

Bradford School News

Dec. 18, 2020

“I’ve learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way (s)he handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.” - Maya Angelou

Follow us on Twitter [@BradfordSchool](https://twitter.com/BradfordSchool) to receive updates about school!

MFEE Healing Huddles

• Parenting is too tough - especially now - to go it alone. Introducing MFEE Healing Huddles: urgent care for the parenting soul. Starting in January 2021, the Montclair Fund for Educational Excellence (MFEE) will launch [Healing Huddles](#) to support parents by providing a space for sharing, a tiny bit of inspiration, and some bite-sized strategies to keep us going. How do the huddles work? Huddles are small weekly conversations, lightly guided by parents and caregivers who have been trained by local therapists/parent coaches to provide just-enough structure and support. They are free to everyone (through the support of MFEE’s generous donors) and consist of 1-hour conversations (on-line), over a 6-week period, with between 5-6 parents and caregivers. Every week, in each Huddle, parents can share what they are dealing with, listen to and support each other, and learn tools and strategies to manage challenges. Community members can opt to join a Huddle based on a shared affinity or challenge (for example, single parents, parents of BIPOC children, parents of middle schoolers, parents with 2+ children). To learn more about Healing Huddles or to sign-up, click [here](#).

PTA Updates

- Bradford Community Builder Food Drive for Toni’s Kitchen: It’s not too late to make a monetary donation for Toni’s Kitchen online [here](#). Contact Karen Greenwald with any questions [here](#).
- Student Diversity Pack Pickup Update: The PTA still has many packs that have not been picked up yet. Don’t miss out on this wonderful gift for your child(ren)! If you would like to arrange a date for pick up please email the PTA [here](#).

Bradford Holiday Spirit Week

- Let’s have some fun and get into the spirit of the season next week! Students may choose to participate in the following. See the printable flyer attached to today’s e-blast.
 - Monday – First Day of Winter! Wear a warm winter sweater and any other winter gear you’d like (hat, gloves/mittens, scarf, ear muffs).
 - Tuesday – Holiday Dress Up! Wear your favorite holiday outfit or dress as your favorite winter character! (Frosty, Santa, Gingerbread Boy, Elf, Reindeer, etc.)
 - Wednesday – Get Cozy for Winter Break! Wear your coziest winter pajamas and snuggle up for a short day!

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

- As you know, all students will be expected to wear masks upon return to in-person learning. Nurse Dowling will be providing classroom lessons on proper mask-wearing protocols. If you would like your child to participate in a 1:1 session with Nurse Dowling to learn about and practice mask-wearing, please reach out to her [here](#). You can help by giving your children time now to practice mask-wearing for extended periods of time (covering the mouth, nose, and chin and having elastic loops or ties), having a variety of appropriately-sized masks around your home to increase interest in mask-wearing, allowing your child to select a mask that they prefer, talking to your children about the health benefits of wearing masks (click [here](#) for the CDC's explanation), and washing your masks with your children. For more information, you can visit the CDC's website [here](#).

The Bradford Reader

- Calling all Writers! We are now 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

- Dec. 23rd: Early (1:40 p.m.) Dismissal for Winter Break
- Dec. 24th-Jan. 1st: Winter Break
- Jan. 4th: School Reopens (Remotely)

Wishing everyone all the joys of the holiday season. This is the last newsletter for 2020. Merry Christmas and Happy Kwanzaa to all who celebrate, and may 2021 bring peace, hope, and happiness to all!