

[View in browser](#)

E-NEWS

[Virtual BFS Hub](#) | [BFS Calendar](#) | [BFS Cares Emergency Fund](#)

April 19, 2020



Thank You **PLUS** A Virtual Hug *from Crissy Cáceres*

Click on the image above to view a video message from our Head of School, Crissy. This video has been captioned in English and Spanish. To turn the captions on, hover at the bottom of the video and click on the CC link.

Good News to Share

Congratulations, Merit Scholars

The Middle School is pleased to announce that three 8th grade students have been awarded \$10,000 per year scholarships to the BFS Upper School as they enter the Class of 2024. The students are:

- **George Atkin**
- **Simone Hassard**
- **Isaiah Springer**

With distinguished academic records, these three students have demonstrated accomplishment in a variety of arts, athletics, service, and extracurricular activities; they have been model students and exemplary friends within the Middle School community. Congratulations and all the best as you continue your BFS education into the fall.

Students Attain Highest Honors in National Latin Exam

The BFS tradition of excellence in the National Latin Exam proudly continues this year, even in the face of logistical challenges. The exam needed to be administered online with parents proctoring at home, and students logging in with unique id's and passwords supplied by the testing service.

BFS joyfully acknowledges the Upper School students who took the exam and achieved successful results at the very top of their peers nationally and internationally:

- **Jackson Vance Kipper '20** - Gold Summa Cum Laude
- **Dylan Tran '22** - Gold Summa Cum Laude
- **Asher Longdon-Stewart '22** - Silver Maxima Cum Laude
- **Nina Haskins '22** - Silver Maxima Cum Laude
- **Amelia Salett '23** - Magna Cum Laude
- **Anthony Rogers '23** - Magna Cum Laude

Congratulations also to Latin teacher **Katy Koken**, who remarked, "I'm sure the students appreciated being able to partake in this milestone assessment this year despite the challenging circumstances." She added that the results were quite extraordinary as our BFS Latin II and Latin III students meet for class once a week, while students elsewhere have many more hours of instruction.

A Glimpse Inside Virtual BFS



PRESCHOOL

As preschoolers enjoy their daily interactions with classroom teachers and each other on zoom, they also engage with specialist teachers. Enjoy a song about fish (with lessons in counting and colors) with Nancy Tanney. [Go to the Video](#)



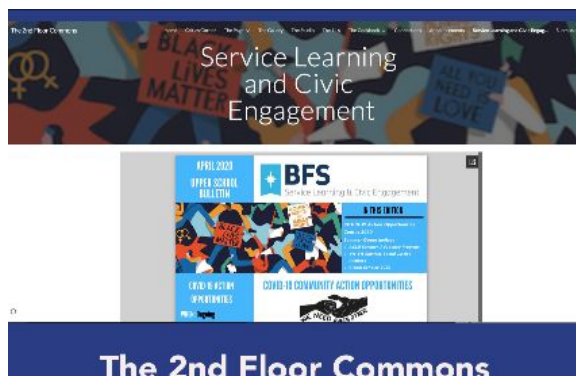
LOWER SCHOOL

Putting their writing and art skills to work while celebrating National Poetry Month, the 3rd grade wrote and illustrated their own haikus. See the many ways in which they found beauty in the everyday. [Read More →](#)



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle Schoolers combined their study of Spanish with their creative talents to create illustrated public health posters with their own superheroes en Español. The superheroes – original characters, characters based on pets, real public figures (like LeBron James!) and the students' themselves – spread the vital message about social distancing during the COVID-19



The 2nd Floor Commons

UPPER SCHOOL

Upper Schoolers and their teachers are fully immersed in their academic program through Virtual BFS; they also know the importance of connecting with one another, expanding their horizons and acquiring new skills and knowledge, and – as ever – having fun. The 2nd Floor Commons virtual student lounge helps them do just that. Here students and colleagues post reviews and

pandemic. Enjoy a slideshow of the posters [HERE](#).

For a deeper dive into how Virtual BFS looks in the Middle School, visit [PANTHERS CENTRAL](#).

recommendations of media, share recipes, exhibit their isolation-inspired journalism, art, poetry, prose, films, and music, and enjoy virtual group activities. [VISIT THE LOUNGE](#), explore, and learn more.



