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Beach volleyball player Carleigh Semeniuk off to Worlds



For more, see page 3.

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Photo by by Tim Semeniuk



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Less than Half the Picture *By Richard Bercuson*

The Border



"Good morning, sir. Please state your name, occupation and expected place of residence."

"What is this?"

"Brooklin Border Customs and Immigration. We've been expecting you."

"How...When..."

"CCTV, sir. We watch who moves into the community."

"You had cameras on me?"

"You might want to cut that front grass, by the way."

"Right. Sure. But you can't have a customs office to get into Brooklin. It's just another..."

"Another what, sir?"

"Community. Suburb. It's not a country."

"Not yet. So then sir, your name, occupation, and residence."

"You already know my residence. You've commented about my grass."

"Confirming our records."

"You know my name, too, don't you?"

"Again sir, for our records. No sense being obstreperous about it, sir. I'm just doing my job."

"Ob-what!?"

"Sir, Brooklin is a nice, peace-loving community. We don't just let anyone immigrate here."

"Immigrate? I'm moving from Ottawa."

"Is the Sparks Street Mall still dead?"

"Well, yes, it is. Except during Ribfest. And when MPs need a drink."

"You'll find, sir, that Brooklin is far removed from Ottawa. You might as well come from another country."

"I'm originally from Montreal."

"Proof positive."

"Lookit, whatever this is, I doubt it's legal."

"Actually, sir, it's perfectly legal to try to stop someone."

"But you did stop me. Right in front of the Brooklin sign."

"Not quite accurate. You stopped. I did nothing to hinder you from continuing along Winchester."

"If I hadn't stopped, I might've run you over."

"We make sacrifices for this job, sir. It's that important."

"And I don't have to answer your questions, do I?"

"No, but we can't be responsible for what happens."

"Like what?"

"Sir, it's too ugly to contemplate."

"I guess next you'll want to see my passport. Which is packed in the moving van that'll be along soon."

"No, sir. I will merely record your obstreperousness and general negative comportment."

"For what purpose?"

"I can't reveal such things, sir. However, you may now move along. Enjoy your stay."

"My stay? I'm going to be living here."

"Right. In the meantime, please cut your grass. Oh, and the lowest front step needs repair. Welcome to Brooklin."

Block Parent® Program Revitalized

By Richard Bercuson

Just when the Block Parent® Program seemed like it was going to fold, in stepped Lisa Slade-Mullin to spearhead its restoration.

A long-time Brooklin resident, Slade-Mullin has volunteered to act as chairperson of a revitalized program. "We are committed to improving upon the achievements made to date," she says, "and hope to recruit families with the aim of having a Block Parent® household on every block."

According to its web site blockparent.ca, Block Parents are responsible adults who care sufficiently about the well-being of children and others to volunteer their homes as a temporary refuge in an emergency. All Block Parents are screened by the police and are given instructions on the program by local volunteers. The Block Parent® window sign is shown only when someone over the age of 18 is available to answer the door. If the sign is not displayed, this does not mean that no one is home, only that the Block Parent® is not available to offer immediate assistance. In addition to the primary goal of making communities safer for children, the Block Parent® Program deters criminals and trouble makers. The network of Block Parent® homes is a visible reminder that citizens are watchful in their neighbourhood.



The current aim is to attract sponsorship to make the program viable. "As a charitable organization," says Slade-Mullin, "we can only run with help from our volunteers and through the generous funding we have received from members of our community and the citizens of Whitby-Brooklin."

"We are specifically seeking a sponsor to fund our new Whitby-Brooklin Block Parent® Program website. This site will give us a controlled place to be able to inform the community about the program, connect with our volunteer Block Parent® homes, explain the process and time commitment involved and generally provide a main point of communication. It will have the ability for downloadable applications, email and could even show a calendar of events as we grow."

Slade-Mullin has extensive volunteer experience with School Community Councils (SCC), the Humane Society of Durham Region (HSDR), and the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association (OAWA). The co-owner of a fashion jewelry business, she's determined to have the Block Parent® Program become an integral part of the community.

Those interested in sponsoring or getting involved should contact Lisa Slade-Mullin at: **416-419-6464** or via email at whitbybrooklinblockparent@gmail.com.



