

## Brooklyn New School - Fall 2022 Specialty Programming (also known as preps / specials / clusters)

Read on to learn a bit more about the specialty programming your children will experience this fall!

<p><b>Armando Perez:</b></p> <p>Hello families, my name is Armando Perez. I am one of the movement teachers at BNS. I am currently working with the lower grades (Pre-K and 1st grade). This is my third year working at the Brooklyn New School. My journey at BNS began as a student teacher followed by being an educational assistant in 3rd grade and a 1st grade classroom teacher last year. I am also currently a BNS parent to a 5th grader and a Pre-K student.</p> <p>This spring Pre-k students will continue to learn and practice movement concepts, which include body and space awareness, qualities of movement and relationships. Our bodies are a vehicle for movement so it's important for our little ones to be aware and understand how to move safely while dancing, working out and moving freely while having fun.</p> <p>We will also continue to develop our fundamental motor skills which include, locomotor, non locomotor and manipulative skills. We will continue to listen to body movement kids songs (i.e. The Floor Is Lava, Freeze Dance Song) and strengthen our locomotor skills such as walking, running, skipping, leaping, sliding and galloping. Alongside Irelis, Pre-K will continue on their physical fitness journey. We will be creating fitness circuits where our little ones will continue to develop skills such as, bending and stretching, pushing and pulling, balancing, rolling, twisting, turning and bouncing all while moving and having fun.</p> <p>As the spring season approaches, 1st grade will take advantage of having access to the ballfield. There we will begin our unit of outdoor games. Games are excellent activities for developing social skills, motor skills and teaching sportsmanship behavior. We will engage in classic games such as red light, tag, capture the flag, steal the bacon and more. They will also be introduced to new games such as mousetrap, hula hoop pass, eraser football and many more. This spring we will get back to having fun and enjoying outdoor movement.</p>	<p><b>Grades:</b></p> <p>Pre-K and 1st</p>
<p><b>Brandon Quinones:</b></p> <p>Hello families! I am Brandon Quinones. I am the upper grade Physical Education Teacher for grades 3-5. I have been working at the Brooklyn New School for 8 years. My Journey at BNS started as a student teacher in our P.E program. The following year I spent time as a classroom teacher in grades 1-3. I have helped build the P.E program for the last 7 years and it has been a wonderful experience. I have truly enjoyed the opportunity to grow as an educator at BNS. I am excited for what the future holds.</p> <p>In U.G PHYS ED, we begin the school year with activities based on community building and teamwork to help students get acclimated with their new class in a P.E</p>	<p><b>Grades:</b></p> <p>3,4, 5</p>

<p>settings. We spend the fall experiencing activities relative to the sports that are being played nationally. In the fall we do BASKETBALL, FOOTBALL, AND FITNESS. Our spring (outdoor) sports units, SOCCER, BASEBALL/SOFTBALL, SUMMER GAMES(FIELD DAY PREP). All of our units will each span over a 6 week period. We will be partaking in activities relative to the sport that we are studying. All units conclude with a modified game of the sport that we have been working on.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">This year I will also be working alongside Irellis to co-teach health for grades.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">I am looking forward to another great year with our wonderful upper grade students. It has been a pleasure seeing them progress in U.G.P.E.</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">All for now, be well.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-B</p>	
<p><b>David Haiman:</b> Greetings BNS families, I'm David and this is my sixth year teaching music at BNS. I came to BNS after teaching music for sixteen years at PS 180 in Harlem. I'm so grateful to be part of the inspiring BNS community! This fall I'm teaching music to pre-K, kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 4th grades. (After the 4th grade Musical in February, then I'll get to see the 3rd and 5th grades.) I also teach guitar as part of the BNS Band. I have a class of beginning 3rd graders, a class of continuing 4th &amp; 5th graders, and an after-school beginning class.</p> <p>In pre-K and kindergarten students learn the foundation of steady beat, pitch, rhythm, and dynamics through singing, moving, playing percussion instruments, and listening to music of many cultures.</p> <p>In first grade we continue building musical literacy, making connections with the music inherent in children's literature selections. We sing songs of social justice and of growth and change.</p> <p>In second grade we become Musical Explorers, in Carnegie Hall's program that introduces the richness of musical cultures to be found here in NYC. This fall we're learning Gullah music with Quiana Parler, hip hop with Soul Science Lab, and music from Mali with kora master Yacouba Sissoko. Check out all the songs we're learning here:  <a href="https://www.carnegiehall.org/Education/Programs/Musical-Explorers/New-York-City">https://www.carnegiehall.org/Education/Programs/Musical-Explorers/New-York-City</a></p> <p>For fourth grade, I collaborate with teaching artists Donna Costello and José Joaquin Garcia from Brooklyn Arts Exchange for our fourth grade musical. The fourth graders are preparing songs, poetry, choreography, and skits to form their own unique performances coming February 15 &amp; 16!</p>	<p>Grades: Pre-K, K, 1, 2, 4, and Band</p>
<p><b>Irellis Lora:</b> Hello families! I am Irellis Lora. This year I have the pleasure of teaching Health independently to 3rd grade as well as co-teaching health with Brandon to the 4th and 5th grades. I will also be teaching movement to Kindergarten and 1st grade. Going into my second year teaching at BNS, I am excited to continue building the bonds and relationships with every child.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">"The Great Body Shop" is the curriculum we will continue to study this year across third, fourth and fifth grades. During the fall in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade we will work on things</p>	<p>Grades: Pre-K Kindergarten 3rd, 4th &amp; 5th</p>

