

**BROOKLYN
FRIENDS
SCHOOL**

2021-2022

**Back-to-School
Manual**

Our Mission Statement

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.

The Friends Council website is an excellent resource for all colleagues, students, families, and friends who wish to learn more about Quaker schools. *To visit the site go to: www.friendscouncil.org*



Summer Readings for Colleagues

THE ART OF POSSIBILITY
by Rosamund Stone Zander
and Benjamin Zander

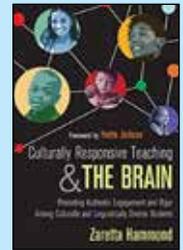


The dynamic product of an extraordinary partnership, *The Art of Possibility* combines Benjamin Zander’s experience as the conductor of the Boston Philharmonic and his talent as a teacher and communicator with Rosamund Stone Zander’s genius for creating innovative paradigms for personal and professional fulfillment.

The harmoniously interwoven perspectives provide a deep sense of the powerful role that the notion of possibility can play in every aspect of life. Through uplifting stories, parables, and personal anecdotes, the Zanders invite us all to become passionate communicators, leaders, and performers whose lives radiate possibility into the world.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING AND THE BRAIN
by Zaretta Hammond



The achievement gap remains a stubborn problem for educators of culturally and linguistically diverse students. With the introduction of the rigorous Common Core State Standards, diverse classrooms need a proven framework for optimizing student engagement and facilitating deeper learning.

Culturally responsive pedagogy has shown great promise in meeting this need, but many educators still struggle with its implementation. In this book, Zaretta Hammond draws on cutting-edge neuroscience research to offer an innovative approach for designing and implementing brain-compatible culturally responsive instruction.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

BFS on Social Media

Be sure to follow all of the latest stories about Brooklyn Friends School on our website and social media platforms! Click the logos to follow our pages!

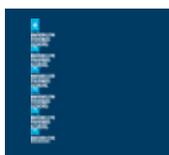
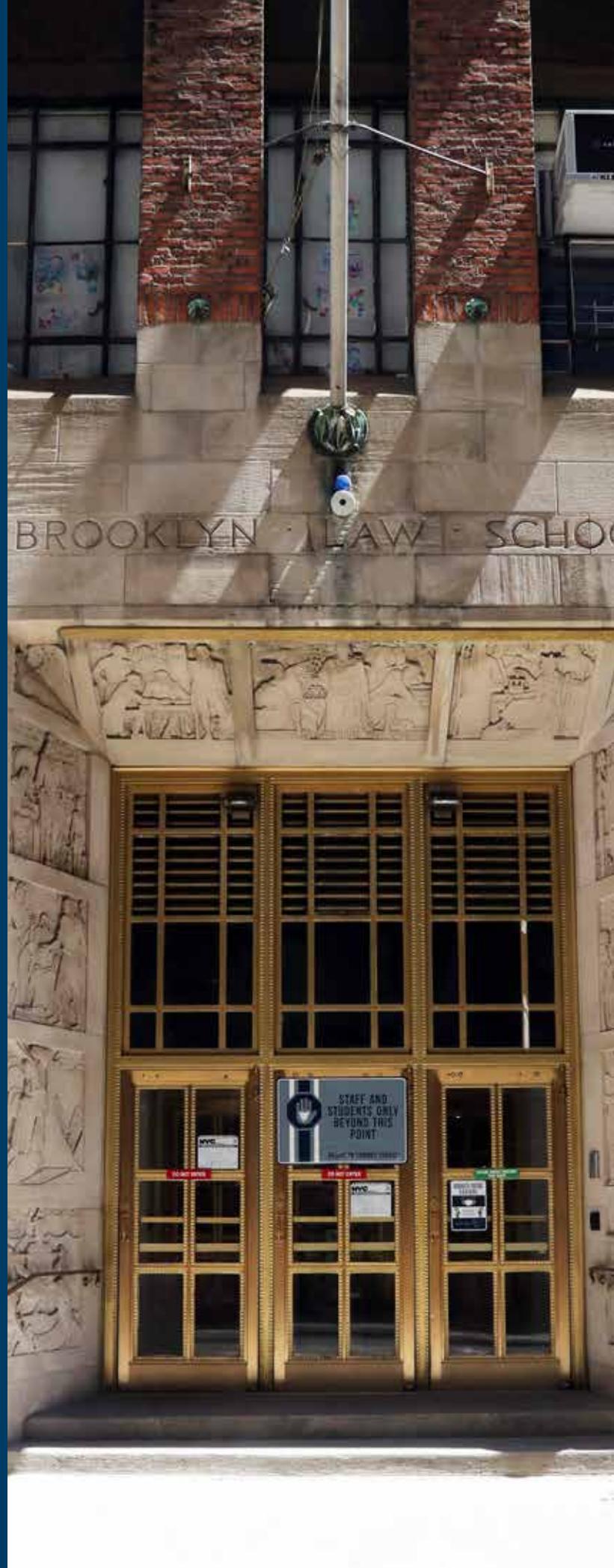


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**Click here
to go to the BFS
Student and
Family Handbook**



Welcome to the 2021–2022 School Year from the Head of School



It is with such pride, joy, and a belief in the opportunities before us that I welcome you into the 2021-2022 school year. We have been determined and eagerly preparing for the start of school, fully in person and comprehensively operational in every aspect. To do that, we have been judiciously minding the continued evolution of Covid-19 and the existing Delta variant, making adjustments to our plans as necessary without compromising the vibrancy and excellence of our program. As indicated in this inaugural Brooklyn Friends School Back-to-School Manual, we are poised, ready, and collectively committed to all that our strong and beautiful community makes possible. I am grateful to everyone who has been hard at work to make the safe start of school on September 9th, a reality.

Like I am certain is true of all of you this summer, I have focused on finding a balance that allows for time and connection to people and places I love while also allowing moments for mindful centering and self. That centering has involved earnestly reflecting upon my first two years as your Head of School, minding with humility the many lessons learned, pieces accomplished, relationships forged, challenges faced, and dreams realized. It has also involved thinking deeply about belonging and spirituality in the context of our Quaker school. As a constant learner, I read voraciously, as I've always found this to be a soothing part of my existence. This summer, I have read various books, among them our two all-colleague reads, [Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain](#) and [The Art of Possibility: Transforming Professional and Personal Life](#), which I have gifted many, many times over throughout the years. To partner in our learning and growth, I encourage you to read them as well.

I have also read [Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone](#) by one of my favorite voices of inspiration, Brené Brown, and re-read a cherished one, [Leading the Light: Celebrating 325 Years of Quaker Education in America](#). In asking myself the question, “What makes Brooklyn Friends School an essential entity in our world?” I have thought about your children, our students, and the way in which they walk into the world each day—boldly believing that their voices matter and utilizing them for good. I think about my times in the Family Center with our two-year-olds, watching them negotiate the experiences before them with care and sensitivity to one another, all the while guided by patient teachers who know that they can do this. I juxtapose that with the bookend of our academic and social-emotional arc, our Upper School, where I have watched students peel the layers of incredibly complex questions and challenges facing our world today. They intrinsically understand that they need one another to formulate the ideal answers and to generate even greater questions. They know that they can never accomplish the optimal solutions without ensuring that every single person’s perspective, identity, and experience is honored.

I marvel at our school, an educational center that can balance the building blocks of learning with a strongly held spiritual core. While acknowledging our continued quest to grow in our understanding and actualization of our Quaker school identity and all that the core values signify, I am also moved by the ways in which our community members organically live these ideals in beautifully imperfect ways. It is in our students and in the colleagues that believe in them that I watch the value of belonging come to life. This value is encompassed in everything that a [Friends education](#) stands for. Dr. Brown defines TRUE BELONGING as:

“The spiritual practice of believing in and belonging to yourself so deeply that you can share your most authentic self with the world and find sacredness in both being a part of something and standing alone in the wilderness. True belonging doesn’t require you to change who you are; it requires you to be who you are.”

This embodies our school. Brooklyn Friends School is a sacred place where we are all collectively a part of something greater than ourselves even as we are encouraged to boldly live our individuality. The balance in these two truths of belonging is the ability to have at the center trust in one another and respect for the divine Light within each of us. As such, I have reflected this summer on what a gift it is to lead a school where spirituality and God can be at the center without having to justify or defend.

In [The Gifts of Imperfection: Let Go of Who You Think You're Supposed to Be and Embrace Who You Are](#), I found the following definition of spirituality to hold true to our school.

“Spirituality is recognizing and celebrating that we are all inextricably connected to each other by a power greater than all of us, and that our connection to that power and to one another is grounded in love and compassion.”

[This is us](#). We are a school filled with children whose inner Lights shine, confirming for us that there indeed is a power beyond us all that binds us in our humanity and gives us purpose to strive for. As proven by the [legions of alumni](#) who are making steadfast positive and bold imprints in our world, our students are bright, courageous, dynamic beings who deserve all of our focus and care. This is a responsibility that we hold dear and will do right by each and every day. In moments where we may stumble, I only ask that you extend grace and trust that we will keep working towards what is best for your children, our students. They chart our path.

Stepping into the year with a spirit of partnership and possibility,



Crissy Cáceres, Head of School



[Click here to listen to Crissy's letter](#)

A Message from the Board of Trustees

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you back to what I know will be an exciting year at Brooklyn Friends School. I am confident that the experiences of the last 18 months have made our community stronger than it has ever been. That is a testament to you, our families, and our entire colleague body, and for that, I thank you.

As we begin a new school year, let us continue to be grounded in the Quaker values that are the pillars of the academic and social-emotional strengths of our school. Together, we will continue our pursuit of excellence—both in philosophy and practice—and know that the light inside each of our students, and each one of us, will shine bright.

In Friendship,
Ed Oliver, Chair, Board of Trustees

Welcome New Colleagues

We are excited to welcome the following colleagues to all school roles. New colleagues who are assigned to each division are listed in those sections later in this document.