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Alison Sheri

Semeniuk to Compete for World Title

By Richard Bercuson

Cyprus in July is hot, perfect for international beach volleyball competition, which is exactly where Brooklin High School student Carleigh Semeniuk will be July 27-31 at the site of the World U19 championship tournament. Semeniuk and her partner Brooke Kucab of Pickering will represent Canada.

It began in elementary school with a phys. ed. teacher who introduced Semeniuk to volleyball. Already a soccer player and karate enthusiast, Semeniuk took to the sport immediately, playing court volleyball until just a year ago when she switched to the beach version.

"Beach gave me a chance to stretch myself a bit," she says. "That and get a better chance at a scholarship."

It worked. After graduating from high school in a year, she'll be off to Tulane University in New Orleans on a full NCAA Division I scholarship. Tulane was ranked 14th in the U.S. in beach volleyball but jumped up the rankings from 18th in one year, a remarkable achievement.

"It was because of the coach," Semeniuk says. "It's unheard of to make that much of a change in one season. I had a few schools talking to me but the Tulane coach was the closest to mine here, Dean Martin. It seemed like that would be the easiest transition for me. I give a lot of credit to Dean for helping me."

In the meantime, she continues to train and compete most days at Toronto's Ashbridges Bay beach facility alongside the women's



Carleigh digs out a ball while in training

Photo by Tim Semeniuk

national team, a challenge she's welcomed. "They're more mature and experienced and certainly stronger so it makes the training better for me. I'm not crazy about the fitness part of it but I realize it will get me to my goal."

This trip though isn't cheap. Her airfare alone is \$2000. Since athletes at this level get little funding, she has a fundraising page where local businesses, family and friends can donate to defray the cost.

You can help Carleigh at: gofundme.com/f4t4pjgg

Her short term goal is, of course, a medal at the Cyprus Worlds where she admits nerves are creeping in. As for the long term, she has her sights on the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo, just like fellow Brooklinite and champion cross country mountain biker Emily Batty.

Emily Batty, Champion Mountain Biker, Olympics Bound

By Richard Bercuson

In this hockey-crazed country, athletes in most other sports train and perform in relative anonymity. This shouldn't diminish their remarkable dedication and accomplishments. Emily Batty of Brooklin, who is a breath away from being atop the world in her sport, is one of those.

She grew up on a farm in Brooklin where her Dad, Rick, introduced her to biking. It wasn't long before the determined young lady began winning – a lot. Last summer, she captured gold at Toronto's Pan Am Games and was fourth in the 2014 World Cup standings.

Today, at 28, in a sport dominated by the French and Swiss, she ranks among the 10 best cross country mountain bikers in the world. Her reward is to be one of two Canadian women to compete in the Rio Olympics next month.

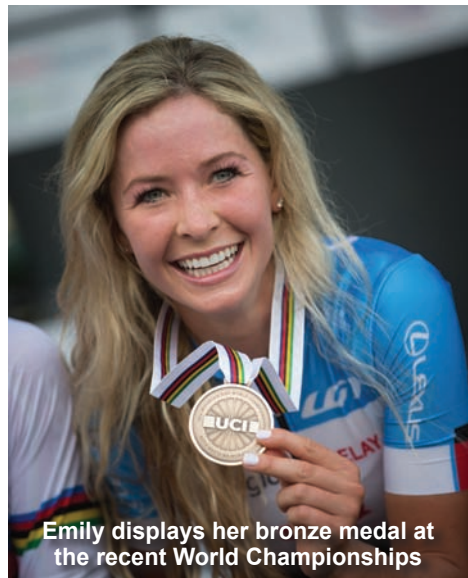
On the World Cup's six race circuit, with four of the races now completed, she's within reach of a podium position, sitting in fourth spot as of this publication.

Her coach (and husband), Adam Morka has been training her since 2009. Once longlisted himself for the 2012 London Games in the sport, Morka says Emily is an underdog going into the Games. "Strategically, that's actually a good position for her to be in," he says.

The lead up to the Olympics is exhausting. She was home in Brooklin earlier in the week after World Cup race #4 in Switzerland. She headed to Baie St. Paul in Quebec for the nationals later in the week before going to Boulder, Colorado, for three weeks of altitude training.

"A lot of athletes are doing that these days," Morka says. "Rio is at sea level but Boulder is at 5500 feet and is hot in the summer. You can climb (on the bike) to 9000 feet and the terrain is perfect for training. At that level, it's great for the metabolism."

Emily will then travel to Mont Ste. Anne, Quebec, for World Cup Race #5 before a



Emily displays her bronze medal at the recent World Championships

photo courtesy of Adam Morka

couple of weeks in Barrie's Horseshoe Valley where the Canadian team will be staged. Then it's off to Rio.

Following the Olympics – yes, there's more! – Emily will be in Andorra, the tiny country nestled between France and Spain, for the final World Cup race.

After that... "She comes home for a rest," says Morka. "It's all pretty stressful and so a forced rest is tough. We have to get her to just sit around and do nothing."

Which won't last long because they do have their sights set on the 2020 Tokyo Games. Given that elite female mountain bikers race well into their 30s and some beyond, her prospects are good.

Fans wishing to know more about Emily and her accomplishments should see her videos posted at emilybatty.com. In particular, the one under her bio entitled "The beginnings of a professional mountain biker" is a must-see.

To follow the Olympics event online, go to <https://www.rio2016.com/en/cycling-mountain-bike>.

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Our Brooklin Kids By Leanne Brown

Do Children Get Too Many Awards?



My daughter recently received a "player of the game" award. She scored six goals in a lacrosse tournament, played extra shifts, and cheered her teammates. She knew it was well deserved. Players, parents and coaches from other teams praised her efforts.

As we walked from the field, she said, "Mommy, I earned this!"

"You really did!" I said. "How do you feel?"

"Amaze!" (Kid-peak for "amazing!") she replied, proudly admiring the metal trinket around her neck.

A week later, a teammate received the same award. On the way home, she questioned why her teammate had been rewarded. I could see her point. The child hadn't really participated.

How do I tell my girl that the other child was being rewarded because "it was her turn," rather than due to a great effort on the field?

Giving awards for exceptional performance at season's end is a long-standing tradition. They provide excitement, pride, and celebration. But these days, we give trophies to children for almost anything, including for just showing up. Sometimes, every child gets one, even two.

We seem to be afraid children will be hurt by losing so we make everyone "a winner." We hand out awards believing we're raising their self-esteem and motivating them to do better. Are we giving children too many trophies?

Awards can motivate

Yes, awards can be powerful motivators. As someone who works with employees on motivation, I see daily evidence of this. But too much recognition does not inspire people to succeed. Instead, it can cause them to become complacent. The recognition value becomes diminished.

Trophies should be special things bestowed on the truly deserving. Think of Olympic medals. Every event has three and their value is defined, recognizable and symbolic. While all participating Olympic athletes and officials receive participation medals, any athlete will tell you there is no comparison to winning one. A podium finish represents an accomplishment that represents years of training and overcoming setbacks.

Like most children over age five, my daughter isn't fooled by all the rewards. Kids are quick to recognize who is the best and who isn't. Those who are outperformed know it and feel cheated when they aren't recognized for their accomplishments. The ones who struggle know when they are receiving something they haven't really earned.

Many parents say all kids must be treated the same so that everyone is a winner. But is this really true? There is value to learning how to lose. That's life, after all. Yet as parents we constantly spin losses into victories for our kids, making

excuses and every touch of the ball as significant events. Isn't it our "job" to help kids overcome losses and see that they are improving? Achievement is more than just a win or loss. What about learning to congratulate the child or team that achieved success? Recognition from a peer is always the most valuable.

Next month, our kids will watch the world's best athletes compete in the summer Olympics. They'll see athletes talk of personal bests and graciously applaud their peers' efforts whether they medal or not. That's real recognition. It's the kind that won't end up in a landfill.

Next Issue: Rewarding Our Kids: What do coaches and experts say?




A Brooklin Toddler's Random Thoughts

"We don't bite our friends."

Brian R Evans
Financial Advisor

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Brooklin Town Crier Community Calendar If you have a community not for profit event you would like included in the calendar, please email it to mulcahy42@rogers.com with the subject line "calendar".

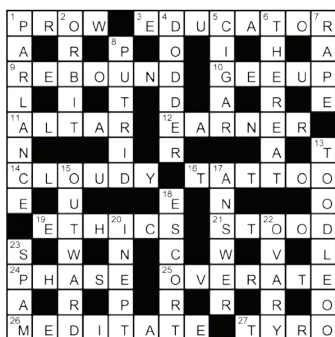
Mondays through Fridays Community Care Durham delivers hot or frozen meals to Brooklin residents. Meals can be ordered by contacting Karen Andrews at 905-668-6223. Note that volunteers are needed to deliver Meals on Wheels to Brooklin residents. Please call our office at 905-668-6223, extension 223, to find out more.