<p>pertaining to: "Let's Eat" &amp; "I Like Your Attitude." While in 4th grade we will cover "The Digestive System" &amp; "Exercise." For the 5th grade we will be studying "You Are What You Eat" &amp; "Those Crazy, Mixed Up Emotions."</p> <p>These are the curriculums carrying us through the spring. Each student will receive their own copy of the "Great Body Shop," a magazine that will cover a multitude of units. Some of the topics we will be exploring are, 3rd grade: "Safe At Home, Safe Away", "The Better to See You" &amp; "Community Health." In 4th Grade: well explore "Let's Talk Teeth", "Community Safety" &amp; "Be Cool, Keep Clean". For the 5th grade we will study "Bones and Muscles", "Brainstorms: Your Central Nervous System" &amp; "First Aid Facts."</p> <p>I will also build on our previous exploration of Movement with Kindergarten and 1st grade. The children will further work on locomotive skills &amp; physical fitness. In doing so they will be working in a circuit using hopping balls, balance beams, small foam balls for catching, soccer balls for kicking, hula hoops and more. I really look forward to progressing the development!</p>	
<p><b>Karen Klein:</b> Hi, BNS Families! I've been teaching since 1995. I taught Grades 5 &amp; 6. In 2003, I found my way to BNS, working as the math coach for two years. Then I was home raising my kids and slowly found my way back to BNS in 2009, working in our BNS/BCS library with Susan and Amanda, our awesome librarians.</p> <p>This Fall, for Library prep, I'm working in Grade 5 classrooms: Nneka, Rachael/Nancy, and Rachel/Michael; Grade 4 classrooms: Kaelyn/Zack and Candy/Josh; all Grade 1 classrooms. Books are our spring boards for learning!</p> <p>In Grade 4 &amp; 5, together we are involved in the Global Read aloud which is a project that connects the world with a book. Many classrooms all over the world are reading the same book which is <i>Thirst</i> by Varsha Bajaj. <i>Thirst</i> is about a girl, Minni, who stands up for her belief that water is for everyone. Minni lives in the poorest part of Mumbai, where access to water is limited. We'll read and discuss our book with an emphasis on Indian culture and social justice. Be sure to ask your child what's happening in our book!</p> <p>In Grade 1, we are engaged in a mock Caldecott Study. Each week, we are reading newish picture books that are being talked about as contenders for the Caldecott award. With each book, we'll discuss what we notice, think, and/or feel. Then students will express their personal opinion of each book by voting. Is that a 3 star, 2 star, or 1 star book?? Ask your child which picture books they are enjoying and why!</p> <p>Looking forward to working with your kids!</p>	<p>Grades: 1, 4 &amp; 5</p>
<p><b>Monique Casey:</b> "WELLNESS FUN" is a class where Early Graders will focus on their social growth. In "WELLNESS FUN" Early Graders social growth will be fostered through reading</p>	<p>Grades: PK, K, 1, &amp; 2</p>