Brittany Adkins-Williams, All-School Tech Integrator and All-School IT Specialist

Frank Cabrera, Director of College Counseling

Dr. AnaMaria Correa, Director of Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging

Steven Karaiskos, Upper School Psychologist and All-School Well-Being Coordinator

Raquel Martin, Director of Facilities Management

Suzie Matthews, Assistant Head of School

Megan Nuxoll, Chief of Staff to Head of School

Jessamin Swearingen, Interim Director of Academic Technology and Innovation

Brett Topel, Director of Marketing and Communications

Clarence Zachery, Chief Financial and Operating Officer

Greetings from the Assistant Head of School

Dear BFS Families,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! I hope your summers have been restorative, joyous, and connected.

In June, I moved from Santa Fe back to New York to join the BFS community. Over the past two months, I have appreciated that summer naturally brings to schools a quiet and reflective space, which this year for me has been happily punctuated with many introductory meetings with new colleagues.

As I am new to a Quaker school community, I have been working to ground myself in Quaker values. In “Advices and Queries for Friends School Community Life,” distributed by the Friends Council on Education, I found deep resonance with the very first statement, which comes from an Iowa yearly meeting:

Everyone benefits when the entire school is concerned with nurturing children. If a spirit of common concern is present, children will gain a sense of belonging to the larger community, and knowing they are loved and respected, will be able to face the mysteries of life with trust.

I’ve also been reflecting on Quaker values while reading Joy Harjo’s 2015 book of poetry, *Conflict Resolution for Holy Being*, in particular the value of community and our connection and responsibility to the natural world in “Talking with the Sun” and “[Speaking Tree](#).” (Harjo’s responses to students in last year’s [Dear Poet Project](#) demonstrate how students from elementary school to high school can interact meaningfully with the same text.)

As we eagerly await the return of our students to our buildings, I feel so grateful to be working together in our clear and shared purpose. I plan to be present at as many experiences as possible this year to get to know you: cheering our students at games and performances, visiting science labs and art studios, greeting you in the morning and afternoon, and many more ways.

In my role as Assistant Head, I will be minding our full program – from curriculum and the student experience to colleague professional growth and evaluation. It is clear that BFS has strong roots and foundations, and I am excited to work in partnership across all constituencies to ensure that our program’s arc is every day even more cohesive, consistent with our mission and values, and intentional. This summer, for example, I have been creating a comprehensive evaluation for the growth process, researching within and beyond BFS, creating a structure, and gathering input from colleagues and feedback from the leadership teams.

A little bit about me: This will be my 24th year as an educator (and the first year that I will not be teaching a class). Most recently, I was the Assistant Head of School and Upper School Head at Santa Fe Preparatory School, where I served for eight years as the instructional leader. In that role, I led the adoption of our first learning management system, created school-wide community-building activities, established inclusive practices to support transgender students, implemented a new system for department chair rotation,



partnered with the Pojoaque Pueblo Education Department, and spearheaded our responses to the pandemic.

Before that, I was at Georgetown Day School in Washington, DC for 12 years, where I served as the High School Mathematics Department Chair, leading the team through an expansion of the course of study and a streamline of the curriculum, and the Chair for Professional Growth and Evaluation. I also served as a founding member of the ninth grade equity and social justice seminar and facilitated several community service groups in the community.

Finally, rewind the clock back three more years, and I was at CIS 166 in the Bronx, where I started my career as a Teach For America corps member. There, I co-created and directed a multi-grade high school preparatory academy, served as a mathematics teacher leader, and partnered with the Bronx Zoo to implement an interdisciplinary science program.

If you are interested in a few facts that are just as serious (to me) but perhaps more fun than those listed above:

- I can recite the first 45 digits of pi. (You can test me when we meet, if you choose!)
- I have a background in music and have sung with the National Cathedral Choir (including once at the Kennedy Center in a collaboration with The Washington Ballet, standing on scaffolding and wearing a monk's robe).
- I have walked (yes, walked) two marathons and three half-marathons and am registered for two more in the next four months.

I look forward to getting to know you through this school year, which is so full of promise and possibility. Thank you for your partnership, and for trusting us with your children. It is a responsibility and opportunity for which I am deeply grateful.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzie".

Suzie Matthews, Assistant Head of School



A Message from the Director of Diversity, Equity & Belonging

Dear Brooklyn Friends School Families,

I write these words to you with warmth and butterflies in anticipation of the moment I will get to meet you on the morning of the first day.

I hope you have spent a summer standing under trees, in sunshine or rain, in appreciation of how we all have emerged transformed, in tiny and expansive ways, from the year we just shared. I've personally had a meaningful summer transition moving back to NYC after being away for a few years. My loved ones notice the joy and purposefulness I reflect when I speak about BFS and though I am a new member, I haven't felt alone, because we are all returning to something new.



You may be wondering about what I am going to be doing during my first few months. Well, I have already met and experienced one of two leadership retreats this summer with the school leadership team. This time together helped us connect with and understand our work together, as a team. In that time, I also deepened my understanding of Quakerism and the principles which guide our community. What I appreciated the most about my first two days at BFS was the feeling that I felt safe, supported and seen. This allowed me to fully step into my purpose in a more emboldened way.

During our time together, we laughed, reflected and wished together for you, ourselves, and each other. Of course, we also got homework in the form of two important books, each about inspiration and possibility in different ways. Zaretta Hammond's work *Culturally Responsive Teaching & The Brain* invites us to fuse culture building and courageously-rigorous experiences in learning that forge neural pathways in the brain which will receive and be transformed by those experiences. Her research shows that through this, both teacher and students are transformed in the teaching and learning bond. An extension of this would be what Rosamund and Benjamin Zander offer in *The Art of Possibility*, which focuses on creating choices in our day to day interactions with ourselves and community that are rooted in compassion, levity, and abundance. This then results in joy, which is an element of justice for teaching, creating space, learning in community, and visioning.

As your Director of Diversity, Equity and Belonging in a community re-emerging, in this first year, I will be guided by institutional priorities focused on:

- **Communing:** standing with you together, purposefully listening, learning and building relationships
- **Connecting:** situating myself in service and providing guidance
- **Cultivating:** intentionally creating ties and connections across the school community
- **Creating:** collaboratively, partnering with members of BFS to elevate knowledge that exists, co-creating learning, teaching, opportunities of possibility, joy and community

I am here in this beloved community bound to you by my responsibility, grounded by the wisdom I have gained, and energized by our responsibility of purpose in our reimagining. I am bringing my hope, optimism, joy, purpose, and deep commitment to service for and with you. I know I am joining a community with tremendous

collective power, who has grown in building their awareness, criticality, purpose-in-justice, voice-in-community and dismantling; a community who has had potent foundational contributions for our work forward.

In taking steps toward our work together, I invite you to:

Reach out to schedule time for us to connect. I can be found in both buildings, but more directly, reach out via email to acorrea@brooklynfriends.org, and we can make an in person or virtual date.

Invite me to your favorite school place or moment so that I can learn through what you love and through your familiarity with the places and spaces where we need to grow.

Join me in expanding your learning by participating in this community through joy and through work by attending learning opportunities and being a partner

When things feel new, wonky and unfamiliar -- your grace will be glue for all of us together.

As you think about your intention for this returning year of restoration and hope, please draw from Peter Bloch's thoughts about community to catalyze your intention. His words provide a powerful invitation.

"The key to creating or transforming community, then, is to see the power in the small but important elements of being with others. The shift we seek needs to be embodied in each invitation we make, each relationship we encounter, and each meeting we attend. For at the most operational and practical level, after all the thinking about policy, strategy, mission, and milestones, it gets down to this: How are we going to be when we gather together?"

— Peter Block, Community: The Structure of Belonging

I look forward to seeing you.

AnaMaria

Dr. AnaMaria Correa, Director of Diversity, Equity and Belonging



A Message from the Director of Athletics

Dear Families,

I am very excited to welcome you and your children to the 2021-2022 athletics year! For those of you who are new to our athletics program, all students in grades 7 to 12 are welcome to join one or more of our 37 athletics teams (which represent 10 different sports) throughout the school year. At Brooklyn Friends School, we encourage all of our students to become student-athletes, by [joining the team](#), and taking advantage of the opportunities to take part in our fun, engaging, and rewarding program. We are so happy that we will be back together, in person, showing off our Blue Pride at practice and in competition. If your child wishes to participate on a fall team (Boys & Girls Cross Country, Boys & Girls Soccer, Girls Volleyball), practices for the fall season begin on Monday, August 23.



To sign up for a team, students should use this form. For BFS Athletic Schedules, please check out and bookmark [BFSathletics.org](https://www.brooklynfriends.org/BFSathletics.org) (please note that schedules are subject to change).

To ensure the safety and well-being of our community, we ask that all student-athletes submit a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken up to 72 hours prior to the start of athletics practices on Monday. Negative tests should be submitted as an email attachment to testresults@brooklynfriends.org, a secure email managed by our health services team.

Please note that student-athletes in grades 7-12 needed to submit their required health forms through Magnus by August 15. As per the message sent to all families earlier this summer, all eligible students (age 12+ years) must be vaccinated before returning to school on September 9. Students who will be participating in a fall athletic team should be vaccinated prior to the start of practices on August 23rd. Understanding that the timing of the scheduled vaccines cannot always be perfectly aligned, if you face any difficulty, please email us at communications@brooklynfriends.org.

Looking Ahead

We look forward to the winter and spring seasons which include:

- Winter Season with practice beginning on November 1, 2021: Boys & Girls Basketball, Boys & Girls Indoor Track, Boys & Girls Squash, Boys & Girls Swimming
- Spring Season with practice beginning on February 28, 2022: Boys Baseball, Girls Softball, Boys & Girls Outdoor Track, and Boys Volleyball

We are counting down the days until we welcome your student-athlete back in action on the court and on the field on August 23. If you have any questions, please contact me at dgardella@brooklynfriends.org.

Blue Pride Runs Deep! Friends Forever!