QUICK LINKS

- [Lower School 4/17/20](#) Update from Jackie and Katie
- Middle School [“Panthers Central”](#)
- Upper School [“Second Floor Commons”](#)
- [Archive](#) of *all* school communications, Feb. 27, 2020-present

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

- [Request a meeting](#) with a member of the BFS Psychological/Counseling Team: Jane (PS), Rachel (LS), Yelena (MS) or Kamauru (US)
- See the updated [resource list](#) on COVID-19 and grieving
- See the [updated parenting and mental health resource list](#)

PRESCHOOL COFFEE HOUR DATES

- Monday, April 20 at 8pm (Fours)
- Wednesday, April 22 at 1:15pm (Threes)

[RSVP to Joy Roberts](#). Parents have been sent the Zoom link and password.

LOWER SCHOOL CONNECT AND TALK DATES

- Thursday, April 23, 10am to 11am for Grades 2, 3, 4
- Friday, April 24, 1 to 2pm for Grades K & 1

[RSVP HERE](#). If you have questions and cannot come to the Zoom meeting, please use the RSVP form to ask a question or leave a comment.

By BFS, For BFS



BFS Cares Emergency Fund

During this unprecedented time, we are leaning on one another more than ever. This week we launched the BFS Cares Emergency Fund to meet the critical needs of our community

and are reaching out to everyone to let you know that help is available. The BFS Cares Emergency Fund is here for you. Please reach out to [Vanessa Reynolds](#) for any emergency fund requests. With a goal of \$100,000 by midnight on Monday, all gifts to the Fund are critical. If you would like to make a gift to the Fund, please [click here](#).

Quaker News

Virtual Meeting for Worship

The Brooklyn Monthly Meeting (Quakers) are not having in-person Meeting for Worship at the present time, but they are having virtual Meeting for Worship over Zoom. Meeting for Worship happens every Tuesday at 6:30 PM, and Sundays at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM. Everyone is welcome to attend if they are seeking silent time for reflection and grounding. Information can be found on the Brooklyn Meeting website:

<https://www.brooklynmeeting.org/>

BFS colleagues had their first Virtual Meeting for Worship last Thursday, and plan to continue "meeting" every Thursday afternoon going forward. The Meeting was organized by the All-School Quaker Life Committee. One colleague commented:

"I want to express how important this Meeting was for me personally. It was so good to see the faces of so many people who attended – faces I haven't seen for more than a month. I was moved and deeply touched by the messages from my longtime and new friends – I was proud that so many continue to put our students first and at the center of our reflections and thoughts. It reinforced for me how personally close I feel to the entire BFS community and how grateful I am to be part of such an amazing group of colleagues."

Earth Week 2020

April 22 marks the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day, when people throughout the country came out in large numbers to call for an end to the assault on the Earth. Over the years a movement has grown, and in recent years the focus has been on the global climate crisis. While the form of the activities is different, the events this year are as important as ever. As the world struggles through the COVID-19 pandemic we cannot forget the ongoing climate crisis and the imperative for environmental justice.



Student and colleague members of the All-School Service Learning & Civic Engagement Committee as well as Upper School student environmental action leaders have been meeting during Virtual BFS and compiled a list of Earth Day "events" and resources. All of us at BFS encourage community members to take part in the NYC and national digital events during the upcoming week.

[See some of the scheduled events here →](#)

A Bonus "Learning at Home" Opportunity

Love Letters to the Earth

One of the activities listed in the resources for Earth Day (see above) lends itself beautifully to a "Learning at Home" activity for families and children of all ages. This activity is inspired by the ["Letters to the Earth" project](#), which encourages people worldwide to write love letters to the Earth and also express their feelings about the global climate crisis. Sit down together with your children – with paper, pen, crayons or marker (it's always a good practice to work on your handwriting) – and express your loving feelings about the earth and the beauty of the natural world. You may share your letters digitally with ["Letters to the Earth"](#), but we also ask for families to keep the letters at home for safe-keeping. When our physical school buildings re-open, we will collect your letters and create a

bulletin board (physical and digital) that honors the Earth as well as our BFS families and their resilience during this period of isolation.

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.



Copyright © 2020 Brooklyn Friends School, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this e-mail because your contact information is in our 2019-2020 database.

Brooklyn Friends School 375 Pearl St Brooklyn, NY 11201 USA

[Update your preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe from this list](#)