

January 6, 2017



Next Week at BFS

1/7 PAT Lower School Family Folk Dance, 2pm in the BFS Lower Gym

1/9 Afterschool Specialty Classes Begin

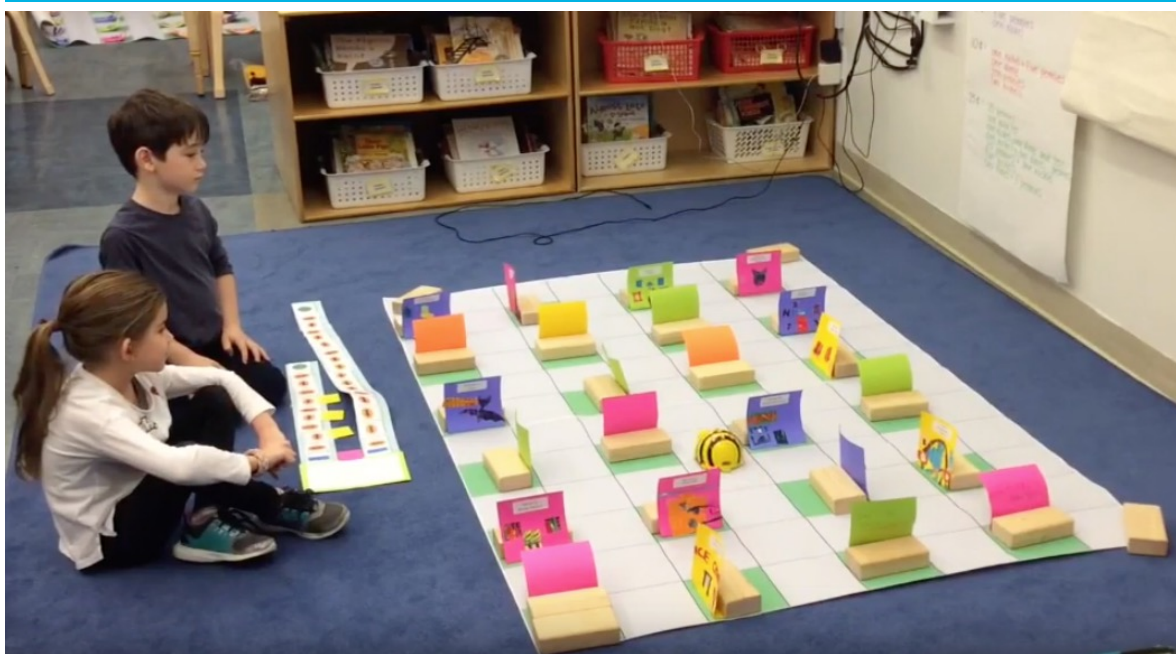
1/11 Pre and Lower School Coffee Hour, 8:45am at 116 Lawrence Street.

1/11 An Evening with Expert Speaker and Author Rick Lavoie, 6:30pm at Packer

1/13 "Simple & Powerful" - Please enter the school buildings in silence as there is a special presentation on the digital screens in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Details on all school events are on the [BFS web calendar](#).

Top Stories



Adventures in Friendsville – A Lower School STREAM Project

The first grade's traditional neighborhood study and "block city" took a giant leap into the 21st century with a collaborative STREAM project initiated by Technology Integrator **Tracy Chow**. Introduced last year, the sophomore version of the study has been refined and enhanced, and student interest is soaring. Read Tracy's article, "Adventures of the First Grade BeeBot" and see how students merged their creative talents with newly learned skills in computational thinking, coding, perspective, directionality, and algorithms. [Article](#).



At BFS You Can Go Home Again

Traditionally during the first week of January, our young alums who are on their winter breaks from college come back to school to impart some good advice to our college-bound seniors. This year's Young Alum Day took on an added dimension with a photo dedication of the Class of 2016's Legacy Gift (*photo above*), a surprise presentation to trailblazing scholar-athlete, and an evening admissions panel. At the "Beyond BFS" panel, several alums who are starting careers shared their perspectives on a BFS education with a group of more than 50 students and parents. [Read more.](#)



Your Weekly Podcast - An Interview with Head of School Larry Weiss

Happy New Year! Listen to this week's podcast and hear Middle School students sharing their new year's goals and resolutions. And hear from Head of School, Dr. Larry Weiss, about his own hopes and dreams for the year, as well as the goals of the School's upcoming 150th celebration. Also featured are photos from the Fifth Grade Egyptian Funeral and the Middle/Upper School Holiday Sing.