In Friendship,



David Gardella, Director of Athletics

BFS Major Dates Calendar

This calendar only includes days that directly impact school operations.

Dates subject to change

August 2021

Monday, 8/23: All Colleagues Opening Days

Monday, 8/23: BFS Fall Student-Athletes begin practicing (bfsathletics.org)

September 2021

Monday, 9/6: Labor Day (school closed for all students)

Tuesday/Wednesday, 9/7, 9/8: Rosh Hashanah (school closed for all students)

Thursday, 9/9: Opening Day for K-12 (Half Day for K&1)

Monday, 9/13: Opening Day for Preschool

Tuesday, 9/14: Opening Day for Family Center

Thursday, 9/16: Yom Kippur (school closed for all students)

Friday, 9/17: School resumes for all students

October 2021

Monday, 10/11: Indigenous Peoples' Day (school closed)

Tuesday, 10/12: All Colleagues' Professional Development Day (school closed for all students)

Wednesday, 10/13: School resumes for all students

November 2021

Monday, 11/1: BFS Winter Student-Athletes begin practicing (bfsathletics.org)

Wednesday 11/24: Monday, 11/29: Fall Break

Monday, 11/29: Professional Development Day

Tuesday, 11/30: School Resumes for all students

December 2021

Friday, 12/17: School is dismissed for Winter Break for all students at 12pm

Friday, 12/17/21–Sunday, 1/2/22: Winter Break

January 2022

Monday, 1/3/22: School resumes for all students

Monday, 1/17: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day (school closed for all students)

Tuesday, 1/18: School resumes for students

February 2022

Monday, 2/21: Presidents' Day (school closed)

Tuesday, 2/22: Colleagues' Professional Development Day (school closed for all students)

Wednesday, 2/23: School resumes for students

Monday, 2/28: BFS Spring Student-Athletes begin practicing

March 2022

Friday, 3/11: School closes for all at 3pm for Spring Break

Saturday, 3/12–Sunday, 3/27: Spring Break (school closed for all students)

Monday, 3/28: Students return from Spring Break

May 2022

Monday, 5/30: Memorial Day (school closed for all students)

Tuesday, 5/31: School resumes for all students

June 2022

Wednesday, 6/8: Closing Day for Family Center

Thursday, 6/9: Closing Day for Preschool

Friday, 6/10: Last Day of School for Lower and Middle School (Half Day), 4th Grade Moving Up Ceremony, Middle School Moving Up Ceremony, Commencement for the Class of 2022

CLICK HERE FOR THE



BROOKLYN
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COMPLETE CALENDAR

Health and Wellness Guidelines and Protocols, 2021–2022

As we prepare to enter into the 2021–2022 school year, we do so understanding that despite the fact that we are continuing to adjust to the ever-changing health pandemic, we are entering with optimism and a focus on what is possible for our vibrant community. Still, we will need to maintain the highest levels of health and wellness to keep every single person at Brooklyn Friends School as safe as possible.

We expect our entire community to do everything they can to keep everyone healthy and safe. This will require the vigilance and cooperation of every single community member—student and adult—when they are on campus and when they are not. We are grateful for your partnership in ensuring that everyone will hold themselves accountable and ensure the overall well-being of our community.

As always, BFS is committed to making this a strong and meaningful year for all and it is in that spirit that we outline our Health and Wellness guidelines for the upcoming school year:



- **As of April 30th, following CDC recommendations and to ensure the optimal health and safety for our entire community, Brooklyn Friends MANDATED that ALL colleagues be vaccinated for COVID-19. It is also MANDATORY that ALL students ages 12+ be vaccinated for COVID-19. If you have not already done so, please be sure to upload your child's proof of vaccination into Magnus.**

- **Every student** must have a daily health screening submitted through Ruvna before their arrival at school. Ruvna will also be used for emergency communications to families, if necessary. Information on logging into Ruvna will be provided to families closer to the start of school.

- Masks will be required indoors at all times by students and colleagues. Family Center students will not be required to wear face coverings. Masking is suggested, but not required outdoors.



- **Prior to the start of the school year all students and colleagues will need to test negative for COVID-19. All families must provide Brooklyn Friends with a negative PCR test result within 72 hours of the first day of school.** (Details on how to upload these test results will be shared closer to the start of school.)

- All student health information needs to be completed and submitted to [Magnus](#) by Friday, August 27th. (August 15th for student athletes). This highly secure system ensures that students at school or on trips will be provided with the medical care specific to their needs. If you have any problems accessing your account, please email magnusadmin@brooklynfriends.org.



Our Campuses

Brooklyn Friends School will continue to keep the highest of standards when it comes to cleaning protocols in all of its buildings.



- All bathrooms will be cleaned and sanitized multiple times each day.
- Hallway and frequently touched surfaces will be disinfected multiple times each day.
- All common spaces will be fully cleaned and sanitized throughout the day.
- Events and meetings for families will be held either in person or virtually depending on the format of the meeting and the current guidance from the CDC and DOH. *All visitors will need to show proof of vaccination via the NYS Excelsior pass before being allowed access to one of our buildings.*

We Will Stay Vigilant ...

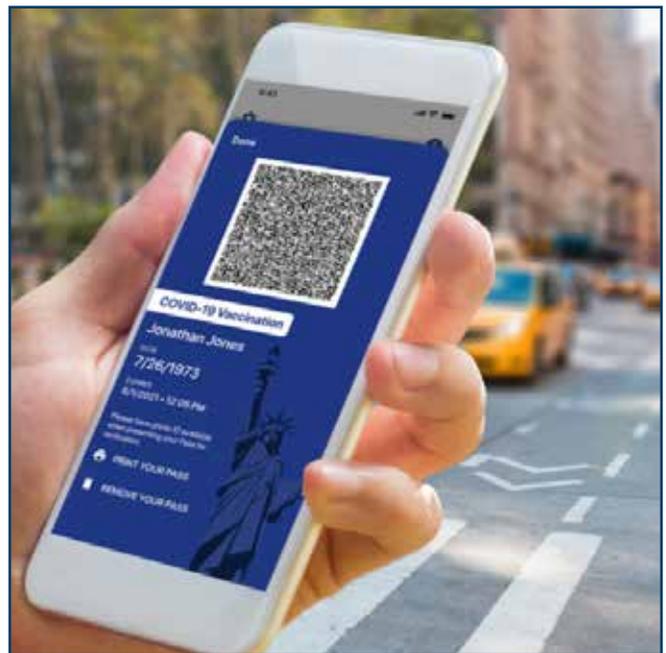
BFS will continue to closely monitor all of the updated guidelines from the CDC and the Department of Health as they become available. As the health situation evolves and new information becomes available, we will remain nimble and adjust our Health and Wellness Guidelines accordingly. Before the start of school, we will be sharing more detailed guidelines for families regarding the following.

- Monitoring community health
- Testing protocols
- Reporting illness
- Contact tracing
- Quarantine requirements

... But We Need Your Help!

Keep your child home if they have:

- Fever above 100°F.
- Respiratory symptoms (cough, difficulty breathing) not a previously diagnosed condition (ie. allergies)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Rash
- Any contagious illness



On regular school days, only students and colleagues will be allowed in school buildings. For specific events, performances, etc. during which visitors are invited, all visitors will need to show proof of vaccination via the **NYS Excelsior Pass** before being allowed access to one of the buildings. There will be no exceptions.

Obtaining a NYS Excelsior pass is very easy: Go to epass.ny.gov; answer a few questions to confirm your vaccine or test information to retrieve your Pass; you can print your Pass, take a screenshot, or download it onto your phone.

Reference Guide: Information and Resources for Families

Directories

Our **student and family directory** is in **MyBackPack**.

- To update your contact information: Log-in, click on your name at the top right, then my profile, then edit and submit. Families are responsible for keeping their contact information up to date.
- To search the directory: After you log-in, click on the Student/Parent Directory (top right, under Search) where you can search for an individual student or family.
- To run a list of your class or grade: Log-in→ Search → Search Directory Using Advanced Search Options → Select the entire grade or search by homeroom teacher.
- For assistance with your MyBackPack account: Email seniorsystems@brooklynfriends.org.



Our colleague directory can be found at the Brooklyn Friends School [HERE](#).

Health

All student health information needs to be completed and submitted to Magnus by Friday, August 27th. (August 15th for student athletes). **Magnus** is our highly secure health care records system.

- For assistance with your Magnus account: Email magnusadmin@brooklynfriends.org.
- To contact our Health Services Team: Email Mercedes Mercado at mmercado@brooklynfriends.org.
- To connect with BFS colleagues regarding social and emotional health: Email All-School Well-Being Coordinator Steven Karaiskos at skaraiskos@brooklynfriends.org.

Enrollment and Tuition

TADS is our enrollment and tuition management system.

- For assistance with billing, contact the Finance Office.
- For assistance with matters related to enrollment, contact the Enrollment Office.
- For assistance with matters related to financial aid, contact our Financial Aid Coordinator.

Extended Day (BFX)

Registration and billing for Extended Day for Preschool through 8th grade students are managed through **MyBackPack**.

- To register for BFX: Log-in to MyBackpack→ Click Program Registration under My Forms and Documents.
- For questions relating to the Extended Day Program: Email the BFX colleagues at BFX@brooklynfriends.org.

Athletics

Athletics schedules for grades 7-12 are available at BFSAthletics.org.

- For questions regarding our Athletics program: Email David Gardella, Director of Athletics, at dgardella@brooklynfriends.org.

The Weekly Newsletter

The Weekly, our all-school email newsletter, is sent to the community every Sunday morning during the school year (outside of school breaks). It is important that families read it thoroughly. It contains important news and action items each week.

- If you are not receiving The Weekly and/or have questions about the newsletter; email: communications@brooklynfriends.org.

School Calendar

The Brooklyn Friends School website calendar is the most up-to-date and comprehensive school calendar. This document contains a summary of major dates for the 2021-2022 school year.

