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<https://spslearn.spsd.sk.ca/schools/BSS/Pages/Default.aspx>

Students: Username and Password required

Parents: Please request Username and Password @ BrunskillSchool.spsd.sk.ca

"Together We Are Better!"

This agenda belongs to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____


CITY/TOWN _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____

STUDENT NO. _____



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Administrators' Message (Ms G. Swerhone, Principal & Mr. H. Hamilton, Vice-Principal)

Dear Parents and Caregivers:

Welcome back to a new school year; the staff at Brunskill School are pleased to have the opportunity to work with your children this year. A big welcome also goes to any families that are new to the school this year; we are excited to have you join our Brunskill family.

We are very committed to providing the best learning experience possible for your children. Everything we do at Brunskill is based on current research and best practice in education. We always appreciate and encourage parent interest, involvement and feedback - feel free to contact us at anytime. We would also like to encourage you to become active with our School Community Council or volunteer at our school, we would love to have you.

We are looking forward to the year ahead and working with all of the great students and families of Brunskill.

Saskatoon Public Schools' Priority Areas

The Saskatoon Public Board of Education has identified two priorities for our School Division:

Literacy For Life

We are committed to the goal of all students, K-8, reading and writing at or above grade level in multiple subject areas so that they can act upon their potential in school and in life - ultimately creating a healthier democratic society for the 21st century.

Collegiate Renewal

All collegiate students will be engaged in their learning so that they will graduate as active participants in life-long learning and as responsible and caring citizens in the community, nation, and world.

Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Continuous Improvement Framework Provincial Priority Areas

The Ministry has identified four overarching and enduring provincial commitments for continuous improvement:

Higher Levels of Literacy and Achievement

Student learning will improve in a broad range of studies, commensurate with ability.

Equitable Opportunities

All students will have equity of opportunity and benefit according to individual aptitudes, abilities, and interests, regardless of their personal or locational circumstances.

Smooth Transitions

Student movement will be supported into, through, and from high school to post-secondary education, or the workforce.

Accountability and Governance

School division operations will be transparent, effective, and fiscally responsible in support of improved student outcomes.

School Community Council

The Vision

School Community Councils are an essential feature of educational planning and decision-making. They are part of the school system and are a primary link between home, community and school. The Vision for School Community Councils guides their formation, initiatives and evaluation.

The Purpose

The purpose of the School Community Council is to develop shared responsibility for the learning success and well-being of all children and youth; and to encourage and facilitate parent and community engagement in school planning and improvement processes.

School Day

Our school day looks like this:

8:55 a.m.	Call to class
9:00 a.m.	Classes begin promptly
10:40 - 10:55	Recess
11:45 - 12:45	Lunch Break
12:45	Classes begin
2:25 - 2:40	Recess
3:30	Dismissal

Our school is fortunate to be able to offer a Before and After Care Program which is staffed by the Boys and Girls Club of Saskatoon. We have School staff available to support students until 3:45 p.m. At 3:45 p.m. all students must be picked up or placed in the Before and After Care Program (at the expense of the parents). **The school can not be responsible for students without supervision after 3:45 p.m.**

Staff Meetings

Staff meetings are held every Thursday. Students are dismissed at 2:50 p.m. and there is no p.m. recess.

Literacy for Life at Brunskill

What is Literacy for Life?

Early learning and literacy is a key priority for Saskatoon Public Schools. Launched in 2004, **Literacy for Life** is a three to six year initiative intended to improve our students' reading skills. In order to build our learning community, we are engaging all students in early learning and literacy. Our overall **Literacy for Life** goal is to have all of our students, K-12, reading at or above grade level.

Ask any child or adult who struggles with reading what a difference it would make if they could successfully read and you'll have your answer to this question. The difference that learning to read can make for a child cannot be merely stated in words. To be a successful reader means that school is easier, self-esteem is higher, and life success is greater.

