



BROOKS SCHOOL

PARENT NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 4, 2018

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The leaves on campus have begun to change! They're not yet at the brilliance of the foliage seen in this throwback Thursday photo of the trees lining Lake Cochichewick, but by Family Weekend Oct. 25-27 they should be beautiful.

Academic Integrity and Why It's Great to Fail

In chapel this week, students heard from Academic Dean Susanna Waters about developing integrity and learning to practice perseverance when faced with challenging situations. It is a theme that will be woven throughout your student's year. Watch a [video of the talk](#) to hear her important message.

Introducing Brooks Together

Brooks Together is an eight-week initiative for current parents that provides crucial support for the Brooks Fund, which this year covers 12 percent of the annual operating budget. Tuition does not cover all of the costs associated with a Brooks education and the Brooks Fund helps make up that gap. It has an immediate and lasting impact on the school's ability to achieve on our mission each year. The eight-week period — October 19 through December 14 — establishes a finite time in which you will be asked to participate and support all that Brooks has to offer our children. Gifts of all sizes make a meaningful difference to each and every member of our community.

John Packard once said of *Brooks Together*, "Know at the beginning, please, that we ask for your support with great humility, with great appreciation for what you do to make this education accessible to your children. You're not going to hear from us during the course of the year that you have to give to the Brooks Fund because you have to, or because it's your duty or your obligation. We're asking you to do it because we're going to do great work

with your kids.”

We look forward to earning your support and speaking with you further. Please join us in our unwavering support of Brooks, so we can all be part of *Brooks Together*. — Andrew and Chrissy Chaban P'16, P'19, Sean Riley P'20, P'21

Going to Miss an Afternoon Activity?

Please remember, if your child is going to miss an afternoon-activity commitment (a sport, art, community service or other activity), he or she must follow the same process as they would if missing an academic commitment. If the absence is for medical reasons, please contact the Health and Wellness Center (health@brooks.school.org) to let them know the time that your student will be leaving campus for his or her appointment. If the absence is for any other reason, the student must complete an Elective Absence Form obtained from the Dean's Office and return it to the Deans at least 24 hours prior to the absence. Questions? Contact [Vicky Matheson](#), administrative assistant to the Deans' Office.

Family Weekend 2018

October is upon us, which means Family Weekend will be here soon! We are so looking forward to having you on campus Oct. 25-27. There is a full [schedule of events](#) (with small details subject to change). *Note: There has been a slight alteration to times for the college counseling sessions. Please [RSVP by Oct. 24](#), as it is important for our planning. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Associate Director of Alumni and Parent Programs [Nicole Jackson](#).

Parents Committee's Ghostly Goodies

Like baking? On Oct. 31, we treat our students, teachers and staff to Halloween treats. We're in need of volunteers who can bake or buy a goodie and drop it off. Please contact [Joan Ziady](#) P'18, P'20, P'22 if you're interested in contributing. If you're a boarding parent, or you can't come in person, you can still help! There will also be raffle baskets available. Would you like to help with those? We would love donations of gift cards (local restaurants, Visa, etc). Contact [Jennifer Quinn](#) P'20, P'21 for anything related to putting together the baskets. Thank you!

Trip to Europe

Several faculty members are offering an exciting European trip this summer during which they will take students on an in-depth exploration of WWII in England, France and Germany. [View the flyer](#) for more detailed information. If you have any questions, please contact History Teacher [Amanda Nasser](#) or History Teacher and Academic Dean [Susanna Waters](#).

Student Activities This Weekend

Check out the [full schedule](#). Highlights include trips to the Salem Witch Village, Harvard Square, the Topsfield Fair and Crane Beach!

Special Schedule Next Week

Please read below about the following **required** grade-level activities next week:

Oct. 8:

- School holiday: No classes, practices or afternoon activities.

Oct. 9:

- **Third form**: Required CWRA testing (see details below). Students will have received an email from Associate Head for Academic Affairs Lance Latham.
- **All students**: 9 p.m. check-in for boarders; departure for day students.

Oct. 10 (Dress is casual. Hot breakfast is 7:30 - 8:20 a.m. and no breakfast check-in for third- and fourth-formers):

- **Third form**: Anti-Harassment/Bullying/Hazing Workshop 9-11:30 a.m. (Wilder Dining Hall).
 - **Fourth and fifth form**: PSAT test. Meet in the Athletic Center lobby by 8:15 a.m.
 - **Sixth form**: College Workshop. 8:30 a.m. in the Science Forum.
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CWRA Testing on Tuesday

On the evening of Oct. 9, a random sample of third-form students (day and boarding) is expected to take the College Work and Readiness Assessment (CWRA). Associate Head for Academic Affairs Lance Latham will notify

the students involved. Students should meet in the Luce Library at 6:50 p.m. Testing will be complete by 9 p.m. The CWRA measures problem-solving and critical-thinking skills — skills that the school is interested in developing. Students are not expected to prepare for the CWRA, which is conducted entirely online with school computers. Contact [Lance Latham](#) with any questions.

Cabaret Show in The Lehman Art Center

As part of the "[Friends and Family](#)" art exhibit, Jean Dancewicz (grandmother to Kathryn '18 and Madeline '20 Delaney) will perform a cabaret show with her partner Christine Corbett in the Lehman Arts Center on Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. The show, "Let's Be Frank," is their feminine take on the songs of Frank Sinatra and will be infused with some biographical and anecdotal information about Sinatra and his life. It is sure to be a wonderful night. All are welcome!

The P.A.C.: Parents' Academic Corner



In the Learning Center, we work with students on cultivating a learning disposition and incorporating deliberate practice into daily life — the importance of which Susanna Waters discussed in her chapel talk. Get more information about Growth Mindset Theory in the [video above!](#)

Upcoming Events

- Oct. 25: Third- and Fourth-Form Parent Reception
- Oct. 26 & 27: Family Weekend
- Nov. 1: Chicago Reception
- Nov. 5: New York Reception

Follow Brooks on [social media](#) for news, photos and more!