Dashboard at the Brooklyn Friends Website

The Dashboard of the Brooklyn Friends website is a repository of important communications and resources. New families can expect to receive their log-in information for the Dashboard in the opening days of the school year.

- To Login to the Dashboard: Go to brooklynfriends.org and click “Sign In” in the top right corner and use the log-in credentials that were sent to you. On the mobile site, click the three horizontal lines in the top right corner and select “Sign In” from the drop-down menu.
- For assistance with accessing your Dashboard account: Email dashboard@brooklynfriends.org.

Student MetroCards

Grade K-12 students who are more than 0.5 miles away are eligible for a full fare NYC Student MetroCard and will receive the cards from their classroom teacher or advisor on, or shortly after, the first day of school. Eligibility is determined by the NYC Department of Education (DOE). If you have a question about student MetroCards, please contact Cheryl Foote at the Pearl Street Reception and Security Desk on school days. Her email is cfoote@brooklynfriends.org and her phone number is 718-852-1029x 0.

Identification Cards

While families will not regularly enter the BFS buildings due to COVID-19, we encourage all parents and guardians to get a BFS photo ID for those instances when they do. Read about and request Brooklyn Friends School photo identification cards at the [BFS website](#).

Classroom Related Communications

When you have a question related to your student’s classroom experience, start by reaching out directly to the appropriate teacher. You can find their email by using the [BFS website colleague directory](#). If you feel the need to speak further about the question or issue, please contact the appropriate divisional assistant in order to connect with the division head.

Giving

Every independent school relies on the generosity of its constituents to safeguard and enrich the educational experience of its students. The BFS Advancement Office works year-round to raise funds and reach out to our families, alumni, colleagues, friends, foundations and other charitable organizations and programs to enlist their voluntary financial support of Brooklyn Friends School. [Learn more about Giving at BFS and make a gift at the BFS website.](#)

Volunteering

The [Brooklyn Friends and Families Association](#) (BFF) is an organization of which all parents and guardians are automatically members. The BFF supports the leadership of the school in the fulfillment of its mission and its community building and fundraising efforts. Learn more about getting involved at the [BFS website](#) and in the [Brooklyn Friends and Families Handbook](#).

Report Student Absences

Preschool: Please email your child's teacher and the Preschool Program Manager (jroberts@brooklynfriends.org) if your child will be absent.

Lower School: Please email your child's teacher and the Lower School office (twalkin@brooklynfriends.org) by 8:15 a.m. to let us know that your child will be absent and each day when your child is absent. On the second day of absence, check with your child's teachers to determine if a homework assignment is necessary.

Middle School: Parents should use the online attendance forms on brooklynfriends.org/dashboard to report absences and request extended absences.

Upper School: Parents should use the online attendance forms on brooklynfriends.org/dashboard to report absences and request extended absences OR email usaa@brooklynfriends.org.

If your child is enrolled in BFX Extended Day, you must include the BFX staff in the above email at BFX@brooklynfriends.org.

Student and Family Handbooks

The All School and the individual Preschool, Lower, Middle, and Upper School Student and Family Handbooks contain important information and policies for our community. ***Please review these handbooks carefully!***

A Message from the BFF Co-Chairs

Hello BFS Families and Friends!

We hope this note finds you healthy and having enjoyed some time in the sun with family and friends. Though the halls have been clear of students, colleagues are hard at work this summer prepping for an exciting in-person return for all of our students! From a newly-imagined Extended Day Program, **BFXplorations**, to a return to in-person experiences like woodshop and ceramics, performing arts, student clubs, and more, there is so much for our children to look forward to in the school year ahead.

As the Co-Chairs of the Brooklyn Friends and Families (the BFF), we can't wait to see all of you in a few weeks and hope you join us with excited anticipation of the promises of this new year. We want to thank Sabrina LeBlanc for her leadership as co-chair of the BFF the past three years and especially for her efforts during this unusual past year in eliciting comprehensive feedback on BFF efforts.

Building on that feedback and our core mission of supporting the school, the BFF strategy this year will be to continue to focus on both communication and coming together in a number of fun ways as a community!

To that end, please take a few moments to review the enclosed [Brooklyn Friends and Families handbook](#). In this comprehensive handbook, you'll be reintroduced to all things BFF, including who we are and how you can get involved! We've worked in tandem with school leadership to redefine some roles to ensure all committees reflect our core priorities as a school community and to ensure we are as efficient—and effective—as possible.

Please also take a moment to review the comprehensive calendar on our [website](#). This page will be updated throughout the year. It is a key goal of ours to work with school leadership to ensure you know what's happening, when it's happening, and with enough advanced notice! Please note the reimagined “community forums,” which the BFF will sponsor throughout the year. These forums are designed to provide families both an opportunity to hear from the school's leadership and participate in Q&A sessions.

We know everyone has busy schedules, but we'd love to have you join us this year in whatever capacity you are able. In the words of Helen Keller, “alone we can do so little, but together we can do so much.” If you have any questions, would like to learn more, or to join a committee, please email us at bff@brooklynfriends.org.

Enjoy the last breath of summer. We look forward to seeing you in September!



Candy Willcocks (Parent of Jack '35 and Henry '33)



Sharon Reid (Parent of Tate '28)
Co-Chairs, Brooklyn Friends & Families (the BFF)

Welcome to BFXplorations

Dear BFS Families,

We are so excited to welcome your children to the **BFXplorations Extended Day** program. Re-imagining afterschool time, BFX will be grounded in equity, joy, and exploration, and a place where children will want to be!

For those of you familiar with our previous afterschool program, we wanted to highlight some important pieces for you as this program is truly an extension of the BFS experience for any student who wishes to participate.

With every child's registration in BFX, they will have access to all Xplorations (what were formerly called "specials") on the days in which they are enrolled. Each day, students can participate in Xplorations that could include dance, cooking, sports, STEAM activities, art and more. After the day's Xploration activity, students can participate in playgroup, homework, reading and creative projects.

At this time, registration for BFX is open to all students in Preschool through 8th grade, is limited to 3, 4 or 5 day options and takes place from the end of the school day until 5:30pm.

The full detail of this fall's Xploration activities will be shared closer to the start of school. As the program grows in the future, and based on enrollment and student interest, we will look into expanding the offerings further.

To see dates, costs and to sign up for BFXplorations Extended Day Program, please log into My BackPack and click on "Program Registration."

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to email BFX@brooklynfriends.org.

In Friendship,



Camille Fobbs,
BFX Interim Director



Joy Roberts,
BFX Program Manager



[CLICK HERE](#) to watch a short video about BFXplorations

Welcome to the 2021–2022 School Year!

The Family Center

Preschool

Lower School

Middle School

Upper School





**Start of School Information for
Family Center Families**

2021-2022

A Message from the Director of the Family Center

Dear Families,

Each year in the Family Center brings a sense of wonder and excitement as we begin. We know that your children will grow and develop as they form their classroom communities and learn about themselves in the context of their role as a peer and friend. Some themes will always be present, and some may be new as we learn about your children and all that they bring to the classroom. This year we are blending Half Day and Full Day children into both Blue and Yellow Rooms to create cohesive and diverse classroom groups where the children will thrive.



In early September the teachers will be in touch with you to schedule a time to meet with you and your child. This brief visit (no more than 15 minutes) gives your child the opportunity to meet his/her teachers from their comfortable home environment before they come to the classroom. Whether this first connection will be by Zoom or in person is yet to be determined.

Monday, September 13 is our Parent Orientation on the evening before your child starts school. We will determine soon if Orientation will be in-person or on zoom. This will be your opportunity to connect with the teachers and learn about the opening days, the “phase-in” period and how we work together to ensure a smooth transition for everyone. The specific schedules are planned carefully to allow both children and parents to separate and settle into the school routine, introducing activities, adding time and transitions without being overwhelming. We know that this allows the children to settle and become comfortable in a developmentally appropriate way.

Our first day of school for the children is September 14, beginning our phase-in period. On the first day children start in a small group session for 45 minutes. You will receive your child’s specific group time from the teachers at the end of August. **All children should attend their assigned time on September 14 even if this is not a regularly scheduled day.** A parent will stay with their child in the classroom on this first day.

Beginning the next day, children will start coming to school on their regularly scheduled days of the week. The “grown-ups” will begin to leave the classroom, but are expected to stay close by for at least the first week. The length of the day is gradually increased to allow everyone to become comfortable and familiar with the teachers, children and the routines of the classroom. We plan to be up to the full time for your child by the last week of September, but may make adjustments to the schedule as needed.

Important Reminder

Your child’s completed Medical Form and Confidential Student Health Form **MUST** be submitted by August 20. If your child has allergies, you will also need to have the Allergy Action and or Asthma Action Plans completed by both you and your physician. Students will not be permitted to attend classes if their health documents are not complete, following NYC DOH guidelines.

We are waiting for the updated guidelines from the NYC Department of Health (DOH) to finalize some plans.

As soon as we receive them I will be sharing our up to date Health and Safety Protocols. These protocols and policies are always subject to change if new Covid restrictions are in effect in September and throughout the year. Everything is in place to follow last year's procedures, and we are ready to modify where possible. We will always keep the health and safety of the children, who will not yet be vaccinated, at the forefront of all decisions and planning. What I do know with certainty is that your children will have a year of playing, interacting, learning about themselves as they use the many opportunities in their classrooms to grow, develop and have a wonderful time in the Family Center classrooms.

If you have any questions at this time, please be in touch with me at ssoll@brooklynfriends.org. I return on Monday, August 16 and teachers begin the year on August 23.

In Friendship,



Sara Soll, Director of the Family Center

Due to the unique nature of our youngest students, Family Center families will be receiving direct communications from Sara regarding important items, such as Scheduling, Health and Wellness, Policies, etc.





