

Have a great long weekend!
Allison

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Allison Hine** <ahine@portlandct.us>
Date: Fri, Oct 9, 2020 at 1:32 PM
Subject: BIS Buzz 10/9/2020
To: <ahine@portlandct.us>

BIS Buzz

The Weekly Brownstone Newsletter



Update from Mrs. Hine:

Dear Brownstone Families,

On Tuesday night, the Board of Education voted to support the recommendation of Dr. Britton and the Reopening Committee to fully reopen In-Person Learning beginning on Monday, October 26th. I want to assure you that we will continue to prioritize the health and safety of our students and staff by maximizing social distancing and adhering to the guidelines put forth by the CDC.

Another change to our schedule will take place next week. Due to the holiday on Monday, we will be having the Cohort B students attend school on Wednesday, October

14th. We will adjust custodial schedules to ensure a deep cleaning of all classrooms on Wednesday afternoon and evening. I included a schedule of the next three weeks below.

There is a group of sixth grade students who are forming a Spirit Committee, so look for some fun Spirit Days in the near future as well as the possibility of a little friendly competition between homerooms. We have a certain fifth grade teacher who has offered to dye her hair any color chosen by the winning homeroom! Please encourage your sixth grader to join the committee if they are interested.

I hope that you enjoy the long weekend coming up.

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 or at (860)342-6765.

Attachments:

[COVID Screening Tool- To be used daily](#)

News from Mrs. McDonough, BIS Social Worker:

The changing social landscape, combined with the rapid developmental changes going on with your pre-adolescent or “tween” can be surprising to children and parents. Most parents expect changes to come during the teenage years, but the pre-adolescent period, roughly ages 9-12 can be fraught with as many challenges. Children this age are striving for more independence, while coping with physical, cognitive and emotional changes, as well as experiencing a more complex social landscape. When you add the lure of social media, families may find themselves in need of support to navigate this time of transition. Linked below is an excellent article from The Child Mind Institute about parenting tweens.

<https://childmind.org/article/what-parents-should-know-about-tweens/>

If your child is having difficulty adjusting to hybrid or virtual learning, please feel free to reach out to me at smcdonough@portlandct.us or 860-342-6765, ext. 1615.

BIS PTO:

Next meeting will be held on Monday, October 19th at 6:30pm.

Dates to Remember:

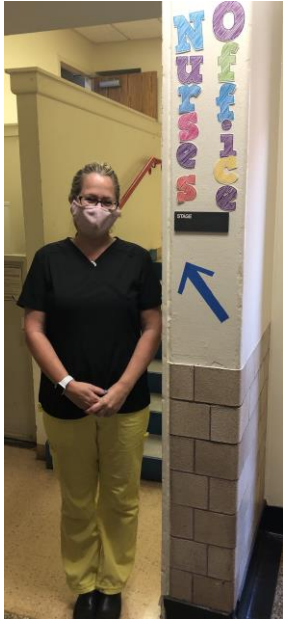
Monday, October 12th - No School

Monday, October 26th - Fully Reopening School

Wednesday, October 28th - 2hr Delayed Opening

OCTOBER 2020 ATTENDANCE CALENDAR

Monday 10/12	Tuesday 10/13	Wednesday 10/14	Thursday 10/15	Friday 10/16
No School: Indigenous Peoples' Day/ Columbus Day	Cohort B in school	Cohort B in school	Blue at home	Blue at home
	Cohort A at home	Cohort A at home	Cohort A school	Cohort A school
Monday 10/19	Tuesday 10/20	Wednesday 10/21	Thursday 10/22	Friday 10/23
Cohort B in school	Cohort B in school	At Home Learning Day for All	Blue at home	Blue at home
Cohort A at home	Cohort A at home		Cohort A school	Cohort A school
Monday 10/26	Tuesday 10/27	Wednesday 10/28	Thursday 10/29	Friday 10/30
All Students at School	All Students at School	All Students at School	All Students at School	All Students at School



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 https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Forms/HAR3_2018.pdf?la=en

5th Grade: Vision and Hearing screening began this week for 5th grade only. If your 5th grade child is in PVLA or 6th grade and you would like to have their vision or hearing checked, please call me to set up an appointment. The purpose for health screenings is to recognize undetected hearing or vision loss. Low vision or hearing can negatively impact a child's learning. Phone calls and letters went home to families whose child did not pass.

Health and wellness: Twenty Ways You Can Help Your Children Succeed At School. According to the CDC academic success is an excellent indicator of overall well-being in youth. We all want our children to succeed and be successful. Attached is a link to an article that states achievable ways we can help our children be successful. As parents, we are the voice of our children and the most important teacher. Family involvement can help your child do better and have better feelings about school.

<http://www.colorincolorado.org/article/twenty-ways-you-can-help-your-children-succeed-school>

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.

Friday Joke: Why are frogs always so happy? Answer: Because they eat whatever bugs them.

Our Week in Pictures:

