

BROWN SCHOOL

BI-WEEKLY ELETTER ~ AUGUST 25, 2013

Imagine

by Patti Vitale

**Come with me and you'll be, in a world of pure imagination,
Take a look and you'll see, into your imagination...**

-Willy Wonka (Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory)

As September creeps up on us, teachers, students and parents begin to imagine the new school year. Some are excited at the prospect of the new school year; imagining the new things they will learn and the wonderful new experiences they will enjoy. Some are sad to see summer vacation come to an end and are less enthusiastic about the start of school. Let me assure all of you, the faculty and staff have been busy all summer long, preparing classrooms, curriculum and school events that will stimulate your imagination.

Our teachers know that fueling a student's imagination is an essential element of an excellent education. I am fortunate to have the privilege to work with an amazing group of teachers. This year we have made some changes and added to our team. We do, however, wish Mr. Swan all the best in his new teaching position at Burnt Hills High School. Mr. Swan will always be a part of our family, and I am grateful for the time he has given to help our new science teacher transition into Brown School. He has promised to stay in touch and visit, and I will hold him to that promise. At this time, it is my pleasure to introduce our new middle school science teacher, Ms. Julia Cardo. Ms. Cardo's degree is in science education with a concentration in Earth Science. Like Mr. Swan, she is a second-generation science teacher, so their enthusiasm and curiosity must be genetic! Welcome Ms. Cardo! Best wishes also to Mrs. Lukas, PreK Teacher Assistant, as she heads off to serve as Librarian in the Amsterdam School District. We hope you will also stay in touch and visit us often.

I also extend a warm welcome to Mr. Baxter, Mrs. Mertik, and Mrs. McLeron. Mr. Baxter will serve as our new Director of Technology. He has spent the month of August preparing our computers, phones and printers. Mrs. Mertik will be the PreK teaching assistant to Mrs. Danz, who is returning to the Nursery- PreK team and will serve as their Area Coordinator. Mrs. McLeron, the new 5th grade-teaching assistant, will be working with Mrs. Haines. Mrs. Haines will return full time to the classroom, after serving as the Interim Assistant Head of School. I am so grateful for the outstanding job she did as the Assistant Head of School. The new 4th grade dynamic duo will be Ms. McGann and Ms. Quinn. Ms. Koutelis will be leaving the Nursery-PreK team and is moving into the third grade this year. Ms. Coffey will continue to serve on our Literacy IGNITE team and offer support services in kindergarten through third grade. Mrs. Messenger and Mrs. Hoffman will be teaching Engineering By Design in kindergarten through fifth grade. Mrs. Cooper has had a very busy summer as she prepares a full curriculum for all our students. She has been busy working on our new health curriculum with the Area Coordinators. With regards to Area Coordinators, I am also pleased to announce that Ms. Rea will be the Area Coordinator for grades 6-8. Finally, stepping out of the classroom and into the permanent position as Assistant Head of Brown School is Mrs. Hoeffner. She has taught for over 25 years at Brown and her knowledge, experience, and love of Brown will be an asset to the administrative team.

Hmmm, let's see, did I remember all the additions and changes? No, I did forget a major change! Ms. Quinn will accept the very special role as The Bride on September 1st! Ms. Quinn will be returning to Brown School as Mrs. Blair. Congratulations and best wishes to the new couple.

I think I need a vacation after this eletter. Expect to hear a few more additions to our faculty and staff. It is wonderful to see our faculty expand and take on new challenges. We look forward to seeing you all at the BBQ, Wednesday, September 4th. Plan to meet our new faculty members, as well as new students and their families. The 2013-14 school year will be filled with many challenges and possibilities. I can only imagine...



Congratulations to the Class of 2013. We wish them the best as they begin high school this year!

Summer Camp, Clubs and Enrichment

Brown School Summer Camp 2013 is coming to an end. This year we played soccer and backyard games, clowned around with the circus, built Lego robots and even made our own video games. We made amazing art work, worked with science and made music with a show at the end. There was lots of water activity and many games were played as well.