Start of School Information for Preschool Families

2021-2022

A Message from the Head of Preschool

Dear Preschool Families,

I hope you are having a wonderful summer, filled with sun and fun and with plenty of relaxing moments as well! As we look forward to welcoming you and your children to school in the fall, we want to make sure you have all of the information you will need to get prepared. In this document, you will find important dates and useful information for the start of your child's Preschool adventure next month! This information will help you plan and be ready for the start of school.



Getting Ready for Preschool and the Phase-In Process

In this section you will find information on preparing for Preschool, what to expect during the first days of school, and other important information about required health forms and deadlines, communications, and much more.

Important Dates

The school-wide calendar can be accessed [HERE](#). Mark your calendar in advance with all the important dates, school holidays and breaks, conference days and more!

Meet the Preschool Colleagues!

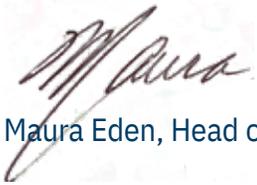
Read all about the members of the Preschool faculty including our amazing Specialist teachers, Extended Day teachers, and Administrative staff on our [Meet the Preschool Colleagues](#) page on the BFS website. All of our teachers have significant depth and breadth of knowledge of early childhood development, tremendous passion and creativity, and a love of young children!

Preschool Student and Family Handbook

The [Preschool Student and Family Handbook](#), has important information about daily Preschool routines and expectations, drop-off and dismissal, special events, communication requirements and much more. We ask that you take some time to read this Handbook before the Family orientation in September so that you can bring us any questions you might have.

We are all so excited to meet your children. By way of introduction, preschool children will be virtually visited via Zoom by their teachers after Labor Day and before the start of school. This visit will give your child an opportunity to see their teacher before school starts. The Zoom visits will last about 10-15 minutes. You will hear more about this from your classroom teacher in early September.

In Friendship,



Maura Eden, Head of Middle School

Getting Ready for Preschool, 2021-22! Important Information for the Start of the Year

The Beginning!

Orientation to the Preschool will happen in four parts: a virtual introduction for students, a virtual introduction for parents, an optional in-person visit to the Preschool, and a Family Gathering in Brooklyn Bridge Park (weather permitting).

In early September (after Labor Day and before the start of school), Preschool children will be virtually visited via Zoom by their teachers. This visit will give your child an opportunity to see their teacher before school starts. The Zoom visits will last about 10-15 minutes. You will hear more about this from your classroom teachers in the next few weeks.

On **Thursday, September 9, 1:00 - 2:00 pm**, we will be connecting with you on Zoom where we will talk about what you can expect as your child embarks on their Preschool adventure! We will share important Start of the Year information and introduce you to your child's teachers.

Also on **Thursday, September 9, from 5:00 - 7:00 pm** you are all invited to meet up at Brooklyn Bridge Park on the Harbor View Lawn at Pier 1 for a Family Gathering. Feel free to bring food or snacks and a blanket to sit on, and mingle with other Preschool families while children play!

On **Friday, September 10, from 10:00am to 12:00pm** you are invited to bring your child to BFS to get a glimpse into the magical world of the Preschool classroom and to meet their teachers in person. We will be sharing a Sign-up Sheet in early September and visits will be conducted in small groups of several families.

The School Year Begins

The Preschool school year begins with the **Welcome Morning** on **Monday, September 13**. On this day, children and parents will be welcomed by teachers in two groups for each class. The schedule for this Welcome Morning can be found below. You will receive your child’s specific time in early September. This Welcome Morning is a short acclimation period to help the children settle in, and will support separation and adjustment to school. These gatherings are the beginning of the “Phase-In” period for each class. The length of Phase-In varies, depending on the children’s age. A parent or other adult with whom your child is comfortable needs to be readily available during Phase-In. ***Please plan to keep your work schedule flexible as possible for the first days of school - September 13 to September 21 - in case your support is needed.***

THREES Phase-In: Red Room and Yellow Room

Welcome Morning Group 1: 8:30am - 10:30am (½ of the children in each Class)
 Welcome Morning Group 2: 11:00am - 1:00pm (other ½ of the children in each Class)

Lunch should be provided at home on Welcome Morning day. Please plan accordingly.

Phase-In continues as follows. This schedule applies to all Threes classrooms:

Tuesday, September 14	9:00 - 11:45 am
Wednesday, September 15	9:00 - 11:45 am
Thursday, September 16	Yom Kippur - No School
Friday, September 17	9:00 - 1:00 pm (bring lunch)
Monday, September 20 *	8:30 - 2:00 pm (includes lunch and rest time)
Tuesday, September 21	8:30 - 2:50pm First full day
Wednesday, September 22	8:30 - 2:50pm Extended Day begins for children enrolled in Extended Day program

* Doors open at 8:30am going forward.

FOURS: Green Room and Orange Room

Welcome Morning Group 1: 8:30am - 10:30am (½ of the children in each Class)
 Welcome Morning Group 2: 11:00am - 1:00pm (other ½ of the children in each Class)

Lunch should be provided at home on Welcome Morning day. Please plan accordingly.

Tuesday, September 14	8:30am - 11:45am
Wednesday, September 15	8:30am - 1:00pm (please bring lunch)
Thursday, September 16	Yom Kippur - No School
Friday, September 17	8:30am - 1:00pm
Monday, September 20	8:30am - 2:45pm First full day, includes rest time
Tuesday, September 21	8:30am - 2:45pm Extended Day begins for children enrolled in Extended Day program

Any schedule modifications will be made on a case-by-case basis according to a child's individual needs for both Preschool and Extended Day.

Above is subject to change, and safety protocols may be put in place if COVID restrictions are in effect in September.

What Comes Next

Head of Preschool Maura Eden and Preschool Developmental Specialist Jane Davidson will host a special Zoom "Connect & Talk" on **Thursday, September 23rd at 12:30pm** on facilitating these first days and supporting you and your child's adjustment to school. You will receive more information and a Zoom link in a later communication.

Please make note of the following Preschool specific dates. The [BFS all-school calendar](#), which includes holidays and vacation days, is always accessible at the BFS website.

Virtual Curriculum Connect & Talk
Thursday, October 21, 5:00pm

Fall Parent Conferences
Friday, November 12 and Friday, November 19

BFS Autumn Sing
Tuesday, November 23

Spring Parent Conferences
Friday, March 4
Friday, March 11

Preschool Goodbye Day
Friday, June 10, 10:30 am
(noon dismissal)

Information about curricular events that occur in the classroom or by grade level will be communicated to you directly by your child's classroom teachers.



What is Phase-In All About?

The Preschool year begins with a Phase-In Schedule so that children can gradually learn the routines of each day. We start the first day in small, two-hour "Welcome Morning" groups. After that, the days gradually lengthen until the whole class stays for the full day. Schedule modifications are made on a case-by-case basis according to a child's individual needs

"My child is ready to stay for a longer day. Why are they still coming for such a short time?"

We invite you to see the phase in time as an investment in your child's overall classroom experience. Whether your child is the first to settle in or the last, the benefits will pay off in the long run for the entire class.

"Until each of the children in the group is ready for a full school day, the class isn't ready." (from Practical Wisdom for Parents, Raising Self-Confident Children In The Preschool Years, by Nancy Schulman and Ellen Birnbaum, Directors of the 92nd Street Y Nursery School)

Phase-In also allows your teachers to get to know your children. They can give focused attention to each child as they gradually get to know the group, allowing them to plan accordingly. This Phase-In period also gives parents time to build community with each other.



**Start of School Information
for Lower School Families**

2021-2022

A Message from the Head of Lower School

Dear Lower School Families,

It is with great anticipation and excitement that we welcome you back to school for the 2021-2022 academic year. As we are preparing for the start of the school year, we have included important details related to operations, safety, and structures to be sure we are all prepared and ready for the opening of our doors as we welcome everyone to school in person. Most importantly, the grace, care, integrity, and respect we uphold in our partnership together will be vitally important as we come back together in community. Please review the details included below, and we look forward to being back in touch with you again soon.

“Look for truth within yourself... live a life of simplicity, love, and service. Let your life speak, and trust that your children will learn by example.”

~Robert Lawrence Smith, A Quaker Book of Wisdom



This summer provided a much needed moment to reconnect with friends, family, space, values, and reflection. Inspired by the quote above as we all navigate the unpredictability of another school year that is being impacted by the pandemic, we trust the truth and light within ourselves and within our community to continue to help guide us during this time. It is within our own Quaker values and beliefs that we usher in a new and exciting school year holding your children and their experience at the center of our preparation. We have committed to an investment in both the social and emotional health and wellbeing of our students, as well as returning to important aspects of our academic and arts programming. Let us all continue to serve in our capacities as examples for the children of Brooklyn Friends as we move forward together in friendship and in partnership.

Lower School Virtual Open House

As we welcome everyone back to school, this year we have planned a two-hour window of time to invite students to connect with their teachers in advance of the first day of school over Zoom. On Friday, September 3, we welcome all students to join their teachers on a 15 - 20 minute Zoom call to meet, introduce themselves, and connect before the first day of school. Teachers will reach out to schedule a time with your child's class to come together between the hours of 10 am to 12 pm. We hope that this time offers a glimpse into school in advance of the first day as well as an opportunity to connect together as we welcome everyone to the start of another school year. We look forward to offering this opportunity for connection to your children!

Summer Professional Learning

We place an important value on creating a rigorous and expansive professional learning community among our colleagues. We feel strongly that professional learning supports the best of what we can offer in classroom experiences for our students. While this summer has had impacts in terms of professional development offerings, colleagues have engaged in a variety of professional workshops, seminars, and personal development work. The list below offers a lens into some of the experiences members of our colleague body have experienced that will support your children's learning and our upcoming school year. We are excited to share more with you throughout the new school year.

- [Institute for Social and Emotional Learning](#) “Paving a Path for All to Thrive: SEL Practices for Grades K-6”
- [2021 National Anti-Racism Teach In General Conference](#)
- All-School reads:
 - * [Culturally Responsive Teaching and The Brain: Promoting Authentic Engagement and Rigor Among Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students](#) by Zaretta L. Hammond
 - * [The Art of Possibility: Transforming Professional and Personal Life](#) by Rosamund Stone Zander and Benjamin Zander

We look forward to welcoming you to the start of the school year and to our Open House on Friday, September 3, 2021.