[PODCAST #012](#) (*Tip: click link, bookmark it, and listen at the best time for you*)

Advancement Report



**We are at 60%
of our goal! Only
\$395,351 to go by
June 30th.**



Brooklyn Friends Fund Update

THANK YOU to all who made a year-end gift to the Brooklyn Friends Fund. We have raised more than \$600,000 or 60% of our \$1,000,000 goal. You can [track our progress here](#).

If you haven't already done so, please join your fellow parents in supporting the Fund. Click [here](#) to make your gift today. Thank you again for underwriting excellence by making BFS your philanthropic priority!

Can We Talk? Coffee Hours at BFS

January 11, 2017, 8:45am at 116 Lawrence Street

Don't Say "Shhhhh": Let's Talk about Anti-Bias and Social Justice

At this Coffee Hour for parents in **Preschool through Grade 4** we will talk about ways to address children's questions and "blurts" about what they notice in their world. Division Heads Maura Eden and Jackie Condie, Director of Inclusion and Equity Orinthia Swindell and psychological consultants Rachel Maldonado and Wanda Frankel will participate in the discussion. [Additional Details/Invitation](#).

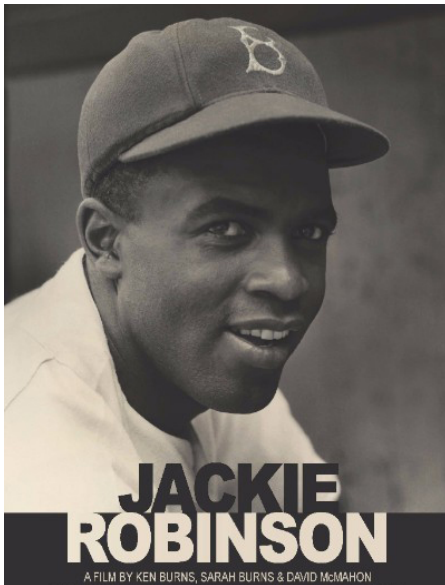
Middle School Affinity Groups -- What's It All About?

The Middle School invites parents to attend a Coffee Hour on Affinity Groups. The morning Coffee Hour will be held on **Tuesday, January 24 at 8am**, with the evening event on **Wednesday, January 25 at 6pm**. Location: Third Floor Conference Room at Pearl St. *Details to come.*

You're Invited: A Community Outreach Event on Jan. 31

Exclusive Screening and Panel Discussion of Jackie Robinson Documentary

Brooklyn Friends School will mark the 98th anniversary of the birth of Jackie Robinson on Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2017 at 6pm with a screening and panel discussion of *Jackie Robinson*, a film by Ken Burns, Sarah Burns and David McMahon. [Sarah and David are BFS parents]. Marcia Ely from the Brooklyn Historical Society will moderate the panel, and Sharon Robinson, the daughter of Jackie and Rachel Robinson, will be our special guest. This will be



a memorable evening for people and friends of all ages who love Brooklyn, baseball, and the legacy of Jackie Robinson. Please plan to come.

[Learn more and reserve tickets.](#)



Your Weekly Health Tip from the Nurses' Office

Seasonal influenza rates are beginning to rise in New York City. The best protection for your family is the annual flu vaccine. The ideal time to get the vaccine is at the start of flu season (around October in the U.S.), but getting vaccinated as late as March may still help. For important information such as how to tell the difference between a simple cold and the flu, see the [BFS Health Services webpage.](#)



Did You Know? CPR Training Mandated as a Graduation Requirement

The New York State Board of Regents has mandated that all students in the state be taught hands-only CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and the use of AEDs (automated external defibrillators) before graduating from high school. At BFS training for members of the Class of 2017 will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 9am to 10am in the black box theater at Lawrence Street.