We are looking forward to a wonderful year filled with many clubs and enrichment opportunities. This year we are excited to have Josh Milodizanski on our enrichment line-up. Josh is a graduate of the Crane School of Music and has a degree in music education. This year, he will be teaching woodwinds in our after-school program. Josh and former Brown School student, Aidan Brooks, just released their first CD, by their band, Stockade Kids. If you have any questions please contact rule@brownschool.org

Don't forget the annual **Back to School BBQ** will be held on **Wednesday, September 4th** from 4:30-7:00 p.m. You can bring your school supplies that evening and put them in your child's locker. If you have not yet responded, you can email your [RSVP to Mrs. Killin](#). We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, September 4

- Back to School BBQ - 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 6

• **First Day of School**

- *Before School Hours - 7:15-8:05*
- *School Begins 8:05*
- *School Ends 2:55*
- *Afterschool Hours - 2:55-6:00*

Wednesday, September 11-Friday September 13

- Camp Chingachgook (Grades 6-8)

Wednesday, September 18

- Back to School Night (N-4)

Monday, September 23 - Friday September 27

- Picture Week

Wednesday, September 25

- Back to School Night (5-8)

Friday, October 11

- Professional Day - No School

Monday, October 14

- Columbus Day - No School

Friday, October 18

- A Magical Night at Brown

Thursday, October 31

- Halloween Parade - Grades N-4

Please visit the **Events** page on our website for a full calendar of events.

Important Links

Need to know what is for [lunch](#) on the first day of school? Misplaced your [school supply list](#)? Forgot the link to the [online library catalog](#)? Want to follow us on [Facebook](#)?

[Visit our website](#) to find all this information, and more!



Click & Snip



There are many ways that you can support Brown School, helping us earn points or raise money, with just a click of your mouse or a snip of your scissors! Be sure to read the specific rules for each offer. Here are a few ways to help:

Give With Target - Brown School



This year, Target will give money to schools all over the country for one simple act: a vote. Our school has already reached the 25 vote minimum to earn a \$25 donation from Target. But, for each additional vote we get, our school will get \$1 more. [Vote for Brown School](#) once a week through September 21 or until Target has given away all \$5 million. And please share this link with your friends!

Price Chopper - Tools for Schools



[Sign up](#) today and purchases made from July 28, 2013 through March 29, 2014 will earn points to help your school get needed equipment FREE.



Box Tops for Education

Once you start looking, you'll see these little pink coupons everywhere! Each Box Top coupon is worth 10¢ for Brown School.

Coke Rewards



[Enter codes](#) from your favorite participating My Coke Rewards products, then donate your points to Brown School.



Campbell's Labels for Education

Clip the labels and send them in to school, and we will submit them for points. You can view the [full list](#) of more than 2,500 participating products.

Thank you for your support!

Summer Literacy Program

Students in the Summer Literacy Program practiced reading, writing, listening and speaking skills through hands-on science based themes. Students turned themselves into recycling superheroes, wrote stories about their adventures, went on scavenger hunts, and got messy during their ooey gooey projects, all while keeping their literacy skills fresh before the start of the upcoming school year!



Café News

It's back to school season and everyone is looking for easy morning ideas for nutritious breakfast items. Think outside the cereal box. You can prepare eggs in the same amount of time that it takes you to prepare your morning cup of coffee. Use a foolproof hard-boiled egg recipe to get you on your way and out the door faster. Hard-boiled eggs are portable, easy to store, and ready to eat. With high-quality protein, vitamin D, and all 9 essential amino acids, eating eggs every morning will help your family start the day off right. The café uses an average of 24 hard-boiled eggs everyday on our salad bar.

1. Single layer eggs in pan. Add cool water to cover. Heat to boiling. Remove from heat. Cover.
2. Let eggs sit for 12 minutes.
3. Drain and serve warm. To peel easier, use eggs that have been in your refrigerator for over a week.

~ Chef Eunice



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