In friendship, and with warmest regards,



Jason Novak, Head of Lower School

Katie Banks, Assistant Head of Lower School for Academics

Welcoming New Colleagues

The 2021-2022 school year brings new colleagues to our Lower School. Please reach out and welcome the colleagues below as they join us at BFS. Photographs as well as detailed bios will be shared with our community in the coming weeks when colleagues arrive for the start of the new school year.

Lower School Associate Teachers

Lia Albuquerque joins BFS this year in Kindergarten. Lia has extensive experience with children, with a unique and successful approach to children with special needs and learning disabilities. Prior to joining BFS Lia was an assistant teacher at Hunter College Elementary School

Magna Antoine, a dedicated, passionate multifaceted early childhood educator with 30+ years of classroom and leadership experience joins our 4th Grade team. Since 1988 Magna was a lead teacher at Open House Nursery School here in Brooklyn.

Phoebe Costello joins Brooklyn Friends as part of our 1st Grade team. Most recently, Phoebe held several teaching positions at Bank Street School for Children. At Bank Street Phoebe worked collaboratively with the entire teaching team to create a classroom community grounded in progressive pedagogy, emergent curricula, inquiry-based learning, and social justice.

Sophie Dougherty joins Brooklyn Friends for 3rd Grade after spending four years as an associate third grade teacher and two years as an associate kindergarten teacher at Poly Prep Country Day School in Brooklyn.

Uniysha Jones will return to BFS and join our 2nd Grade team. Among Uniysha's many strengths is the ability to communicate with families to discuss student performance, development, achievements and goals. She also has collaborated with grade level associate and head teachers to create and implement student curriculum.

Jessica Leeman joins BFS from the Dalton School and will be part of the 3rd Grade team. As an associate teacher at Dalton, Jessica developed and executed lessons for Morning Meeting, Social Emotional Learning, Math and Social Studies.

Lower School Lead Teachers

Lindsay Casale returns to Brooklyn Friends as a lead teacher in First Grade after spending last year here at BFS as an associate teacher in first grade. As an associate teachers, Lindsay planned and taught whole group lessons across subjects, including: Handwriting, Math, and Writer's Workshop. She also initiated, co-wrote, and taught four-week Black Lives Matter curriculum implemented across the entire 1st grade.

Kirsten Ferdinand returns to BFS, where she was a member of the Preschool team last year. Prior to that, Kirsten was an associate teacher at Grace Church School. Kristin has structured inquiry based math lessons using Bridges curriculum and created social studies curriculum based on themes that emerge in class discussions. She has also planned and implemented literacy activities for small group that meet diverse needs of learners.

Laleña Garcia is a new Kindergarten teacher here at Brooklyn Friends. Most recently she served as a head teacher at Manhattan Country School since 2013. Among her many strengths are that she was responsible for developing and implementing developmentally appropriate curriculum, supervised and mentored assistant teachers, as well as student teachers, and wrote annual narrative and anecdotal reports, as well as school recommendations when applicable.

Natalie Kirch is an experienced early childhood educator with a master's degree in Early Childhood Education and a series of course work in Early Childhood Special Education from CUNY Hunter. Her experience as a teacher has been pre-dominantly in the pre-kindergarten through 2nd grade age groups.

Michael Rae-Grant joins BFS as a 1st Grade teacher. Most recently, Michael was a course instructor at Teachers College, Columbia University. There, he taught master's level courses on K-5 literacy methods, action research, and children's literature. In addition, he supervised student teachers during fieldwork placements; provided feedback and on-site support and facilitated small group dialogues around race and equity for the Reimagining Education Summer Institute

Lower School Specialist Teachers

Amelia Jenison joins BFS as a Lower School Music Specialist. Previously, Amelia was a general music teachers and drama club at Westford Public Schools in Massachusetts.

Christopher Kavanaugh will be an Educational Technology Integrator here at Brooklyn Friends, after his role as an Academic Technology instructor and integration specialist for both faculty and students at Trevor Day School.

Mariah Martens is a new Health & Human Development teacher for 4th grade at BFS. Prior to joining Brooklyn Friends, Mariah was an Early RAPP Educator at Steps to End Family Violence in Harlem.

Elena Speridakos arrives at Brooklyn Friends as a Lower School Learning Specialist She is an experienced leader, learner, and educator with the tools and knowledge to support kindergarten and first grade learners.

LS Colleague Partnerships and Specialists, 2021-2022

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures to Pearl Street

Morning Arrival

Arrival for the 2021-2022 school year will be organized as a staggered entrance to uphold safety as children arrive to the start of their day. The details of arrival times are listed below. When facing the front of the Pearl Street building, we do ask families to escort their students to the positions listed below, and then part once your child is in line with their teachers. We do ask that you make every effort to arrive on time for the start of the day. **Any child arriving at school after 9:00 am will be marked as tardy.** When arriving to Pearl Street, we ask students to arrive and be ready to enter the building during the following times:

	<u>Left Side (facing the doors)</u>	<u>Right Side (facing the doors)</u>
8:15 am	3rd Grade Classes	4th Grade Classes
8:20 am	2nd Grade Classes	1st Grade Classes
8:25 am	Kindergarten	

Excessive tardiness may warrant action by the division head, including, but not limited to, a decision by the school not to renew the student’s contract or a decision that the student is not eligible to be promoted to the next grade.

Afternoon Dismissal

Dismissal for the 2021-2022 school year will also be staggered using the layout included below. We will dismiss at the same times Monday through Friday. When facing the front of Pearl Street, we ask families to meet their students for pick up at the times listed below. Teachers will escort students out of the building at the dismissal times listed below.

	<u>Left Side (facing the doors)</u>	<u>Right Side (facing the doors)</u>
2:50 pm	3rd Grade Classes	4th Grade Classes
2:55 pm	2nd Grade Classes	1st Grade Classes
3:00 pm	Kindergarten	

Students who are not picked up on time at end of day dismissal will be escorted to our BFX Extended Day program.

Student and Family Handbook

Please be sure to review all of the details included in our [Lower School Student and Family Handbook](#). Any details pertaining to specific classroom information will be shared by your child’s classroom teachers. The Student and Family Handbook will continue to be updated throughout the school year as needed.

Upcoming Communications, Events, and Connect and Talks

In the weeks and months ahead, you will continue to receive messages in regard to many points of communication as we come together in community. We have also proactively planned a group of Lower School Connect and Talk Zoom experiences to keep everyone informed and engaged. Please note the following that will be coming forward:

- More specific information connected to arrival and dismissal
- Virtual Kindergarten Orientation to be held on Thursday, September 2, 2021
- Thursday, September 9, 2021 - First Full Day of School for K-12
(Kindergarten and First grade will have a half day dismissal at 12 pm)

- Lower School Curriculum Night Events - Virtual
 - * Kindergarten and First Grade will occur on Thursday, September 30 from 6 to 7:30 pm
 - * 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grade Curriculum Night will occur on Thursday, October 7 from 6 to 7:30 pm

- Lower School Connect and Talk Events
 - * All Lower School Connect and Talk Events will take place over Zoom from 10:00 - 11:00 am on the following dates: 10/14, 12/2, 2/24, and 4/7. More details will follow with the Zoom link as well as the specific topics being discussed





**Start of School Information for
Middle School Families**

2021-2022

A Message from the Head of Middle School

Greetings Middle School Parents and Families,

It is surreal to think that I am welcoming you to the school year at Brooklyn Friends as the Head of Middle School. In my sixth year at BFS, I am honored to serve your children and all of you as the new Division Head, and it is our pleasure to officially begin the 2021-2022 school year with an abundance of exciting, supportive, and detailed information to help successfully start the year. Even amidst national and global angst regarding the pandemic, the nervousness about school, and the unpredictability of yet another year, we couldn't be more excited to return to Middle School. We have missed our Pearl Street home and the traditions and hallmarks of adolescent education that are so cherished—lockers, instruments, hallway travel, good 'ol pencil and paper learning, and experiencing each other's joy in person, just to name a few. While masks are still required indoors, we look forward to so much more of the Middle School returning to the way it was and creating an even better version of ourselves and our program.



As the new Head of Middle School, I want to reiterate what a special curriculum, program, and colleague-body we have here at BFS; I have spent much of this summer both preparing for the year ahead but also reflecting on the year behind us, which was one of the hardest years for teaching and learning that my colleagues and I have ever collectively experienced. That reflection has led me to feel even more deeply honored to work amongst colleagues who see themselves as lifelong learners and who are truly committed to the whole child.

Within our Middle School, we are striving to create and maintain a child-centered, values-based experience enveloped within our school's Quaker identity and ardent commitment to a socially-just and civically-minded education; one that provides children with an internal compass during a time of life when many are exploring new directions, discovering more about the world we live in, potentially figuring out new identities, new friendships, and different versions of themselves. One consistent truth I have learned from working with middle school-aged children for more than 15 years is that this time of life marks remarkable growth and change; and while it may also mark a time of growing autonomy and independence from the adults in their lives, that is what the school-family partnership is all about. We are here to support your children, and you, and be another constant in their rapidly-changing internal and external lives. What has impressed me most about Brooklyn Friends since I arrived in 2016—and what continues to motivate me in my leadership—is the commitment we clearly have to adolescent children and supporting their development into kind, compassionate, and skillful young adults. Our students—they are the “North” to guide our compass—and we are dedicated to providing them with the best education of mind, body, and spirit that we are capable of while seeing, knowing, and truly caring for each of them along the way.

As we welcome you to this exciting year ahead, please take the necessary time to carefully read all of the details herein. Not only does this letter contain important and pertinent information for this school year, but many of the details may indicate a change from years past for those of you who are returning to our program. As ever, we always welcome families to be in touch with any questions or concerns, and families and students can find all their informational needs and exciting announcements on the [Middle School's Panther Central website](#).

