

Bradford School News

Jan. 8, 2021

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.

Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

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MLK Jr. Day of Service

• The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on Jan. 18th is the 26th anniversary of the day of service that celebrates the Civil Rights leader’s life and legacy. Observed each year on the third Monday in January as “a day on, not a day off,” MLK Jr. Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. See more [here](#). This year, our traditional MLK Jr. Day of Service will look a bit different, kicking off with a school-wide virtual community event, followed by designated times for donation drop-offs in the Bradford School front circle to support local organizations. Please stay tuned for the Zoom link and Sign-Up Genius links to participate!

Black Lives Matter Week of Action

• Black Lives Matter Week of Action usually takes place in February, but this year the National Education Association is planning a Week of Action next week as we prepare to celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Bradford will participate by engaging in the following activities:

- **Monday, Jan. 11th:** Day of Solidarity with Black Lives Matter (wear black). Teachers will discuss with students why Black Lives Matter.
- **Tuesday, Jan. 12th:** John Lewis "Good Trouble" Tuesday – Teachers will share with students examples of people who stood up for what was right even though the law might have made their actions illegal at the time. For parents, a great resource is [NO! My First Book of Protest](#) by Julie Merberg.
- **Wednesday, Jan. 13th:** Black Joy mini-lessons: Teachers will share a resource, picture, or activity to help students celebrate and honor Black joy. For parents, a great resource is the book [Black is a Rainbow Color](#) by Angela Joy.
- **Thursday, Jan. 14th:** Black Girl Magic mini-lessons: Teachers will share a resource, picture, or activity to help students celebrate and honor Black Women in History. For parents, a great resource is [Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History](#) by Vashti Harrison.
- **Friday, Jan. 15th:** Students will research a local black-owned business (or teachers will share one) and have students identify the reasons they would shop there.

Drop In Chat and Craft

• The Mental Health Association of Morris and Essex Counties is hosting free virtual chat and craft afternoons for children aged 7-12 every Wednesday from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m. Certified art therapists will support children socially and emotionally while they create art projects together. Funding for this program is provided by the New Jersey Crisis Counseling Hope and Healing Program. For more information and to register, please call (973) 509-9777 ext. 151 or inquire [here](#).

Health and Safety Forms

• The re-entry health and safety contract is now open on Genesis for parents/caregivers of students who will be participating in hybrid learning. Immunizations and physical exams for Kindergarten and new students must be complete and on file in the nurse's office for fully remote *and* hybrid students. Medical action plans and medication forms must be submitted to Nurse Dowling as soon as possible for all hybrid students. Please email Nurse Dowling [here](#) if your child or a household member has tested positive for COVID-19 or if you have any questions.

Mask-Wearing

• All students will be expected to wear masks upon our return to in-person learning. One of our occupational therapists, Stephanie Peters, made a short video for students on proper mask wearing. You and your child can view it [here](#). You can also have your child participate in a 1:1 session with Nurse Dowling to learn about and practice mask-wearing by reaching out to her [here](#). Make sure your children have practiced mask-wearing for extended periods of time (covering the mouth, nose, and chin and having elastic loops or ties), and please talk to your children about the health benefits of wearing masks (click [here](#) for the CDC's explanation).

The Bradford Reader

• Calling all Writers! We are still accepting submissions for the Bradford Reader, Bradford's Literary Magazine. This year has been a year unlike any other. What better way to deal with some of the feelings brought on by COVID-19 than to express them through writing and art! Your child's work should reflect the topic of COVID-19 and can be expressed through drawing, poetry, essays, short stories and more. Please submit your child's drawings, poems, musings, haikus, essays, and written thoughts. Submissions can be sent to [here](#). Handwritten submissions are ok. Feel free to send questions to Taigi Smith [here](#). See you in the Reader!

Upcoming Dates

- Jan. 12th: Antiracism and Equity Action Committee (AREA C) Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 14th: PTA Meeting 7: 00 p.m.
- Jan. 18th: MLK Jr. Day of Service 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. "Drive Through and Drop Off" in the school's front circle – stay tuned for sign up genius links to participate.
- Jan. 25th: Return to School for Hybrid Instruction (Mounties attend M, T, W and Bulldogs attend Th and F of this week)
- Jan. 28th: Early (1:40) Dismissal for Curriculum Meetings