<p>familiar and new read alouds revolving around their place in their community, their individual selves, in their classrooms, in their school, and in the world around them.</p>	
<p>Penina Hirshman: Hi Everyone, I'm Penina. I've been working at BNS for over 20 years. I taught fifth grade for several years, taught sixth and seventh grade at BCS for two years, and taught second grade for the last ten years or so, first in a general education classroom and then in an ICT with the amazing Amy Brown. This year I am teaching Social Action to grades 1-5. Social action has always been an important part of every class that I taught. One of the many things I love about Brooklyn New School is that we value social action and see it as a way of building community and emphasizing the importance of kindness, empathy, and the struggle for social justice. For around eighteen years, my class led the Penny Harvest and partnered with organizations like Free the Children; the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children; and the International Rescue Committee. We were also chosen to participate in the pilot program of the O (Oprah) Ambassadors. Over the years, with the phenomenal support of our school community we engaged in many amazing projects - we provided libraries for day care centers; we built a bookcase and provided a library for Gilda's House in Park Slope; we provided bicycles and computers for workers in refugee camps in Sierra Leone and Uganda; we did a letter writing campaign to shed light on the use of child soldiers in Sierra Leone and Uganda; and we worked with several homeless shelters to supply whatever they needed most at the time, to name just a few of our projects. Last year our class baked Ukrainian cookies and sold them along with sunflower seeds (from sunflowers our first grade grew with Johanna) and books and raised almost two thousand dollars for Ukraine.</p> <p>I'm very excited about my new position - a first for our school. It's been wonderful to get to know more children in the school and to hear what they have to say about the world we live in. We'll be celebrating the beautiful things about our world and looking at how we are all interconnected and seeing what we can do to make the world better. Sometimes projects will emerge from the children and sometimes they might connect to what a class is already studying. So far, the two first grades I've been working with have been celebrating the earth and thinking of ways to protect it. Second through fifth graders have been learning about and discussing what they already know about current and past activists and movements and have expressed interest in everything from learning about the refugee experience to the Civil Rights movement to the water crisis.</p> <p>I'm looking forward to seeing what projects emerge this year and I welcome input. If any of you work with organizations that you think would make good partners, please let me know!</p>	
<p><b>Sarah Ferholt:</b> Hello BNS Families! My name is Sarah, and this spring I will be continuing to teach music in grades 3 and 5, to support students in instrumental music learning through pullout sessions throughout the week, and to direct our BNS Band program, which serves children PreK-5th grade. I am also the trumpet teacher in the band, since trumpet is my primary instrument. I have been teaching in the NYCDOE since 1998, and teaching music in Brooklyn elementary schools since 2001. I have been at BNS for 7 years.</p>	<p>Grades: 3 &amp; 5 &amp; band</p>