Thank you for entrusting us with your children—it's a big deal and a big responsibility. We look forward to welcoming them in through our golden doors on the first day of school on September 9th, and we truly can't wait to see them!

Please remind your child that now is the time to start that final [summer reading book](#) if they haven't already. Happy pages!

In warmth and friendship,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nitya".

Nitya L. York (she/her) & Kathleen Clinchy (she/her)
Head & Assistant Head of Middle School

New Colleagues in the Middle School

As with every school year, we are welcoming several new faces to the middle school colleague-body this August. After several national searches and much time, energy, and effort, we're entering the 2021-2022 school year with such a strong, dedicated, and passionate team! We're excited to announce the following new colleagues in the Middle School:

Rami Abdul Karim: We were very fortunate to welcome Rami to the Middle School in January of 2021, when he stepped in as a 5th grade Humanities teacher and advisor. With 10 years of varied teaching experiences, beginning in his country of origin in Lebanon, we were delighted to learn that Rami was interested in remaining at Brooklyn Friends. He will serve as the advisor and Humanities teacher for 5B and teach one section of 6th grade English.

Tyler Bauer: One of our new Instrumental Music teachers, Tyler is a dedicated holistic music educator, who is able to engage students in learning a variety of instruments as well as recording, audio, and video skills. Believing that every student has the potential to create and coexist in harmony with each other through music, we knew right away that Tyler would be a great addition to the Performing Arts Department.

Alaina Daniels: Equipped with a variety of teacher-leadership skills and areas of expertise, Alaina is our new 6th and 8th grade Science teacher and will serve as a 6th grade advisor. With experiences across NYC independent schools, Alaina brings a wealth of knowledge pertaining to student-centered and inquiry-based instruction as well as creating inclusive communities. Helping to found the Farm Program at Manhattan Country School, Alaina is a leading progressive educator.

Gabe Gordon: Teaching History and Art are two of Gabe's passions and interests, and we were fortunate again last year when Gabe came to BFS to cover for a 5th grade parental leave position. Working in a variety of settings such as renowned museums, education programs for the incarcerated, and The Center for Urban Pedagogy, Gabe is a tremendous asset to the History department. Gabe will be teaching 6th & 7th grade History and serving as a 6th grade advisor.

Edgar O. Marshall: Our new Middle School Dean of Students, Marshall comes to BFS with seven years of experience working with middle schoolers in a variety of settings, mostly serving students with diverse learning profiles. Marshall is a student-centered, culturally-responsive, and restorative-based educator, and he cannot wait to meet our students!

Mariah Martens: Mariah returns to BFS after several years serving in the non-profit sector on efforts such as sex-positive education and ending family violence. Mariah has a Masters from NYU in Sexuality Education and Embodied Pedagogies. Having shadowed at BFS for her student-teaching experience many years ago, Mariah is very excited to return to us as our new Health teacher.

Stephanie Mayer: Also a new Instrumental Music teacher at BFS, Stephanie is a passionate middle school educator who brings a wealth of teaching and artistic experience to the Middle School. Most recently at Village Academy Middle School, Stephanie has done everything from starting a marching band, to teaching string and wind instruments, to starting and leading an afterschool program. Stephanie will also serve as an advisor in the 8th grade.

Dr. Tiffany Wright: Moving back home from California, Tiffany comes to BFS most recently from New Roads School in Santa Monica. Amongst many other passions and contributions, Tiffany is a dedicated teacher-leader in areas such as experiential learning, gifted and talented education, and humanities instruction. With a Doctorate of Education in Organization and Leadership, Dr. Wright is looking forward to enhancing the 6th and 8th grade English curriculum and serving as a 6th grade advisor.

We also welcome back some not-so-new colleagues to the Middle School with Tommy Talty reassuming his role as a Physical Education teacher and taking over the coordination of the Middle School Extended Day Program and Ellen Kahan our longtime and beloved ceramics teacher returning to the ceramics studio on the third floor.

Start of Middle School Schedule & Events

School will begin for all 5th-8th grade students at 375 Pearl Street on Thursday, September 9th at 8:15 am. All students will have a complete and full day of school on 9/9/21, and the Middle School will be conducting a three-day Student Orientation for all children on Thursday 9/9 - Monday 9/13. Given that much of the past year and a half of school has looked very different for our students, we are centering the needs to reacclimate to school as we once knew it, ensure all students know how to navigate the physical tools and spaces for learning, and center connection and joy with teachers, friends, and peers. Formal classes will begin with students' teachers and their regular schedule will commence on Tuesday, September 14th. Student Orientation days are mandatory for all BFS students in grades 5 - 8.

All new families this year and from the 2020-2021 school year are welcomed to attend our **New Family Orientation at 5pm on Thursday, September 2nd** via Zoom. Details will be announced closer to this date, but new families and students who would like to learn more about communication with the Middle School, routines and protocols, and have a chance to ask any questions prior to the first day of school are encouraged to attend. It's also always a nice chance to meet other new families and students. If we're able to offer an in-person component to this event, we will be sure to keep you abreast. Please save the date.

Arrival & Dismissal and Outdoor Time this Year

As a result of overwhelmingly positive family and student feedback to our later start time during the pandemic, **the Middle School day will now begin at 8:15 am.** Students must arrive at 375 Pearl Street and be upstairs in their Advisory Homeroom by 8:15 am sharp in order not to be marked tardy. Middle school students can begin arriving as early as 8:00 am, and as has always been the case starting in 5th grade, families will not be permitted to enter the building. While this is being strictly adhered to due to COVID-19, we always encourage a shift in parental involvement in the oversight of children's arrival to school beginning at this age. It is an important right of passage in the Middle School for children to begin walking upstairs to their classrooms on their own. Caregivers will drop students off at 375 Pearl Street, and students will enter the building on their own. Middle School advisors, administrators, and colleagues will be present during arrival to support children in finding where they need to be and welcoming them warmly into classrooms.

Dismissal in the Middle School will be at 3:30 pm each day. As families have been notified, our new Extended Day program, BFX, is offered after school until 5:30 pm, and all middle school students are invited to participate. Signing up for [BFX programs](#) takes place via your My BackPack account. Please note that unless otherwise communicated, 7th & 8th grade students are permitted to be dismissed at the end of the school day without a parent or guardian. For 5th & 6th graders, we require family communication in order to permit students to self-dismiss.

Another silver lining to pandemic-learning, which garnered positive feedback from students and families, was the increased amount of outdoor time. Due to the nature of returning to our full academic program and schedule, we will no longer end each day outside, however, we have prioritized giving each grade level an "outdoor" period at the end of the school day for supervised fun and outdoor activities two times per week. Dismissal on those days may not always occur from 375 Pearl Street. As our plans for afternoon times are finalized, we will communicate exact dismissal procedures with students and families.

New Middle School Student & Family Handbook, Grading Procedures, and Expectations

Each year, the Middle School reviews and revises our [Student and Family Handbook](#). Important policies, expectations, procedures, and information are contained within the Handbook, and students and families are encouraged to read it before the start of school. Students also receive portions of the handbook printed in their planners.

School planners will be distributed this year at the start of school to all students in grades 5 - 8, and all Middle School teachers will write homework and assignment information on the board and provide the time and structure for students to write important details down in their planners. We will also continue the use of Google Classroom and teachers will always post students' homework assignments before 4 pm on the day it is assigned. Parents/guardians are asked to sign up for "Guardian Summaries" to receive daily or weekly updates on students' work completion.

As our Handbook outlines, the Middle School will continue with our commitment to Equity-Based Grading. Aligned with our school's mission of recognizing the Light within each human being and allowing our students unique strengths to shine through and be recognized by all, rather than traditional letter or percentage grades, students in the Middle School will receive mastery-based grades that indicate their level of skill or knowledge. Phrases including Exceeds Expectations, Above Expectations, Meets Expectations, Approaches Expectations,

and Does Not Meet Expectations will be listed in place of letter grades. We recognize the need and importance of ongoing and comprehensive family and student engagement and education on this important issue, and we look forward to continuing on this journey together. As an institution, equity-based grading is in complete alignment with our values and priorities, and as we know, it is best practice in teaching and learning as well as current brain science. While this represents a shift from the traditional A - F scale that the Middle School was utilizing prior to the pandemic, it is a shift that we have thoughtfully been working towards and professionally developing far before March 2020, and a shift that we are committed to in the long term in the best interest of your children's experiences and our respect of who they are as learners. We look forward to having a somewhat more "typical" school year to be able to evaluate and assess the needs and challenges that may materialize and continue to improve the way we give feedback and evaluate student progress in the Middle School.

Advisory Placements

Each year, an abundance of time and careful attention is given to creating advisory groups for our middle school learners. Advisory groups are a student's "home base," and some students and teachers report feeling like it's their "family" at school. Advisors play an important role in each student's life and are meant to serve as a child's advocate within the school and with a child's family. We pay careful attention to creating advisory groups that are balanced and pay special attention to the needs of the group - academically, socially, and emotionally. We try our very best to ensure that children have at least one peer in the advisory group whom they have had a prior connection to or friendship with in the past, and yet, we also prioritize creating spaces that will not perpetuate exclusivity and intentionally encourage students to be open-minded and optimistic about forming new connections and friendships. Students will also go to some classes by advisory groups, although as students get older, this becomes less frequent.

For all of the aforementioned reasons, we will not accept any requests to transfer students to another advisory group or advisor. We thank you in advance for your adherence and understanding.

