that students/children and visitors continue to self-screen for illness every day before attending school or child care using this updated August 31st Version 5.0 Screening Tool: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. Students/children and visitors who do not pass the screening should follow the advice provided upon completion of the screening tool.

## **Masks**

Masks are available at the school and masking is a personal choice for our students and staff. We respect each person's personal choice.

## **School Hours**

Supervision starts: 8:30 am

Start Time: 8:50 am

Nutrition Break 1: 10:30 - 10:50 am

Outside: 10:50 - 11:15 am

Nutrition Break 2: 12:55 - 1:15 pm

Outside: 1:15 - 1:40 pm

Dismissal: 3:20 pm

## **End of Day Procedures**

Please ensure your child knows their end of day plan for the first day (i.e bus, pick-up, Appleseed). Please send a note to the teacher on the first day of school with end of day plans

## **Vehicle Pick Up**

Please note that the pick up location is the staff doors, at set times based on the grade of the oldest child (times listed below), parents, please bring ID. Park on the highway (side closest to the school) for pick up.

## Brisbane School Council Information

Welcome Brisbane Parents & Guardians! School Council would love to have you join our group. This is an opportunity to be involved in the school and to give input on school direction. Our first meeting is Tuesday, September 20th at 7 PM in the school library. Please visit the school website for our nomination form if you are interested in making a nomination for our board. Bring the nomination form to the first meeting, or drop it off at the school.

## Twitter

Brisbane PS is now on twitter-follow us for the latest information @Brisbane\_PS to get updates on school events and activities and to see the great learning!

## REMINDERS



### **Starting off on the right foot ...Reminders for Parents and Guardians**

1. Please be on Time: This ensures your child arrives at school on time so they don't miss important instructions and disrupt learning. We want to set students up for success by encouraging independence and having them walk to their class independently. This will help build good routines and start on the right path for success. School starts at 8:50.
2. Please call in absences: Call in student illnesses, lates and absences at 519-833-9621. We are required to reach you by telephone if your child is absent so please update the school with any phone number changes.

## Agendas

All students in grades 1-6 at Brisbane Public School will receive school agendas. The subsidized cost is \$5.00 this year and it can be purchased through school cash-online. Contributions help offset the cost and are greatly appreciated. The agenda serves as an excellent educational and organizational tool, allowing parents to monitor homework assignments, as well as communicate with teachers. Please review the important information located in the front of the agenda including the code of conduct and calendar.

## Medical Concerns

If your child has a serious medical condition, please contact the child's teacher and the office. We need to be provided with up-to-date information and medication. UGDSB Policy 518: Students with Life-Threatening Medical Conditions, outlines the roles and responsibilities for all in the educational community to support students with possible life-threatening medical conditions. The prevalent medical conditions covered under this policy are Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes and Epilepsy/Seizure Disorders. If your child has one of these, or any other life-threatening medical conditions, please visit: [www.ugdsb.ca/board/policy](http://www.ugdsb.ca/board/policy) (and look for Policy 518) or contact the school as soon as possible. We will work with you to develop a Plan of Care to support your child.

Parents should administer medication at home whenever possible. When oral medication is administered by school personnel it will be kept in the office. Nonprescription oral medication as well as prescription medication requires the completion of an authorization form before medication can be administered. This form is available at the school office. The bus company also requires a copy of life-threatening forms.

### **Life Threatening Allergies**

We have children in our school with potential life-threatening allergies (called anaphylaxis) to various foods and other materials. Anaphylaxis is a medical condition that can cause death within minutes. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students. Although this may not affect your child's class directly, we are letting you know so that you are aware that we aim to create an allergy safe environment at our school. If your child is in a classroom with an anaphylactic child, or your child has anaphylaxis, you will be informed by your classroom teacher. Our school has procedures in place for the prevention and management of anaphylactic reactions. If your child has health concerns of any kind, please tell your child's teacher or the office and we will take the necessary health protection steps. Thank you for your understanding in ensuring an allergy-safe environment for all of our students.

### **Peanut & Nut Allergies**

We have several students with life threatening allergic reactions to peanut butter and other nuts. The safety of all our students is very important to us. Please be aware that, due to legislation requiring every school to reduce risk of exposure of anaphylactic causative agents, we are restricting the presence of nuts at Brisbane P.S. Please DO NOT send nut products to school for snack or lunch with your child, this includes imitation nut products such as Wow butter. If touched, eaten or even inhaled, foods containing even small amounts of peanuts or nuts may be life threatening to those students with allergies. Please remind your child not to share food or drinks with other students.