<p>In grade 3 our students learn to play band instruments during band time. They also learn how to read music and study music appreciation through the Carnegie Hall Link-Up Program, which provides a rich and deep exploration of orchestral music. <a href="https://www.carnegiehall.org/Education/Programs/Link-Up/New-York-City">https://www.carnegiehall.org/Education/Programs/Link-Up/New-York-City</a></p> <p>In grade 5 we will do a mix of instrumental and vocal music, compose some of our own music, and play music games!</p> <p>The BNS Band is open to all, offering music and movement and Ukulele in early childhood, further instrumental study in grades 2-5, and chorus for everyone. Third graders all take band as part of the school day. All students have the option to take band as part of our aftercare program. Band students have weekly small group instruction with a professional performing musician who is teaching their primary instrument / subject to our students. Instrumental choices include percussion, violin, cello, guitar, trumpet, trombone, saxophone, clarinet, flute and ukulele.</p>	
<p><b>Taura Ottey:</b> ¡Buenas estimadas familias, me llamo Taura, I am the Spanish teacher at BNS! I have been teaching at BNS for the past 19 years. I teach and work with grades PreK, Kindergarten, Second, Fourth and Fifth. Throughout the grades we play games to reinforce the use of the language, along with worksheets and small skits. Students are encouraged to use visuals, literature, work search puzzles and games. In the first few weeks, Spanish begins with a review and familiarization of what is known so that everyone is comfortable with the use of the language. I ensure that students get to use the language as we ask and respond to questions. We prepare a small conversation to practice and reinforce the use of the language amongst each other in the classroom. As students become more comfortable, they inquire about how to say things that are of interest to them, for example, sports, food, beverages, etc.</p> <p>In PreK and Kindergarten we sing and dance as the students learn words. Some songs that are familiar to the students because they may know them from other languages or English, we sing them in Spanish. PreK and Kindergarten will become comfortable with the language acquisition through call and response songs and repetition in our daily activities. Visuals will be used to reinforce language acquisition. We learn to greet each other, parts of our bodies, numbers, colors, family members, favorite animals, drinks, fruits, and food. Also there are songs that are sung during transitions to prepare the students for what is happening next in their day.</p> <p>Moving onto 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, class begins with singing “Buenos días” or “Buenas tardes” depending on the time of day we meet. We greet each other then begin our lesson of the day. Some lessons are spread out so that students become comfortable with using the language. We learn our colors, numbers, clothing, favorite foods, drinks and desserts. As we familiarize ourselves with the vocabulary for the favorites, we create a conversation based on what is a favorite drink, food or dessert. Students are paired into partners and share this dialogue with their partner and with the class. In second grade the students are encouraged to have small conversations. In</p>	<p>Grades: PreK, Kindergarten, 2nd, 4th and 5th</p>

<p>addition, “Simon says” and a scavenger hunt is played as a way to continue using Spanish.</p> <p>Our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders begin with the use of colors. Students are able to provide a description of clothing or an item. When students are paired up and are asked to check-in (Hola, como estas?) to find out how their partner is doing followed by a small conversation. As the students become comfortable with the language, role play activities and skits will be incorporated. These skits/role plays will focus on the students’ favorite hobbies and activities. Also, fourth graders will be provided with descriptive adjectives. The student will use such descriptive adjective(s) to compose several sentences describing themselves. Then create a poem that describes them. Along with the use of visuals language acquisition will be reinforced. Also, fourth graders will be able to give and receive compliments to one another.</p> <p>Fifth graders will focus on a check-in to find out how their partner is doing followed by a small conversation. As the students become comfortable with the language, role play activities and skits will be incorporated. These skits/role plays will focus around related action verbs that they do and their favorite hobbies and activities. Also, once fifth graders have acquired the use of adjectives and verbs, they will create poems. As we move into Spring the fifth graders will be able to create a conversation by asking (¿Cómo te llamas?, ¿Cómo estás?, ¿Cuál es tu color favorito?, just an example of some of the questions that fifth graders will have access to in order to incorporate into their skits with a partner.</p> <p>It is a pleasure to work with such an amazing group of children throughout the grades. ¡Hasta la vista! Taura</p>	
<p><b>Victor Fortuna:</b></p> <p>Hello BNS Families and Friends, It is truly an honor and a privilege to be the Lower Grades Physical Education Teacher here at BNS. I teach the little ones, which include Kindergarteners, 1st graders and 2nd graders. My Physical Education curriculum has been designed and dedicated to create and nurture a lifelong passion for health and fitness. This is aimed at enhancing the student’s well being which will directly impact their academic success. Students will learn about healthy habits and proper hygiene. New York State and National Physical Education Standards are actively incorporated into the BNS PE program. Students will be encouraged to exercise on their own personal time and not only during PE. Besides being certified and licensed in Physical Education, I also possess a degree in Early Childhood Special Education. This will facilitate the participation of students of special needs, as well as assist in IEP reviews. I am happily looking forward to another active and productful PE season with the amazing children of BNS. See you around! - Victor</p>	<p>Grades: K, 1, 2</p>