

6512 Brantford Avenue,  
Burnaby, B.C. V5E 2S1  
Phone: 604-664-8603  
<http://brantford.sd41.bc.ca>

Principal: Mr. K. Gurney  
Head Teacher: Mme J. Taylor  
Secretary: Ms. I. Thomson



# The Brantford Bulletin

## Quote of the Week

“It doesn't matter who you are, where you come from. The ability to triumph begins with you. Always.”  
- Oprah Winfrey

## Inside this issue:

PARKING CHANGES!	1 & 2
Problem of the Week	2
Vaisakhi & Internet Safety	3
Gov't money, Ballaholics, & Eye Exams	4



Issue #11

April 21st, 2017



## Monday, April 24th is Pro-D Students do not attend

### Parking Pandemonium

Well, here it comes again...a principal's lament over parking woes.

First off, we are extremely lucky at Brantford to have a large parking area right at the front of our school with a section where you can drive through to drop students off. Although...perhaps lucky isn't the right word any more, because I now find my mornings consumed with walking around the parking lot asking parents to obey basic traffic safety rules. On top of that, I have staff complaining because there is often not enough parking spots for them to park and I have parents that are angry because cars are double parked and the drivers are nowhere to be found. But most importantly, it comes down to student safety.

So where do we go from here? Do I lock the front gates to ensure students are safe? Well, that doesn't give off a "Welcome to Brantford" vibe. Do I continue to parade around the parking lot from 8:40–9:00 every day reminding parents to abide by safety rules? That doesn't seem like a good use of time. So here's what we'll try (and thanks to parents and staff that have given numerous suggestions).

### For morning drop off (starting immediately):

- The central parking spots are for **STAFF ONLY**. No parent parking.
- The outside curb spots are "**KISS & RIDE**" **ON-LY**. No parent parking. This means you pull to the curb, give or blow a kiss, the child steps out onto the curb, and you drive away. 20 seconds should be all you'd need.
- If you are parking and walking your child to the door, please use the designated parking areas on Brantford Avenue, Empress Avenue, Sperling Avenue, or Lakewood Avenue with parking available



continued on next page →

### COME AND JOIN US AT THE FOLLOWING UPCOMING EVENTS

- White Hatter Internet Safety Parent Session: **April 25th @ 7pm**
- Ache Brasil Performance (in French): **April 26th @ 9am (all welcome)**
- Multicultural Night: **April 28th @ 6pm**
- Gr. 4-7, All Day Track Meet, Swangard Stadium: **May 4th (all welcome)**
- Cadence Performance: **May 5th @ 9am**
- Festival of Bands, Confederation Park Elementary: **May 11 @ Noon (all welcome)**

*Continued from front...*

**For afternoon pick up (starting immediately):**

- Same as morning drop off EXCEPT for that we will be issuing **PARKING PERMITS** to parents/guardians/daycare providers that are picking up **4 or more students**.
- There will still be a firm **NO PARKING** policy in all areas except for the limited amount of drivers with a **PARKING PERMIT** only \*\*To get a parking permit, please see Mr. Gurney or Ms. Thomson in the office

**Other ways you can help:**

- Walk whenever possible and drop off further from the school (especially intermediates)
- Use the back roads like Empress Avenue to drop off (especially intermediates). I still see cars with intermediate students being dropped off right at the front of the school which only adds to congestion...please use Empress or the lane across our field...it's likely closer to your child's outside classroom door anyways.
- Pull to the curb only to drop students off, and please be sure to take no more than 20 seconds, otherwise the backlog caused will be absolutely terrible



If everyone did these simple things, our streets and parking lots would be much safer for students, so please continue to do your part. If you have any questions, concerns, or some other brilliant ideas on our parking and road safety situation, please email ([kurt.gurney@sd41.bc.ca](mailto:kurt.gurney@sd41.bc.ca)), call (604-664-8603) or swing by my office any time.

K. Gurney—Principal

*We'll*  
**MISS**  
**YOU!**

**BON VOYAGE JAMES**

Mr. Tejero, our extraordinary Educational Assistant that has been working mostly in Ms. Njegovan's class this year, will be leaving us for an opportunity he just can't pass up. We'd like to congratulate him on getting a custodial position in the district, something he has wanted for a long time, and we'd also like to thank him for all the work he has done at Brantford this year. He has made some significant connections with students and staff and will be greatly missed.

Thanks for everything James and congratulations from your Brantford family.

---

**Problem of the Week**

**What do the numbers 11, 69, and 88 all have in common?**

Here's the solution for the last question: Throw away the outside and cook the inside, then eat the outside and throw away the inside. What is it?

