

BIS Buzz

The Weekly Brownstone Newsletter February 19, 2021



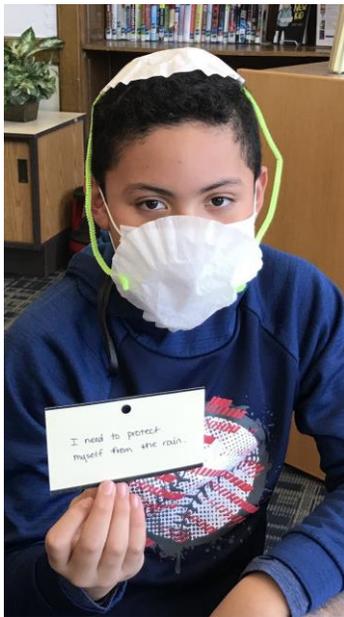
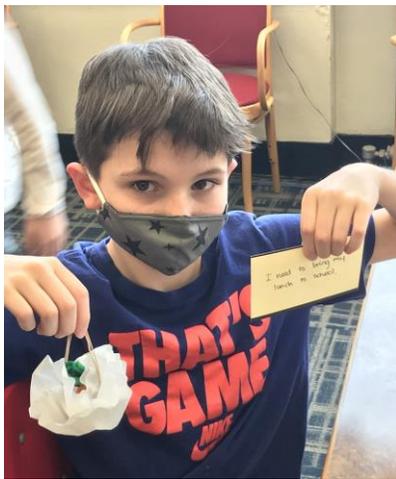
Update from Mrs. Hine:

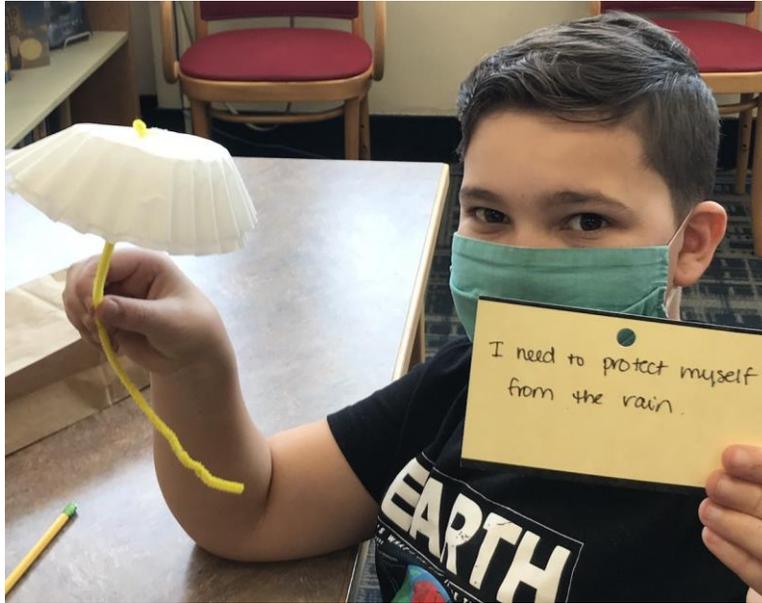
Dear Brownstone Families,

I write to you after only one full day of in-school learning at BIS this week. I am so thankful that we are now able to have students learn remotely so that they participated in a full day of instruction today. Teachers and students have become so flexible in moving from one instructional model to another and I am confident that they are successful in continuing instruction and learning despite the interruptions.

I wanted to highlight one particular class this week. When we returned to in-person learning, we changed the special area classes so that they meet every day for two weeks. In STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) class, the continuous time has allowed for some fun projects. I have included some information from both 5th and 6th grade below.

Fifth graders are practicing using Design Thinking in their STEAM unit, where they will be brainstorming problems that people have and trying to design solutions. The unit begins with an quick activity called "Ready, Set, Design!" where students are given 15 minutes to problem solve with some basic materials. Here are some examples of how students used their materials to solve their given problems!





Students in sixth grade have been learning about stop motion animation in STEAM. Stop motion is a technique of making movies where the film maker takes lots of pictures, making small changes between each. Once strung together and played quickly, the small changes can make objects that don't normally move come to life! Students learned the three principles of animation and used them to create their own stop motion videos using a variety of mediums. We celebrated the end of the unit with a small film festival where students showcased their films and answered questions about the process. Here are some examples of student work using objects and paper cut outs. They're pretty great! Please click below to check out the videos.

