

# BIS Buzz

## The Weekly Brownstone Newsletter



### Update from Mrs. Hine:

Dear Brownstone Families,

I am excited to welcome students back to full in-person learning at Brownstone on Monday. Please remember that dismissal will be staggered with 5th grade walkers/pick-ups dismissed at 2:45 and 6th grade walkers/pickups dismissed at 3:00. Buses are not impacted and will be loaded as they arrive. I ask that 6th grade families not arrive to pick up until 2:55 to allow the 5th grade students to safely exit the building and get into the waiting cars. Thank you for your help with making the dismissal safe and smooth for our students.

Today we wrapped up our food drive and I am excited to announce that we collected 712 non-perishable food items! Well done BIS students and families. I know the food pantry is experiencing a high demand and I'm hoping this donation will help. The winning homeroom is Mrs. Baio's homeroom with 208 items. They have voted individually on the new color of Ms. Carr's hair. That color will remain a secret between me, Ms. Carr, and her hairdresser until Monday morning! Mrs. Baio's Cohort A would like to give a super shout out to Cohort B who got the homeroom off to a great start and they couldn't have done it without Dakota, Caylee, Jaxson, Marcus, Calvin, Jack, Jacob, and Addison!



**On October 30th, we will allow students to wear Halloween costumes or fall colors to school. Please remind your child that costume-type masks are not allowed, nor are props (anything you would carry separate from your outfit) of any type. Face coverings for safety must still be worn throughout the day.**

**Due to the change to in-person learning, the lunch menu has been changed:**

**10/26 Popcorn Chicken**

**10/27 Cheeseburger**

**10/28 Chicken Fajita with peppers**

**10/29 Mac & Cheese**

**10/30 Pizza**

**I hope that you enjoy the weekend and I look forward to welcoming your child to school on Monday.**

**Wishing you and your family the very best,**

**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.**

## Pictures from the Week:



**PTO:**

Next meeting will be held on Monday, November 9th. at 6:30pm.

Please help to raise money for the BIS PTO by purchasing beautiful balsam wreaths for the holiday season. The order forms were sent home this week with students and a copy is also attached below.

**[BIS PTO Wreath Sale Order Form](#)**

**PVLA:**

PVLA school photos are here and ready for pickup for those who ordered them. Please stop by the school and ring the doorbell between 8:45- 3:00 any day or call ahead to make other arrangements.

**News from Mrs. McDonough:**

Returning to full in-person learning is exciting for us all. It can also bring up some feelings of anxiety, as changes often do. There will be a learning curve, for sure, as we all adjust to being back together and the necessary safety protocols. Please be assured that all of the adults in the building are fully prepared to welcome and support your children through this next chapter of 2020. If you have any questions or concerns or if your child is having difficulty adjusting to full in-person learning, please feel free to reach out to me at [smcdonough@portlandct.us](mailto:smcdonough@portlandct.us) or 860-342-6765, ext. 1615.

**Dates to Remember:**

Monday, October 26th - Fully Reopening School

Wednesday, October 28th - 2hr Delayed Opening

Tuesday, November 3rd - No School - PD Day for Teachers



### **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 80% 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](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: October is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic violence was already an epidemic before COVID-19, but the health crisis has caused a tremendous spike in incidents of abuse. CT Safe Connect serves as Connecticut's domestic violence resource hub, providing information, safety planning, counseling, case management, and referrals to CCADV's 18 member domestic violence organizations and other community-based resources. If you decide to access help they will do the following.**

- **Always ask if you are in a safe place to talk or message.**
- **If you are concerned that someone may be monitoring your internet or phone usage, please let us know right away. We can help.**
- **We will ask you questions. We do this so we can better understand you and what you're going through. Share only what you're comfortable sharing.**
- **We like to follow-up with you within 48 hours — but will do this only with your permission, and in the way you tell us feels safest.**

**Do not access links for Domestic Violence at a place where the abuser shares the computer or can access what you are searching. Go to a friends or family's house to look up information. If you need help or just someone to talk to, please visit CTSafeConnect.org or call or text (888) 774-2900. Advocates available 24/7.**



**CALL or TEXT us**

We listen because you matter.



**EMAIL us**

Tell us if it's safe to reply.



**LIVE CHAT in your language**

We chat back in yours.

CTSafeConnect.org | (888) 774-2900 | 24/7/365

All services are CONFIDENTIAL, SAFE, FREE & VOLUNTARY.

<https://nomore.org/campaigns/dvam/> - Website campaigning awareness on domestic violence

<https://ctsafeconnect.com/> - resources for help

<http://www.ctcadv.org/find-help/staying-safe-technology/> - Link to computer safety and being aware of how to protect yourself with online technology.

**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 833.226.2362 to speak to one of their clinicians. They're available to help, any day, any time.

[COVID Screening Tool- To be used each morning- CLICK HERE](#)

**Friday Joke: Which ghost is the best dancer? Answer: The Boogie Man!**