The Literacy for Life Program has had three components: Literacy grades K-8, Just Read and Read to Succeed. Each piece has been designed to enhance our students' reading ability and their participation in reading. Throughout the school year we will keep parents and guardians informed about this exciting initiative.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Supervision of Students

Staff provides supervision for students from 8:45 - 9:00 a.m., and during recesses. **Students are requested to arrive at school no sooner than 15 minutes prior to bell time (this includes the lunch hour) unless they are involved in a scheduled activity for which there is supervision.** Upon arrival, students may make use of the waiting rooms during inclement weather. Students are expected to go directly home after school unless they are involved in a classroom or school activity with the prior knowledge of their parents/guardians. Students requested by teachers to stay later than 4:00 p.m. will call their parents to inform them of the delay.

Students should not be dropped off or picked up in the staff parking lot. Please respect parking restrictions around the school and choose safety over convenience. Please pick up your children by 3:45 p.m. unless they are in our Before and After program or an after school supervised activity. There is **NO** supervision in the building for students waiting for parents to pick them up.

Recess/Noon Breaks

Brunskill School has a "Fresh Air Policy." Students are expected to go outside during recess and noon hour breaks unless the weather is inclement (extremely cold - wind chill factor of -27°C or wet conditions). On these inside days, children will remain indoors. Please ensure that students come dressed appropriately to enjoy the fresh air experience (dress in layers). Students, who for medical reasons cannot go outside, should carry a **dated** exemption note (short term). For long-term exemption, the principal and teacher must be notified by a doctor's note.

Attendance

To ensure student safety please phone the school and leave a message with the secretary or school message manager if your child will be absent. If we don't hear from you we will call you. We really need students not to leave the school grounds during the school day without first checking in with their teacher - this is also for their safety. Ensure that children are not arriving late. We want to respect the time of others.

Emergency Situations and Procedures

We need to be aware of your emergency arrangements for your children. A situation may occur which necessitates sending a child home. In the event of an emergency, we will try to make contact with parents. If parents are not available, alternative arrangements are necessary. Children also need to know about your arrangements and what your expectations are for them. Please take time to discuss emergency procedures with your children.

Our school has a crisis management plan in place that addresses fire, shelter in place, lock down and evacuation procedures. Students are required, at all times, to wear shoes. If an emergency occurs where the school must be evacuated, staff will accompany our children to **Luther Tower - 1212 Osler Street (664-0300)**. If it is necessary to evacuate the neighborhood, our students will be bussed to Walter Murray Collegiate - 1905 Preston Avenue (683-7850). In the event of such an emergency, please listen to the radio or come to Luther Tower or Walter Murray Collegiate. Do not call us, as we will be trying to reach you. Children will not be sent home unless we can be assured of their safety.

Before and After School Program

The Saskatoon Boys' and Girls' Club runs a program in Brunskill School. They will look after children starting at 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. and again from 3:30 - 6:00 p.m. Their contact number is 665-1450. They do charge a nominal fee for this service. All children who have to be dropped off at school before 8:45 a.m.

and have to be picked up after 3:45 p.m. (Thursdays 3:15 p.m.) must use the Before and After School Program. Please no exceptions. **We cannot have unsupervised children just waiting by themselves or with friends or siblings.** This is a very unsafe situation for the children. Please use the program provided to support parent schedules and keep children safe.

Communication Between Home and School

We believe that communication is the cornerstone of building a healthy and happy school and community. Should parents feel the need or desire to share a concern regarding their children, please call your child's teacher directly. As always, the principal and vice-principal are available to discuss school related issues, questions or concerns. Please share your thoughts with us.

Newsletters

The Brunskill School newsletter is published every second week and sent home with the youngest child in each family. These newsletters will contain important notices and reminders (change of dates, early dismissal times, etc.). Special events, announcements or information that concern just one class are sent home as the need arises, by the classroom teacher.

School Attire

Students are expected to go outside for recesses. Therefore during the cold months students should dress warmly (i.e. hat, mitts and a warm coat). Hat and wet footwear are to be removed upon entry into the school. Students are expected to exercise good taste and to take pride in their personal appearance. As examples - skimpy clothing and t-shirts with inappropriate slogans or advertisements for tobacco or alcohol products should not be worn to school. Students should refrain from wearing muscle shirts, halter tops, spaghetti strap tops, tube tops and shorts/skirts that do not reach the tips of their fingers. Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be required to change into something more appropriate or go home to change. We know that we are at odds with some fashion trends but discretion really needs to be practiced in the school and workplace by all.