[Uh Oh Fishy by Evan P.](#)

[Abandoned Boat by Jesse A.](#)

[Untitled by Charlie C.](#)

[Kong and Illa by Nick J.](#)

I wish you and your family a wonderful weekend and I look forward to welcoming your child back to school on Monday.

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](#)

PJ DAY UPDATE:

PJ Day has changed to a new day: Friday February 26 Portland Public Schools will celebrate PJ Day. PJ Day kicked off its 10th anniversary in December with a mission to not only raise money, but to honor the brave kids fighting cancer at Connecticut Children's Hospital. This celebration occurred during remote learning but we wanted to honor these brave children now that we are back in school. Donate \$1.00 or more and wear your pj's on February 19th. Bring in the money, write a check to CCMC Foundation, Inc %PJ Day, or consider donating online via the following link:

https://secure2.convio.net/ccmf/site/TR/CommunityEvent/General?team_id=4181&pg=team&fr_id=1290

Please watch the video about PJ Day: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B5SI9CkQtto>

Dates to Remember:

Friday, February 26th - PJ Day (revised date)

Friday, March 12th - PD Day - No School for Students

Wednesday, March 17th - 2 Hour Delayed Opening



News From Nurse Palma:

All 6th Graders (Including PVLA 6th graders): Need to have a mandatory physical completed this year per the State of CT. Emails went home to families who need to provide a physical for their child. We are down to 46% of 6th graders needing a physical turned in to the school. Thank you to those who turned in or contacted me regarding their child's physical. Accepted physicals must be completed after January 1 of your child's Fifth grade year. Please contact me if your child has an upcoming appointment. Physical forms can be found online at the link listed below. Physicals can be handed in at school, mailed, dropped off, 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: February is National Children's Dental Health Month. The American Dental Association (ADA) wants everyone to "Defeat the Mouth Monster" by brushing, flossing, eating healthy and going for your biannual dental check ups. Also, avoid sugary drinks and drink water, nature's drink. According to the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research tooth decay is the most common chronic disease in children, which is entirely preventable. Below is a link with great information on how to prevent tooth decay. Toothbrushes should be replaced every 3-4 months according to the ADA, when the bristles become frayed or when you have strep throat.

https://www.nidcr.nih.gov/OralHealth/OralHealthInformation/ChildrensOralHealth/ToothDecayProcess.htm?_ga=1.180812389.395054195.1404325015

Travel advisory: If you are traveling out of state, please keep in mind that CT has a travel advisory and let the school know if your child is traveling to an Affected State. An Affected Traveler is a person entering into the State of Connecticut who has spent twenty-four (24) hours or longer in an Affected State or an Affected Country. This does not include individuals visiting for less than twenty-four (24) hours. There is a mandatory self-quarantine for a period of ten (10) days from the time of your last contact with such Affected State or Affected Country. If you spend more than 24 hours visiting family in a state that is on the travel advisory, you need to quarantine for ten days or get a negative COVID-19 test. Please see the below link for what type of COVID-19 tests are accepted, timing of COVID-19 testing and for more FAQ's. <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/travel>

COVID Vaccination information: Chatham Health has asked for this information to be shared. CVS Pharmacies in Colchester and Windsor Locks will be offering COVID-19 vaccine in their stores beginning February 3rd. Please see their website for eligibility. Appointments can be scheduled via the CVS webpage: <https://www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine?icid=cvs-home-hero1-banner-1-link2-coronavirus-vaccine>

CVS PHARMACY 119 S. MAIN ST. COLCHESTER CT 06415

CVS PHARMACY 90 MAIN STREET WINDSOR LOCKS CT 06096

COVID-19 Screening Tool: Attached you will find the Health Screening Tool document. We ask that you utilize this tool with your child each day before school. Remember it is best to keep your child home if they are not feeling well. COVID-19 can be hard to spot. Especially in kids, it often shows up as very mild (or no) symptoms. In other words, there is a chance that your child's runny nose is a clue they have the virus. You'll need to take extra precautions right now. We are in this together to keep our community safe. Contact your child's pediatrician with any concerns or you can also call CCMC's 24-hour Pediatric COVID-19 Hotline at 1-833-226-2362 to speak to one of their clinicians. They're available to help, any day, any time.

Friday Joke: What room can a student never remote-learn from? Answer: A mushroom!!!
