

BIS Buzz

The Weekly Brownstone Newsletter 1/08/2021



Update from Mrs. Hine:

Dear Brownstone Families,

I hope that this email finds you well as we begin the New Year together. Following the difficult day in our country on Wednesday, I was appreciative of the opportunity to join many of your children in their online classrooms the next day. The Brownstone teachers did a heroic job of allowing students to share their reflections and thoughts on the events at the Capitol through discussions that were developmentally appropriate, respectful, and open.

Last night, the Portland Board of Education voted to support a return to full in-person learning on Tuesday, January 19th. We can't wait to have all students back in school at that time! Next week we will continue with the current model of remote learning. Please have your child(ren) attend all of their Google Meets and keep up with their assignments next week so they are ready to continue their learning when we are back together.

At BIS, we have made some schedule changes in an effort to reduce the number of people our students and staff are exposed to each week. In addition, we are tightening up our mask wearing, mask break, and transition procedures and will be ready to review these with students on the 19th. We will be vigilant in enforcing the CDC recommendations at school.

Knowing that our ability to stay in school and stay healthy is impacted by our collective adherence to the mitigation strategies, we ask that you and your family also take the steps below:

- Wear masks that cover both the nose and mouth
- Maintain social distancing
- Avoid crowds
- Wash and/or sanitize hands frequently
- Monitor your health and stay home if not feeling well or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID

I wish you and your family a wonderful weekend.

Allison Hine

Please reach out to me with any questions. I can be reached at ahine@portlandct.us or at (860)342-6765.

Attachments:

[COVID Screening Tool](#)

Band News:

During the shortened week of January 19th, lessons will be temporarily paused. This will give Mrs. Fuller a chance to touch base with students and reinforce the procedures and plans we have in place to allow students to safely play their instruments. Lessons will resume on Monday February 1, 2021. Below, please open the attachment to see the lesson schedule for next week as well as the Band lesson groupings.

[Band Information Attached HERE](#)

Mrs. McDonough, BIS Social Worker:

This week we continued weekly social-emotional lessons (SEL) in both grades. Our lesson this week was on “courage.” Every day students display small and large acts of kindness and courage. During a pandemic, these acts take on even more meaning. It takes courage to ask for help. At BIS we are a family. If you or your child is having difficulty coping with the challenges of living in these changing times, and need some extra support, please feel free to reach out to me at smcdonough@portlandct.us or 860-342-6765, ext. 1615.

Dates to Remember:

Monday, January 18th - Martin Luther King, Jr Day - No School

Tuesday, January 19th - K-6 Full In-Person Learning Re-opening

Wednesday, January 20th - 2Hr Delayed Opening for All Schools

Wednesday, January 20th - PTO Virtual Bingo Night (5-6:45 p.m.)

Monday, January 25th - Sunday, February 7th - Virtual Scholastic Book Fair

BIS PTO- Next meeting will be held on Monday, December 14th. at 6:30pm.

News from the Library:

Dear families,

You're invited to shop our Scholastic Book Fair online from January 25 – February 7, 2021! All purchases benefit our school and connect kids with new books, favorite characters, complete series, and more.

You'll love the NEW option to shop for Book Fair exclusives directly from the interactive booklist and enjoy these special online shopping features:

- Over 6,000 items, including new releases, best sellers, and value packs
- All orders ship direct to home
- FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25*
- All purchases support our school and earn 25% in rewards

Visit our Book Fair Homepage and click "Shop Now" to get started! The link will be live starting on January 25th!

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=brownstoneintermediateschool>



News From Nurse Palma:

All 6th Graders: Need to have a mandatory physical completed this year per the State of CT. Letters went home to families who need to provide a physical for their child. Around 60% of 6th graders need a physical turned in to the school. Thank you for those who turned in or called regarding their child's physical. The last mandated physical was Kindergarten, so don't be surprised by the year of your child's last physical on file. Accepted physicals must be completed after January 1 of your child's Fifth grade year. Please call me if your child has an upcoming appointment. Physical forms can be found online at the link listed below. I also included one in the mailing. Physicals can be handed in at school, mailed, faxed to 860-342-6766, or emailed to jpalma@portlandct.us https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Forms/HAR3_2018.pdf?la=en

Health and Wellness: Want a chance to win 2 tickets to the 2022 Super Bowl in LA? Donate blood through the American Red Cross! Just give blood through the American Red Cross January 1-31, 2021, and you'll automatically be entered for a chance to win. Your donation can score a touchdown for patients this winter. Why donate blood? Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Will you join the Red Cross team? See the below links for more information and blood drive locations.

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/> https://www.redcrossblood.org/local-homepage/events/super_bowl.html

Friday Joke: What did one toilet say to the other toilet? Answer: You look a bit flushed!!!