We expect students to wear proper physical education attire. The wearing of gym shorts (or sweat pants) facilitates easier movement while running shoes provide the necessary traction for safety. Please purchase non-marking gym shoes.

The Saskatoon Public School Division insurance does not cover items belonging to staff or students, which are lost or stolen. **Please help us by labeling all items that come to school.** Students are urged to keep expensive items (electronic games, CD players, ipods, DS's, etc), money and trading cards at home. We require your help in developing respect for one's own and other people's belongings. Please discuss this topic at home. Students in Grades 4 - 8 will be issued school locks. Locks are to be returned at the end of June. There will be a \$3.00 charge for lost locks. Lockers and desks remain the property of the school and may be inspected without notice.

We invite you to check our "Lost and Found" box near the main office. Unclaimed articles are put on display periodically. Items that are not claimed are donated to an inner city school.

Medical Alert

Each year we send home a form which parents/guardians are asked to complete listing any medical concerns (i.e. allergies, asthma, etc.) **It is the responsibility of parents to alert their child's teacher to any medical concerns.** It is very important that medical information is kept current throughout the school year.

Please do not send cough syrup, eardrops or other medications to school with a note asking a teacher to store or to administer these substances. We are not permitted to store or to administer any non-prescription or prescription drugs without a medical release form. To obtain a medical release form, please see the office.

Also, we have students with life-threatening allergies. Classroom teachers will inform you if these conditions exist in your child's classroom. Please remind your child not to share his/her lunch, but rather enjoy the food that you have sent from home. Brunskill is a "nut alert" school. We encourage all students to leave nut products at home.

Bicycles, Roller blades, Skateboards and Scooters

We encourage families to ensure their children's safety by instructing them in how to bike, blade and skate properly, to obey the safety rules and to wear proper equipment such as helmets. It is also important to know that the school and the School Division cannot assume responsibility for bikes, blades, boards or scooters that are lost, damaged or stolen during school hours. Should this occur, please call the Saskatoon Public Police Service.

Upon reaching the school grounds, bicycles should be walked across the playground to be locked to the fences behind the school. Roller blades, skateboard and scooters, like bicycles, are modes of transportation. They are not to be used on the school grounds during school time. Children should come to the boot rooms to remove their rollerblades.

Lunch Arrangements

At present, Brunskill School has a lunchroom which is a service for students who are unable to go home at noon hour. We believe that children need a break from school routines and should spend time at home in a family setting at noon hour if at all possible. We do provide a lunchroom as a privilege to our students who are unable to go home at lunch.

We believe that everyone has the right to feel *safe, comfortable* and *welcome* in our lunchroom. We believe that *proper mealtime manners* are important.

Please keep the following rules in mind while enjoying your lunch in our program:

- ♥ Find a comfortable place to sit and stay there until dismissed.
- ♥ Clean up your own space.
- ♥ If you need to use the washroom please speak politely to a lunchroom supervisor before leaving your lunchroom area.
- ♥ You must show respect for others, and our school.
- ♥ You must use an inside conversational level of voice.
- ♥ Please do not share your food with anyone else because some of our students have dietary restrictions.
- ♥ If a student is having difficulty meeting these expectations he/she may lose the privilege of staying at school for lunch and alternate lunch arrangements may need to be made for a defined length of time. In these situations, parents will be contacted by the principal or vice principal.

Class Trips

A very important part of the education provided at Brunskill School is the opportunity for out-of-school learning experiences. In the fall, parents or guardians are asked to sign and return to classroom teacher a letter of permission to allow students to go on class trips. Throughout the year, parents are given advanced written notice through classroom and school newsletters about upcoming trips. Field trips are well-planned experiences, which take advantage of the resource of our city and surrounding area to enrich the regular curriculum. They provide alternative methods that enable staff and students to achieve the educational goals of the school year.

