

## Brown Middle School First Friday Letter

March 1, 2019

Dear Families,

The second term ends on Monday, March 25. I would like to welcome all of the incoming sixth grade families from our four elementary feeder schools. We will email you with electronic copies of information from Brown Middle School.

**High School Course Registration:** This week, our eighth grade students received registration materials from either Newton North or Newton South High Schools. Next week, their teachers will share recommendations for the courses they will take in ninth grade. Please look carefully at your child's registration sheet and the high school course catalog so that you may decide if the recommended course is appropriate for your child. If you have any questions, please contact your child's subject teacher and/or school counselor. Parents of eighth grade students are invited to meet with Joel Stembidge (principal) and members of the Newton South High School faculty and staff on Wednesday, March 6 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Newton South.

**Spring Ahead:** Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 10. Yes, once again this spring it is several weeks earlier than in previous years! Don't forget to move the clocks ahead one hour.

**Faculty & Students Foul-Ups:** Our annual tradition continues, as students, teachers and staff at Brown will show off their foul shots skills at the Faculty Foul-Ups event on Thursday, March 14 at 3:15 pm. Please join us and have fun in this school spirit event!

**Upcoming Early Release Day:** On Thursday, March 21, all middle school students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. for a system-wide professional development workshop for teachers and staff. Lunch will be served at school before dismissal.

**20<sup>th</sup> Annual Food Drive:** Our annual Brown Food Drive to benefit the Newton Food Pantry will run from Monday, March 11 - Wednesday, March 20 and is being organized by our sixth grade students and teachers. Each year, a representative from the Newton Food Pantry helps us to kick-off this important community service project with a presentation to the sixth graders to discuss issue of hunger in our state and our community and explain the work that the pantry does to assist Newton families. Students can drop off non-perishable food items and/or toiletries to their "Advisory" teacher.

**Winter Celebration of the Arts Night! Art & Music Showcase:** Our Brown Winter Art & Music Showcase will take place on Tuesday, March 26th. The Art showcase will open at 5:30pm in the lobby with Ms. Rosen exhibiting hundreds of pieces by ALL Term 2 artists. This is followed by the Music Showcase at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. The evening concert will be organized by Ms. Nelson and is intended to provide an opportunity for students to share their individual musical talents.

**Spring Sports:** Our "spring sports season" will begin in several weeks. There will be more specific informational meeting for each of the sports next week. There is also important information on the Brown website regarding what students need in order to tryout.

**Registration Process:** This will take you directly to the Brown FamilyID Registration Site A parent/guardian should register by using this link: <https://www.familyid.com/organizations/brown-middle-school-athletics>

**Incoming Sixth Grade:** Parents of fifth grade students are invited to meet with members of the Brown Middle School faculty on **Wednesday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m.** sharp in the auditorium at Brown Middle School. This meeting will initiate the process of transition into the sixth grade. You will have an opportunity to learn about the sixth grade program and school-wide activities, as well as the orientation process that has been designed to support your children as they move into a new school at the end of this year. Additionally, we invite you to visit Brown Middle School in session on the morning of **Tuesday, April 9 between 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.** Please report to the main lobby to meet school counselors and Brown parents, have a cup of coffee and be matched up with a sixth grade student guide to take you on a tour of the school.

**Spring Play:** There will be one evening performance of our "Spring Play" under the direction of Ms. Miller (drama teacher). Please mark your calendar for Thursday April 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

Sincerely,

John F. Jordan  
Principal