



BROOKS SCHOOL

PARENT NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 18, 2018

[RESOURCES](#) | [GET INVOLVED](#)



The Oct. 13 Block Party was a hit! See an album of photos from the fun event at brooksschoolphotos.com.

The Countdown is on for Family Weekend!

We are looking forward to having you on campus next week! A noteworthy addition to the schedule is a parent session on Friday afternoon led by Glenn Hall, the Freedom from Chemical Dependency (FCD) educator who has been working with students for the past week. Hall will provide an overview of the program, discuss the current trends in usage, and give tips for parents as to what signs to look for and how to navigate this with your children.

Click to [view the full schedule](#). If you have not yet heard from your student's advisor, please reach out to them to set up a time to meet with you individually while you're on campus. Please [RSVP](#) by Oct. 22 if you have not already

done so. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Associate Director of Alumni and Parent Programs [Nicole Jackson](#).

Hospitality Tent During Family Weekend

The Brooks hospitality tent will be open again for everyone on the Saturday of Family Weekend, and we need your help to stock it! Please let us know if you can bake/buy goodies or help at the tent for a bit. If you're bringing food items prior to 1 p.m., please deliver them to the Keating Room inside Wilder Dining Hall. Otherwise, food can be brought directly to the tent. Email Associate Director of Alumni and Parent Programs [Nicole Jackson](#) to contribute. Thank you!

Afternoon Activities Reminder

Please remember: All Flex Option and Independent Activity student application forms are due to the athletic department by Oct. 25.

Dean of Students' Office: New Email for Weekend Permissions

Please note: Beginning Oct. 20, weekendpermissions@brooksschool.org will be the email address to use to give permission for your child to come home, go to a friend's home or invite your child's friend to your home. You must use this email *each* time your child leaves for a weekend.

Midterm Reports

Midterm grades and comments will be available in OnBrooks on Oct. 24. To access report cards, [sign into OnBrooks](#) with your parent account, click on your student and select Progress. Report cards will be visible in the Performance area of the Progress section. To set up your parent OnBrooks account, click [here](#) for instructions. For support or questions about your OnBrooks account or report cards, please contact Registrar [Lisa Saunders](#).

Crisis Planning Drill

In our ongoing commitment to campus safety, Brooks will be conducting an emergency crisis training drill before Thanksgiving Break. Prior to the drill, all students will have learned or reviewed the A.L.I.C.E protocol in Self in Community classes. A.L.I.C.E stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate and is the emergency protocol recommended by the North Andover Police Department (N.A.P.D.) to be used during an emergency situation such as an intruder or active shooter on campus.

We are working closely with the N.A.P.D. to develop the drill. Police will be on campus to direct the drill and will help us debrief the situation following the exercise. The drill will take place during the school day and will involve all members of the school community. This will give us the opportunity to practice A.L.I.C.E. protocol and to test our crisis software and RAVE text message systems. The exact date and time of the drill will not be shared with the community; however, we will use our communication systems to alert the community that the situation is a drill and not an actual emergency. Following the drill, students will have the opportunity to debrief and process the situation with adults in the community.

A video created by members of North Andover High School is available in OnBrooks (Go to: Topics -> Community Information -> Campus Safety) to learn about A.L.I.C.E. protocol.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with Associate Head for Student Affairs [Andrea Heinze](#) with any questions or concerns.

"Wake Up, My Spirit," Fall Concert

Join us on Nov. 14 for this fall's Choral and Chamber Music concert! The Brooks School Chamber Music Ensemble, Concert Chorale and Festival Chorus will celebrate music from across time and genre, from esteemed composers such as Brahms and Bizet to more familiar pieces from popular culture. We look forward to seeing you for our celebration of music!

Harvard Caring Schools Networks

Brooks is a member of the [Caring Schools Network](#)! We are collaborating with Making Caring Common, a project of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, to build a more caring, inclusive school community where students feel safe, supported and connected. As a member of the Caring Schools Network, we will use survey data to better understand how students, staff, and parents experience our school community. We will also have access to research-based strategies and insights from leaders in the field of education to promote safety, caring and respect in our community.

We will invite families to complete the survey in the next two weeks. We appreciate your help in taking 10-15 minutes to complete the anonymous questionnaire and help Brooks to become an even more caring and welcoming community.

School Store Raffle

Stop by the School Store during Family Weekend to enter the raffle. There are two chances to win a Brooks stadium blanket. We are fully stocked with new items as well as old favorites!



Parents Committee's Ghostly Goodies

On Oct. 31, we treat our students, faculty and staff to Halloween treats and the chance to win some raffles. We are in need of volunteers (particularly for the raffles). If you would like to contribute to the raffle baskets (gift cards, etc.), please contact [Jennifer Quinn](#) P'20, P'21. Please contact [Joan Ziady](#) P'18, P'20, P'22 if you're interested in contributing food (either homemade or store-bought) and/or helping work the table. Thank you!

Student Activities This Weekend

Check out [the full schedule](#). Highlights include an open house at Ms. Perkins' and the annual Halloween Dance!

All-School Photo

It's here! If you're interested in ordering the all-school photo or just the sixth-form portion, please click [here](#) and follow the directions.

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



Understanding your own learning style and becoming aware of your strengths and weaknesses is a critical component to being a successful student. With the semester in full swing, many students are taking assessments and writing papers on a weekly basis. The Learning Center works to help students develop their metacognitive skills and to manage their heavy workloads in several ways.

Students are introduced to different strategies for learning and retaining information, are encouraged to reflect on what studying practices have been most and least successful for them in the past, and are taught how to solidify their conceptual understanding and to be ready for their assessments. Learn more about metacognition, and how it can be a powerful skill for building resilience, in this [article from the Child Mind Institute](#).

Upcoming Events

- **Oct. 25: Third- and Fourth-Form Parent Reception**
- **Oct. 26 & 27: Family Weekend**
- **Nov. 1: Chicago Reception**
- **Nov. 5: New York Reception**
- **Nov. 14: Choral and Chamber Music concert**

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