### **Asthma Friendly Schools Policy**

Asthma is a very common chronic lung disease that can make it hard to breathe. The Upper Grand District School Board has a policy to provide support for students with asthma. If your child has asthma, the policy requires an Asthma Management Plan (AMP) to be completed by parents, a child's doctor and the principal of the school. A copy of this plan is available on the Board's website under Policy 516. Parents are requested to complete the AMP and return it to the school as soon as possible at the beginning of the school year.

### **Smoke and Vape-Free Environment**

The Upper Grand DSB provides a smoke and vape-free environment for its students, staff and others while on Board property, in accordance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act and Board policy 208. This policy refers to all forms of tobacco, and any processed form of tobacco that may be smoked, inhaled or chewed, including e-cigarettes.

### **Student Information Form**

Please return an updated Upper Grand District School Board Student Admission and Information form to the school as soon as possible. This is very important as we require accurate family contact information.

## **Student Accident Insurance**

Parents and guardians are responsible for expenses related to student injuries on school premises or during school activities. Accidents can and do happen and the costs involved might not be fully covered by Provincial health care or employer group insurance plans.

The Upper Grand District School board is empowered under *The Education Act* to offer Accident and Life Insurance for students.

A letter from the Upper Grand District School Board will be sent home with students containing information with respect to two Programs available for the purchase of Student Accident Insurance. The Insuremykids Program is offered through Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada and the Studyinsured Program is underwritten by Certain Lloyds's Underwriters through AON Insurance.

Each program offers a variety of options, including family rates at affordable prices. The cost must be paid by the parent or guardian. Paper copies of the application are no longer available. Purchase is done directly on line or by contacting the Provider:

[www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com) or call toll free **1-800-463-5437**

[www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com](http://www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com) or call toll free 1-833-560-0527.

For today's active children, especially those who participate in field trips, co-curricular and other school activities outside the school day, Student Accident Insurance is valuable.

## **Freedom of Information-Consent Form**

Please read the Freedom of Information consent to share personal information that will be coming home. Please read the consent to share information. We often like to take pictures of students to share school success with the community on our website, twitter account or in the local paper. We require your consent for this to happen. Please return the consent form to your classroom teacher.

## **School Organization**

Schools have built class lists based on their tentative organizations. Changes may be necessary at your child(ren)'s school in order that our Board remain compliant with Ministry parameters (see below). Principals do not have the option of changing the school organization that is set by the District Staffing Committee of the Board. If changes affect your child(ren), you will be informed by the school.

### Ministry of Education Parameters

- Full Day Kindergarten Class Size Average for the Board is 26 students
- 90% of Full Day Kindergarten classes with 29 or fewer students
- 10% of Full Day Kindergarten classes with up to 32 students, under certain circumstances
- 90% of the Board's primary classes with 20 or fewer students

- 10% of the Board's primary classes up to a maximum of 23 students
- Grade 3/4 classes have a cap of 23 students
- Junior/Intermediate Class Size Average for the Board is 24.5 students

### **Pizza & Milk**

The school will be offering pizza lunches and milk for students on Mondays this year. More information will be sent out to families via email and posted on our website. We are looking for parent/guardian volunteers to help on Mondays with pizza and milk distribution. Please contact Mrs. Dolson at [dawn.dolson@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:dawn.dolson@ugdsb.on.ca).

### **School Cash On-Line Program**

For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to eliminate cash and cheques coming into our school. School related expenses will be available for purchase online. Please take a few minutes to register so you can enjoy the convenience of shopping on-line.

Here's how to register:

- Step 1: Go to [ugdsb.schoolcashonline.com](http://ugdsb.schoolcashonline.com)
- Step 2: Register by selecting : "Get started now" and follow the steps.
- Step 3: Respond to the confirmation email, select the 'click here' option and sign in and add each of your children to your household account.



### **Clothing and Footwear**

Dress for the weather forecast. Unless there is heavy rain, or extreme weather conditions, students will be outside. Students should also bring sweaters/jackets for occasions when the weather becomes unseasonably cold. The school dress code can be found in your child's agenda and on our website. Running shoes are the safest choices for footwear, and are a requirement for participation in Physical Education classes. Flip flops and other unsupportive shoes may limit the activities in which your child can participate. Please remember to label everything. We will be having increased outdoor learning so please dress for the weather! We encourage Kindergarten and Grade 1 students to come with a change of clothing in a labeled bag in case of accidents.