Supply Lists

Going school-supply shopping can carry varied emotions, and our hope is that much of it is excitement for our students (and hopefully, for the adults as well)! I keenly remember loving to pick out the various colors, shapes, and instruments of school while my mother absolutely hated it; of course, this was the world before Amazon Prime and meant I was taking my sweet middle-school time at the store. Regardless of your feelings toward school supplies, we have gathered the important tools for learning, which can be accessed by grade level below. Please note that students should not bring all of their school supplies on the very first day of school, which makes for a very heavy and hectic backpack. Students can bring in a little at a time throughout the first week, and should have all of their supplies in their lockers by Friday, September 17th. Remember: shop local and try to support small businesses.

[5th Grade Supply List 2021-2022](#)

[6th Grade Supply List 2021-2022](#)

[7th Grade Supply List 2021-2022](#)

[8th Grade Supply List 2021-2022](#)

Upcoming Important Dates

At the start of school, there are several points of engagement for students and families. The school-wide calendar can be accessed [HERE](#). Mark your calendar in advance with all the important dates, school holidays and breaks, conference days and more!

- The week of September 20th, the Middle School will be conducting our **September Benchmark Testing**. Students will take the NWEA MAP Growth Test in Reading, Language Usage, Math, and Science beginning on Tuesday 9/21/21. Attendance during these days is critical. We will send out more information and an invitation to learn more about the NWEA MAP test as we approach mid-September.
- Middle School Curriculum Nights are two of the most important events of the school year. You'll have the opportunity to meet each of your child's teachers, learn more about their academic studies this year, and generally experience life in the Middle School. Please save the dates for these evening events: **7th & 8th Grade Curriculum Night will occur on Wednesday, September 29th and 5th & 6th Grade Curriculum Night will be on Wednesday, October 6th.**
- Finally, we invite you to save the date for our first Middle School Connect & Talk over Zoom on **Thursday, October 28th**. We have several exciting developments in our curriculum and program to share, and the exact time and topic will be communicated closer to the date.

As you look toward the end of summer with your children, friends, and family, we hope that you are as enthusiastic as we are about starting the school year together. It's been a long road for students, colleagues, and parents these past 16 months, and while we're not out of this pandemic just yet, we haven't faltered in finding our way back to that "North" that guides us. We are all still striving to support our children in growing into kind, compassionate, and skillful young adults, and that has never changed nor will it.





**Start of School Information for
Upper School Families**

2021-2022

A Message from the Head of Upper School

Dear Students and Families,

I hope each one of you has taken the necessary time to refresh this summer. While this past school year had some unprecedented moments—moments that raised worries and discomfort for us all—there were also many moments that made us grateful for who we are, our health and safety, and our community. I want to focus this letter on our commitments within the Upper School and our necessary focus and grounding on who we are here at BFS.

As we start a new academic year this fall, I want to center our Upper School community around three essential and intertwined, principles, which are also reflected throughout all divisions this year.

- We are committed to living our mission as a Quaker school.
- We are committed to excellence, both academic and personal.
- We are committed to the well-being of all members of our community.

A Quaker school is distinguished by its commitment to helping students become excellent people. There is a rigor that includes and goes far beyond academics. A Quaker education helps students and colleagues learn how to cultivate their inner lives, and it challenges each of us to listen, to seek, and to never stop pursuing Truth. This kind of education asks a lot of us as people: to be humble; to be gracious; to stay curious, and to stay present. A Quaker education asks us to leave room for possibility because Truth is constantly being revealed.

I was reading recently the words of Susan Peckam, former Head of Brooklyn Friends School from 1880-1902, and I was inspired. She writes the following:

“We must be unselfish in our dealings with a child (grown persons are not apt to be) and not expect to be favored by him all the time- must let him live his life, the life of a human being in early years, a life of exuberant spirits, of love, of motion and noise and variety and talk and laughter; but, also, if we do our ‘ part in leading him into it, a life of enjoyment in doing the right thing at the right time, of delight in system and method in his occupations, of rejoicing in hard work, of high purposes and ideals, of steady growth in character keeping pace as it should with growth of body...”

Her message to me, 133- years later moved me. What stands out to me in this quote is her understanding of children as whole human beings who need independence and discovery to tap into their innate moral compass. She sees the role of adults (educators) as leaders or guides whose responsibility is not to impart wisdom or fill a pail but to allow children to be themselves and get out of the way—to not stand in the way of the joy they’ll find in living. This passage reminds me that even though we do not know what September, December or even June will bring, we must continue to pour our attention into what we know, whom we love, and what we will prioritize: our students. We will support and ready each student who comes through the doors of 116 Lawrence for a future we are unsure of.

In partnership with you, their family, our Quaker tenets will, as Susan Peckham writes, guide them to “do the right thing at the right time.” While everyone has their own faith or way of organizing their understanding of the



world and the question of how to be good, we will seek and learn and discern as a community. And it is with this renewal of commitment, that I welcome you back to a new year.

I look forward to sharing more with you in the next few weeks!

In Love and Friendship,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kamaya".

Kamaya Prince Thompson
Head of Upper School

New Colleagues in the Upper School

The 2021-2022 school year brings both new colleagues to our Upper School and colleagues who have moved into a new role. Please reach out to welcome and congratulate the colleagues below as they are either joining us for the first time at BFS or beginning a new role. Photographs as well as detailed bios will be shared with our community in the coming weeks when colleagues arrive for the start of the new school year.

Caitlin Barry will be joining BFS as an English teacher, after serving as an English and Media Literacy teacher at the Blue School in Manhattan. Prior to joining the Blue School, where she also served as an advisor, Caitlin spent five years as a middle school teacher and yearbook advisor at Westside Neighborhood School in Los Angeles.

Frank Cabrera is our new Director of College Counseling. Since 2016, Frank has served as the Associate Director of College Counseling at Horace Mann in the Bronx. He has established many ties with admissions officers throughout the nation with visits and by participating in local and national conferences. Prior to joining Horace Mann, Frank was the Assistant Director of Admissions at the University of Pennsylvania.

Leigh Cross, who brings content knowledge in American and African-American History, will be teaching both English & History at BFS. Leigh most recently served as a middle school ELA and History teacher at Achievement First Endeavor Middle School in Brooklyn.

Elizabeth Deull returns to Brooklyn Friends to once again teach Visual Arts. Liz spent 2012–2020 at BFS as a Visual Arts teacher and has experience teaching students at university, secondary, and elementary levels. Her vast areas of knowledge include 2D, 3D, painting, drawing, mixed media, digital and print design and so much more.

Dr. Steven Karaiskos will be our new Psychologist & All-School Well-Being Coordinator. Steven has 20 years of teaching, leadership, and training experience and has worked with learners from early childhood to adults. Most recently, Steven was a Social and Emotional Learning Educator on the Learning Enhancement Team at Hawken School in Ohio.

Bill Livingston joins BFS as the Science and CAS Coordinator. Bill is an experienced educator with a passion for the environment, field sciences, and literature. Most recently, Bill was a high school chemistry and middle school Life Sciences teacher at the IDEAL School in Manhattan. Prior to that he was the Head of Sciences at Leman Manhattan Prep School.

Brian Tridgell, who most recently was an IB Economics, IGCSE Global Perspectives, and ESL Geography teacher at EF Academy in Thornwood, NY, joins BFS as a History teacher. Prior to teaching at EF Academy, Brian taught at the American International School in Abu Dhabi, in the United Arab Emirates.

Daniel Paccione returns to BFS in the new role of Assistant Head of Upper School and IB Coordinator. Last year, Daniel served as the Dean of Grades 11 and 12 and Experiential Learning and IB Coordinator at Brooklyn Friends.

Brian Sullivan will also move to a new role at BFS, as the new Dean of Students, after spending the past three years here as the Middle School History Department Chair and History Teacher for grades 7 and 8.

Jessamin Swearingen, who arrived at Brooklyn Friends School this past February and served as the Interim Upper School Technology Integrator, returns this year as the Interim Director of Academic Technology.

The School Day

School will begin for all Upper School students at 116 Lawrence Street on Thursday, September 9th at 8:00 am. Our school schedule will run from 8:00 to 3:30. Specific student schedules will be released via MyBackpack on Monday, August 30th.

The Office of Well-Being

Dr. Steven Karaikos will be leading our well-being efforts both here in the Upper School and across all divisions. He will be leading several conversations this year with students, colleagues, and families. Please see his short video [HERE](#) to welcome you to the work.

Upper School Handbook

All items posted in our Upper School Student and Family Handbook are subject to change. This document includes information true to every school year. For the 2021-2022 school year, certain pieces will need to be adapted throughout the school year. Families will also receive an additional guidebook from the School to support health and safety throughout this school year. The handbook can be viewed through this link:

[Upper School Student and Family Handbook \(2021-2022\)](#)

Upcoming Communications, Events, & Connect and Talks

Please find a list below of our upcoming points of connection with you! This is certainly not a complete list, but a means to get you and your family starting to think about the year ahead.

8/30	Schedule will be released in MyBackpack	2/24	Connect & Talk (9AM)
9/2–9/3	Grade 9 Pretreat Orientation	5/13	Connect & Talk (9AM)
9/9	Opening Day for K-12	6/3	Last Day of Classes
9/23	US Curriculum Night	6/5	Baccalaureate
10/8	Connect & Talk (9AM)	6/10	Commencement (5PM)
12/3	Connect & Talk (9AM)		

A Future Not Our Own

(A prayer by Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Archbishop Oscar Romero)

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.
The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts,
it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction
of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.
Nothing we do is complete,
which is a way of saying
that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

This is what we are all about:
We plant the seeds that one day will grow.
We water seeds already planted,
knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development.
We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything,
and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.
This enables us to do something,
and to do it very well.
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way,
an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference
between the master builder and the worker.
We are workers, not master builders;
ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own.

Thank you...

I would like to extend sincere gratitude to colleagues in all of our divisions, our Assistant Head of School and Chief of Staff, as well as the many other departments at Brooklyn Friends who support all of our students' experiences on a daily basis.

Athletics
Advancement
Communications
College Counseling
Dining Services
Diversity, Equity, and Belonging
Enrollment
BFX Extended Day
Finance

Health Services
Maintenance and Facilities
Security
Technology