School News You Can Use

Getting Ready for Reenrollment

Reminder: Families with open balances for tuition and afterschool need to be up-to-date with payments before their reenrollment contracts will be released. Questions should be directed to the [Business Office.](#) **Reenrollment contracts** will be sent by e-mail at the end of next week to parents' e-mail addresses in My BackPack. The due date for signed contracts with the required nonrefundable deposit is Jan. 23 at 4pm. Double-check that your e-mail data is correct on [My BackPack](#) to avoid any miscommunication.

School Policy on Severe Weather

In the event of severe weather or a citywide emergency: When NYC public schools announce they will be closed, BFS will be closed. [Stay tuned for Mayor's announcement on TV, radio etc.] Moreover, in any instance of an unscheduled school closing, it is BFS policy to notify parents and staff through our automated phone system (voice and text), e-mail blast, and announcements on the school website and telephone greeting.

Afterschool Registration

There are a few openings in some of the specialty classes for the Winter/Spring term, particularly in yoga and filmmaking. Check out the [course descriptions here](#), and phone 718-852-1029, ext 228 or email the [Afterschool Office](#) to inquire about availability. *Special note:* Our Friendly Flyers running group returns this year in March.

The First Day of Summer at BFS is February 3rd

That's the day that registration opens for Summer Camp and Summer Arts at Brooklyn Friends. For 2017, we have three sessions -- June 21-30; July 5-14, and July 17-28 -- for children currently in Preschool through Grade 6. There is a 5 % sibling discount and a \$50 credit for registrations completed by March 1. [Details.](#)

PAT Update

Ring in the New Year with the Family Folk Dance

On **Sat. Jan. 7, 2017**, the PAT and Performing Arts Department join together to present the annual Lower School Family Folk Dance. Kindergarten through grade 4 children have been learning the dances and can teach you their moves! The event takes place in the Lower Gym from 2-4pm and is free of charge.



"The Motivation Breakthrough" on Jan. 11

Come to a presentation with Rick Lavoie, best selling author of *The Motivation Breakthrough: 6 Secrets to Turning On the Tuned-Out Child*. An educator specializing in learning differences, Rick will discuss proven techniques and strategies based on six motivational styles that will revolutionize the way teachers and parents inspire kids to succeed and achieve.

Date: Wednesday - January 11, 2017

Time: Refreshments and Book Sales at 6pm; Presentation at 6:30 pm to 8:30pm

Location: The Chapel at Packer Collegiate, 170 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn Heights

[RSVP here.](#) There is no charge for this event; it is sponsored by BFS, Packer, Mary McDowell, and PS 29.



Sports Section

Back in Action

Move over, Nets and Knicks, the BFS Panthers are back in action. Read [weekly game highlights here](#) and check out the daily score report on [Twitter](#). This week the Girls

Varsity, Boys Junior Varsity and Middle School Boys basketball teams each earned a victory. In the month of January, there will be a home basketball game at BFS almost every day. We encourage you to come on out and cheer our teams. ***Links to all*** the winter sports teams (indoor track, squash, swimming, and basketball) [are here](#), with team schedules prominently featured at the top. *(see image below)*. Please bookmark this new link, bfsathletics.org

BOYS JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL	GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL	BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL	GIRLS MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL	GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL	BOYS MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL
(A) vs French American School Yesterday @ 5:00PM WIN - 51 - 44	(H) vs Dwight School Today @ 3:30PM	(H) vs Rudolf Steiner School Today @ 5:00PM	(H) vs Rudolf Steiner School Monday Jan 9 @ 4:00PM	(A) vs Bay Ridge Preparatory S... Monday Jan 9 @ 4:15PM	(H) vs Rudolf Steiner School Monday Jan 9 @ 5:15PM

Guided by the Quaker belief that there is a Divine Light in everyone, Brooklyn Friends School cultivates an intellectually ambitious and diverse community that celebrates each individual's gifts. We challenge our students to value and embrace difference as they develop critical thinking skills and apply their knowledge and intelligence both in and out of the classroom. In this rich learning environment, we inspire all members of our community to voice their convictions, to discover and pursue their passions, and to seek truth. Our graduates are compassionate, curious, and confident global citizens who let their lives speak in the spirit of leadership and service.

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