



# CHRONICLES

*Volume 8, April-June 2021*

Another eventful year has come to a close at Blythwood. While this school year was met with unprecedented challenges pivoting between in person and online learning environments, Ms Farrell, our administration, teachers, parents and students have all worked together to make it a success. We are hopeful that in the fall we can resume many of the fun and wonderful in person activities that are known for making Blythwood special. Here is a quick look back at spring and exciting announcements for return to school next year.

## **Virtual Family Trivia Night**

On April 28th, Blythwood families joined together virtually for an evening full of fun, competition and prizes for our second Family Trivia Night hosted by Onondaga Camp. Thank you to everyone who joined and to our School Support team, Julia Williamson and Atenor Paris for organizing this fun event.



## Acorn Artwork

The Acorn Artwork fundraiser was an engaging project where students created an art project in class and then parents ordered special items with the art on it. Fortunately our children were able to create their masterpieces in school before we moved to online learning, providing families with a little take home this spring. A huge thank you to our Acorn Cards Coordinator, Caroline Mandell for organizing and managing this important activity for the school, to the class parents for handling the distribution and to our school administrator, Nancy Meletschenko for all of your support in making this a seamless process.



## Teacher & Staff Appreciation Day

On Thursday, May 20 was Teacher and Staff Appreciation Day. While we were not able to host our annual appreciation reception at the school, the Parent Council delivered special gift baskets to our teachers, administration and staff on behalf of the families of Blythwood. Additionally families sent emails, notes and/or videos of appreciation. Thank you teachers, Ms Farrell, administration and staff for everything that you do for our children. We are so grateful!



## Congratulations Grade 6 Graduates

On behalf of the parent community, we would like to congratulate all grade 6 students on their graduation from Blythwood. Thank you to the Grade 6 graduation parent coordinators, Jessica Booth, Kate Harrington, Meghan Lauber and parent volunteers for organizing the special graduation packages that were sent to each graduates home. Thank you to Ms Farrell, the administration and teachers for organizing the virtual graduation ceremony that took place on June 23rd.

To our Grade 6 students -whilst you could have never imagined your final year at Blythwood rotating between in-person and online learning and the world being locked down due a pandemic, please know your perseverance has been remarkable and will continue to help you throughout your life. When you come up against an obstacle or experience a setback, which we all do, please remember the resilience you have shown this past year. You have the determination and strength to get through anything and should be proud of your contributions to the Blythwood community during your time here. Congratulations Class of 2021! Keep making Blythwood proud and come back to visit us again soon.



## Blythwood Front Entrance Urns

A special thank you to Karen Kolb, who for many years has created and maintained the beautiful urns/planters at the front entrance of our school. We will miss your beautiful creations and thank you for your dedication and generosity in making our school entrance so inviting.

## Thank You Blythwood Volunteers

The PSC/A would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to all of the wonderful parent volunteers who supported our school this year. Even though this year was different and more limited, parent volunteers found ways to make it special for the children and to bring the Blythwood community together. Blythwood is so fortunate to have many programs available to our children and families and this is made possible by the hard work and generosity given by our wonderful parent volunteers.

From the book fair, green committee, acorn artwork, community outreach, athletics, kiss and ride, after4 and lunch programs, allergy committees, pizza lunch and class parents, the list of volunteers and activities are endless. We are hopeful that we welcome back many of these activities and programs next year at Blythwood. We are truly grateful for your efforts. Thank you!



## **Congratulations New Parent Council Members**

In June at our final PSC/A General meeting of the year, we elected new Executive members for the Parent Council, as well as welcoming some new committee heads. Congratulations and welcome to the new members:

### **PSC/A Executive Members (elected):**

Co-Chair: Christina Caney & Kristy Luciani

PSC Treasurer: Mike Carter

PSA Treasurer: Lena Choi

Secretary: Radhika Kakkar

School Support: Tammy Neal

Director of Fundraising: Lee Koutsaris

### **PSC/A Committee Heads:**

Caring & Safe Schools: Tom Sigsworth

Community Outreach: Julia Williamson

Pizza Lunch: Crystal Shi

A special **THANK YOU** to the individuals who held these Executive positions prior and to our committee heads for their tremendous efforts as Parent Council representatives, supporting both the parent community and the school. Parent volunteers have a huge impact on making Blythwood the special school that it is and we thank you for your dedication.

Co-Chair: Andrea Reid

Secretary: Christina Caney

School Support: Julia Williamson

Director of Fundraising: Denise Boushy-Christie and the fundraising committee

Safe & Caring Schools: Nicholas Nicolaidis & Eva Janssens

Community Outreach: Lauren Purkis

Acorn Cards: Caroline Mandell

After4 & Lunch Program Coordinator: Julie Coleman & Shannon Crowder

Anaphylaxis & Allergies: Anne Guilfoyle & Kate Harrington

Athletics: Vanessa Bennett

Book Fair: Alysa Kim

Grade 6 Graduation Parent Coordinators: Jessica Booth, Meghan Lauber, Kate Harrington

Green Committee: Elizabeth Linley & Alysa Kim

Kiss N Ride: Takako Tsuji  
Pizza Lunch: Martha Kerr-McNally  
Urns/Front Entrance: Karin Kolb

Parents Interested in volunteering on the Parent Council next year are encouraged to reach out to our Volunteer Coordinator, Jen Poulimenakos, [jpoulimenakos@hotmail.com](mailto:jpoulimenakos@hotmail.com) to learn more about the open roles and committees.

## Parent Council Website: New & Improved

The PSC/A has relaunched the parent council website to make it even easier for parents to access important information and stay in touch. Please visit the website throughout the summer to stay informed and to prepare for back to school. Also new this year, Blythwood has teamed up with **Mabel's Labels** to offer Blythwood parents special pricing on custom labels with a portion of the sales being donated back to Blythwood. Raise money for your school and order custom labels for your children's belongings in preparation for summer camps and back to school in September! [www.blythwoodschool.com](http://www.blythwoodschool.com)

## Upcoming Events

1. Mabels Labels -Order on the parent council website throughout the summer [www.blythwoodschool.com](http://www.blythwoodschool.com)

Wishing all Blythwood families a healthy, safe and fun summer. We look forward to seeing everyone in September!

Warmest Regards,

Andrea Reid & Kristy Luciani  
Co-Chairs, PSA/C