Resource Program

The Resource Program is designed to support the instructional needs of students who learn differently due to a variety of exceptionalities in learning styles and strengths. This support may be by direct instruction from the Resource Teacher or through collaborative planning with the classroom teacher or the school team of Education Psychologist, Speech Pathologist, and Counselor. As well, the Resource Teacher may also act in conjunction with the classroom teacher and other out-of-school professionals to design an appropriate individual education program for a student requiring different academic support. Our Resource Teachers also provide direct support by co-teaching with our classroom teachers. A process of referral by teacher, parent and other professionals for assessment is part of the protocol of the Resource Teacher. Parents or guardians who have serious concerns regarding their child's academic progress may request that a referral be made for an academic assessment. Currently, two teachers staff our Resource Program.

Accident Insurance

All students subscribe to a basic accident insurance program that provides coverage for injury sustained during the school day or during participation in a school-approved activity. An extended insurance program is also available - which provides coverage 365 days per year, 24 hours per day.

The most commonly accessed coverage under the basic and extended insurance programs include:

1. Dental expense reimbursement.
2. Coverage of costs of ambulance services, prescription drugs, physiotherapy treatment, and rental of crutches associated with accidents.
3. Nominal indemnity for dislocations, fractures, and other miscellaneous injuries.
4. Cost of repair or replacement of eyeglasses up to a maximum of \$100 provided that the accident also results in an injury which receives medical attention.

We wish to emphasize to parents that the School Division does not carry any other form of accident insurance to automatically provide coverage to students who may be involved in injuries while at school or who may be involved in school activities outside of school hours. If you are interested in the extended coverage, you are required to make application directly with our insurance agents.

School Calendar 2011-12

August 2011

August 25-26.....	School Opening/Staff Development
Monday, Aug. 29.....	Registration of students (K-8) 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 30.....	Classes Begin (full day)
Tuesday, Aug. 30.....	Staggered Kindergarten classes begin

September 2011

Monday, Sept. 5	Labour Day Holiday
Tuesday, Sept. 13.....	Welcome Back BBQ & Meet the Teacher
Wednesday, Sept. 14.....	School Photos
Friday, Sept. 23.....	PD/Planning Day (Students do not attend)

October 2011

Friday, Oct. 7.....	PD/Planning Day (Students do not attend)
Monday, Oct. 10	Thanksgiving Holiday
Oct. 16-22.....	Education Week - Valuing Diversity

November 2011

Wednesday, Nov. 11	Remembrance Day Holiday
Monday, Nov. 14.....	PD/Planning Day (Students do not attend)
Friday, Nov. 18.....	Progress Reports go home
Thursday, Nov. 24.....	Three-way Conferences (evening)
Friday, Nov. 25.....	Three-way Conferences (morning)

December 2011

Tuesday, Dec. 20.....	Last day prior to Christmas break
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January 2012

Wednesday, Jan. 4.....	School Resumes
Thursday, Jan. 19.....	Kindergarten Information Meeting
Friday, Jan. 27.....	PD/Planning Day (Students do not attend)

February 2012

Monday, Feb. 20	Family Day Holiday
Feb. 21-24.....	Mid Term Break (School closed)

March 2012

Friday, March 9.....	PD/Planning Day (Students do not attend)
Friday, March 16.....	Progress Reports go home
Wednesday, March 21.....	Parent/Teacher Conferences (evening)
Thursday, March 22.....	Parent/Teacher Conferences (evening)
Friday, March 23.....	Teacher Convention

APRIL 2012

Friday, April 6	Good Friday
April 9-13	Spring Break
Monday, April 16.....	School Resumes

May 2012

Friday, May 4.....	PD/Planning Day (Students do not attend)
Monday, May 21	Victoria Day Holiday

June 2012

Friday, June 8.....	PD/Planning Day (Students do not attend)
Monday, June 25.....	Grade 8 Farewell
Wednesday, June 27.....	Last day for students
Friday, June 29.....	Last day for staff