**Corn on the cob**



### Vaisakhi thank you!

Last week, we had an assembly featuring dancers and a student-led Powerpoint on the celebration of Vaisakhi. What an amazing event. Not only was it informative and energetic, it was a lot of fun for all...we even had the opportunity to learn some dance moves.

I want to thank to following families for putting in so much time and effort, and even preparing and organizing treats for all students and staff:

- Lally family
- Kooner family
- Hayre family
- Kainth family
- Ladhar family
- Purba family
- Mehta family
- Gill family
- Both Uppal families
- Sandhu family
- Pooni family
- Hara family
- Sanghera family
- Hayer family

In addition, I'd like to thank the Vancity Bhangra dancers for joining us, and also **Sajn, Mehak, Arjun, Azaad, & Jaya** for helping with the presentation. I think we all learned a lot about what Vaisak-



### Internet Safety (Parents & Students)

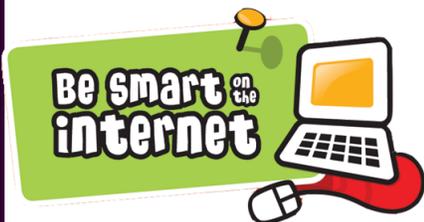
Just a reminder that we are lucky to welcome Darren Laur from Personal Protection Systems Inc. (aka the White Hatter) to speak to intermediate students and parents at Brantford on April 25th in the hopes of helping them to proactively understand the enabling power of digital technology and mobile communications, but also how to mitigate the sometimes unintended consequences of high risk/undesirable online behaviour. He'll be covering topics such as:

- What are Chat Rooms, Instant Messaging, and SMS/MMS texting and how to stay safe while using them
- Cell phone/ Smart Phone and Web Cam safety
- What is your "digital dossier" and how students are placing their reputation and privacy at risk when on-line
- The good and bad of Social Networks such as "Facebook", "Twitter", "Skype", Tumblr", "Instagram", "Snapchat", "Vine" and "Ask.fm"
- Why students need to consider that everything they do on-line is public, permanent and searchable no matter what their privacy settings
- What is Cyber Bullying/Digital Peer Aggression and what can be done to control it

His award winning program clearly outlines the dangers associated with accessing online content and promotes responsible digital citizenship. For more information click [HERE](#).

**We encourage parents to attend the parent information session**

**(April 25th @ 7pm)** in which other community families from Buckingham, Morley, and Windsor have also been invited. So come early to get your seats in the Brantford gym. There is no charge thanks to our wonderfully supportive PAC.



### Are you missing out on FREE government money for your child's future education?

Now all BC kids born in 2006 or later can get the provincial BC Training & Education Savings Grant at age 6, 7, or 8. Over 250,000 kids in BC also may be able to access money for their post-secondary education savings through the federal government's Canada Learning Bond. Yes, it's FREE MONEY for families to get savings started, even when they have no money of their own to contribute. You only need



to set up a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) account to apply for and receive the money. Without an RESP, kids miss out on the federal and provincial education savings incentives they are entitled to receive from the government. Start your child's higher education savings today! BC families can open a no-fee, zero required contribution Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) and receive free government money for their kids' higher education. All you need to start is the social insurance number (SIN), name and date of birth of the child who this is for; and the parent/guardian's SIN and contact information. Visit the United Way of the Lower Mainland's website to access this easy, step-by-step process: <http://www.uwlm.ca/smartsaver-uwbc/>



**Balloholics Youth Basketball** - Balloholics provides classes for kindergarten (age 5) to grade 9's in a year round program where students learn the FUNdamentals of basketball in a modified games format. The program is designed to follow the LTAD model for sport in Canada.

Classes are held in a number of elementary and secondary schools in Burnaby. The program is designed to follow the LTAD model for sport in Canada. Spring Session begins April 10th and will feature both instructional classes and Spring Leagues for boys U11/U13/U15. There also be a new class for boys U10-13 offered at Cariboo Hill Secondary that will cover basketball fundamentals. For further details or to register online visit <http://www.balloholic.com/programs/spring-session/> or email [info@balloholic.com](mailto:info@balloholic.com)

**Kindergarten Eye Exams** - School-age children's eyes are constantly in use in the classroom and at play so it's important to ensure they are working their best. Your child may not realize they have a vision problem – they may simply assume everyone sees the way they do.

Eye See ... Eye Learn is a program that provides free eye exams and eyeglasses if necessary to Kindergarten children by a BC Doctor of Optometry. Visit [www.bcesel.ca](http://www.bcesel.ca) to book your child's eye exam with a participating doctor.



*\*Special thanks to Ms. Pitt from Morley Elementary for providing this information*