### **School Buses**

Thank you to our bus drivers for keeping our children safe and for communicating well with the staff regarding safety issues and student behaviour on the buses. Please review the Bus Safety Rules with your child:

- Be at your bus stop at least 5 minutes early
- Stay seated while the bus is in motion and stay in your designated seat
- Do not use inappropriate language and use an indoor voice
- Follow the directions of the driver
- At dismissal go directly to the bus area and sit in your line until your bus is called
- Please be on time if you are meeting your child at the bus stop



### **Dufferin Student Transportation Services**

<http://www.stwdsts.ca/>

This site is designed to help you to find bus information and to answer common transportation questions. For students in SK and up please visit our student login website: [www.findmybus.ca](http://www.findmybus.ca) for all busing information.

Sign up for email notifications for all delays/cancellations during the school year.

Please follow us on Twitter @STWDSTS. If your child will not be riding the bus for the school year please call 519-824-4119.

### **Attendance & Safe Arrival Program**

Please call the office (519-833-9621) before 8:30 am if your child is going to be absent or late. The voice mail can take your messages 24 hours a day. Please supply us with the student name(s), class(es) and reason(s) for absence/lateness.

The Ministry's Safe Arrival Program mandates that we call parents of absent students if we have not been informed, by a parent, of the reason for the absence.

- If we cannot reach you at home or at work, we will attempt to call your emergency contact person.
- Late students must wait outside the front doors until a staff member arrives. Parents must contact the office. The doors will be locked to keep all students safe.
- If you drive your child to school, please remember to park on the road closest to the school (not in the bus area or staff parking lot).
- Supervision begins at 8:30 am. Please do not drop your child off prior to this time and we encourage drop offs as close to the bell as possible at 8:50.

Board Policy on Safe Arrival reads: It is the responsibility of parents to:

- provide current telephone contacts such as: home phone number, work number of both parents, number of caregiver, number of safe arrival contact, and emergency contact numbers on the student admission form;
- update the information during the school year and inform teachers of changes;
- communicate with the school, prior to the start of school in the morning or afternoon, when the child will be absent or late for any reason;
- provide written permission for their child to leave the school during the day; and
- inform the school when their child will be returning after an absence of more than 1 day.

### **Safe Departure**

- If it is necessary for a child to leave early, or to leave for a period during the day for an appointment, a note must be sent to the teacher.
- All arrangements must be made ahead of time. Also, please send written authorization if your child is going to be picked up, otherwise, it is our practice to send the child home as per usual arrangements.

Under urgent circumstances, a telephone call may be made to the office before 12 p.m.

- We appreciate your efforts to make all foreseen arrangements ahead of time with your child and/or accompanied with a note.
- Children will be dismissed by classroom teachers
- Your support to ensure a safe and seamless transition during such a busy time of day is appreciated



## Brisbane PS Staff List

<b>Grade</b>	<b>English/FI</b>	<b>Rm</b>	<b>Staff Name</b>
Kindergarten Teacher	E	3	April Chan
Kindergarten ECE	E	3	Kim Davidson
Kindergarten Teacher	E	10	Amber Ennis
Grade 1/2	E	19	Karen Anderson
Grade 1/2	E	20	Christy Geddes
Grade 2/3	E	15	Alison Corbett
Grade 3/4	E	9	Ryan Carter
Grade 4/5	E	4	Alison Ray
Grade 6	E	8	Rachael Umpleby
Kindergarten Teacher	F	13	Avery Gray
Kindergarten Teacher	F	14	Bryana Suraci (Rebecca Ferguson leave)
Kindergarten ECE	F	14	Joanna Reynolds
Kindergarten Teacher	F	12	Marina Klepic
Kindergarten ECE	F	12	Jessica Cottingham
Grade 1	F	16	Krista Kloosterboer
Grade 1/2	F	18	Jennifer MacLeod / Kate Archibald
Grade 2	F	17	(Emma Squire-Smith leave)
Grade 3	F	11	Roger Siegel
Grade 4	F	5	Jesse Dyke
Grade 5	F	6	Rena Stuart
Grade 6	F	7	Diana Halpin
Library/Planning	E	Library	George Koch
Planning	F	Plan	Vandhna Sharma
Planning	F	Plan	Katie Stansfield
Planning	F	Plan	Meera Dyer
Planning	E	Plan	Kristin Lepard
Core French/SERT	F	1	Heidi Siegel
SERT	F	Spec. Ed	Melissa Schefter
Education Assistants		Hub	Carla Butcher, Alyssa Crowe
Office Coordinator			Dawn Dolson
Office Assistant	0.2		Stephanie Sambells (Thursdays)
CYC	0.3		Ellen Kennedy (Tuesdays, alternating Thurs)
Custodian			Catherine Pell
Principal			Jennifer Oussoren

