

**BIS Buzz**

**The Weekly Brownstone Newsletter**  
January 22, 2021

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**Update from Mrs. Hine:**

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**Dear Brownstone Families,**

**It has been a wonderful week with all of our in-person students back at BIS. The students have transitioned well back into the school routine.**

**Thank you to everyone who returned your library books this week. On Tuesday, we had a huge pile of returns to process so kids can check them out again! If you still have library books at home, please send them back.**



**On Wednesday night, the PTO hosted a virtual BINGO game. We had about 30 attendees and the PTO sponsored prizes for the students who won each game. Thank you to the PTO for organizing the event and to Ms. Carr and Ms. Kamis who helped call numbers for the games. We have had many requests to host another evening, so watch your inbox for a link once we pick a new date.**



**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](mailto:ahine@portlandct.us) or at (860)342-6765.**

**[CLICK HERE to access the COVID Screening Tool](#)**

### **News from Mrs. McDonough:**

It is wonderful to have students back in the building! Overall, I think most students are happy to be back. I've heard that they miss being able to roll out of bed and be at school in 5 minutes and having a 1-hour lunch break. Other than that, there have been a lot of happy reunions between classmates.

While we certainly hope we will be staying in school, the past 10 months have taught us that nothing is certain. Here is a link to a great article about motivation and distance learning. It is from ADDitude magazine and focuses on students with ADHD. The suggestions and strategies, however, are helpful for all students. [https://www.additudemag.com/distance-learning-motivation-adhd/?utm\\_source=eletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=school\\_january\\_2021&utm\\_content=012021&goal=0\\_d9446392d6-bcfc5c1ea7-288798341](https://www.additudemag.com/distance-learning-motivation-adhd/?utm_source=eletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=school_january_2021&utm_content=012021&goal=0_d9446392d6-bcfc5c1ea7-288798341)

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](mailto:smcdonough@portlandct.us) or 860-342-6765, ext. 1615.

### **News from the Library:**

Our Book Fair starts on MONDAY!!

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to access the online flyer.

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!

## **PVLA:**

Many PVLA students have already picked up the needed materials at BIS. If you haven't had a chance yet, please call the BIS office at (860)342-6765 to arrange a way to get your child's materials. Alternatively, the office is open on weekdays and you can stop by between 9-2.



## **Dates to Remember:**

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

**Monday, February 15th - No School for Staff/Students - Presidents' Day**

**Tuesday, February 16th - PD Day - No School for Students**



#### News From Nurse Palma:

All 6th Graders (Including PVLA): 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](mailto:jpalma@portlandct.us)

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Forms/HAR3\\_2018.pdf?la=en](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Forms/HAR3_2018.pdf?la=en)

Health and Wellness: Don't wait to seek emergency care!!! Never delay emergency care — your life could depend on it. Don't ignore signs of a heart attack, stroke, cancer or other serious medical conditions, because you or a loved one are nervous about COVID 19. Hospitals are prepared and ready for you or a loved one in a non COVID 19 emergency.

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: Why do bees have sticky hair? Answer: Because they use honeycombs!!!