Basic Foot Care Community Care Durham provides basic foot care services by registered foot care nurses on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at St. Thomas' Anglican Church. Please call 905-668-6223 for more information.

Thursday evenings Love to sing! The Brooklin United Church adult choir welcomes new voices to join us. Practices are Thursday evenings 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. You do not need to read music

to be part of the choir. Practice CD's are made available. For more information, please call the church office at 905-655-4141 or by email at office@brooklinunited.ca.

Tuesdays Brooklin Toastmasters, 7:15 p.m. for Meet & Greet, Meeting from 7:20 to 9:14 p.m. at the Brooklin Community Centre & Library (NEW LOCATION),



8 Vipond Road, 2nd floor Boardroom (NW corner). For more information, contact John at 905-683-4439 or jajhj@sympatico.ca or Loran Weston-Smyth at lor@lornawestonsmyth.com or 416-910-4109. Brooklin Toastmasters

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Next Paper: Friday, July 29, 2016
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Whitby Chiefs Senior Rookie T2s Win Father's Day Classic



There they are: The champs checking the medals are for real!

Sporting blue wristbands to honour their fathers, the Senior Rookie T2 Chiefs baseball team won the Aurora Father's Day Classic, winning four straight games en route to the gold medal. They outscored the opposition 80-17 over the four games.

"I am so proud of each and every one of these boys," said Head Coach Paul Lawrence after the final game. "Their focus and intensity in extreme heat this weekend was unmatched."

The Chiefs defeated the host Aurora Jays 15-4 in the first game, then trounced Newmarket 25-3 and Richmond Hill 21-2 where their defence also earned plaudits from fans. They beat Clarington Orioles 19-8 in the gold medal game.

The champs are: Aidan Narinesingh, Brendan Smith, Brett Lawrence, Desmond Walker, Easton Smith-D'Oliveira, Gavin Campos, Griffin Johnson, Keegan Russell, Luke Conley, Nolan Hall, Sawyer Delaney, and Tommy Sunghing.

ArtFest Returns This Weekend

The 5th Annual **Brooklin Summer ArtFest**, sponsored by the Ashburn Art Circle and Group 74, opens this Saturday, July 16, 10 am to 4 pm at Grass Park. Be sure to bring the kids as there will be art activities for them all day long.

Participating visual artists will include:

- Ashburn Art Circle**
 - Martha Weber: Artist & photographer, and Andris Piebalgs: photographer
- Margaret Brackley**
 - Watercolour and acrylics, jewelry
- Lela Filipovski** - Ceramics
- Kelly Fraleigh** - Photographer
- Sheri Gundry** - Painter Mixed Media and performance artist
- Emma Inkpen**
 - Graphic design, photography, painting
- Veronica Kerr** - Stained glass
- Martha Longo** - Artist in oils
- Ruth McCurdy** - Photographer
- Mike McGowa** - Painter
- Mahika Perera** - Student artist in support of Basic Life Project
- Janice Sommerville**
 - Wildlife photographer
- Russ Styles** - Photographer
- Jessica Tamlin**
 - Graphic design and artistic maps

SUMMER **art**FEST 2016



Whitby Dolphins Flip Their Way to Ontario 2nd Place

A select team of 30 Whitby Dolphins swimmers placed second overall for the Swim Ontario Division III Team Championships. The annual meet is a unique championship as swimmers are selected from each club to compete for points towards a total team score. Only top eight finishes earn points. This year's event drew 36 teams and over 700 swimmers from throughout Ontario.

The Dolphins earned over 70 top 8 finishes, 27 medals, several new club records and

many Central Ontario Region, Provincial and National qualifying times.

Congratulations to the medal winners: McCaley Campbell – Bronze; Ian Johnson – Gold; Judson Nickerson – 2 Gold, 1 Silver; Gregory Peckham – 2 Gold 2 Silver, 1 Bronze; Ethan Placek – 5 Gold; Benoit Potvin – 1 Gold, 3 Bronze

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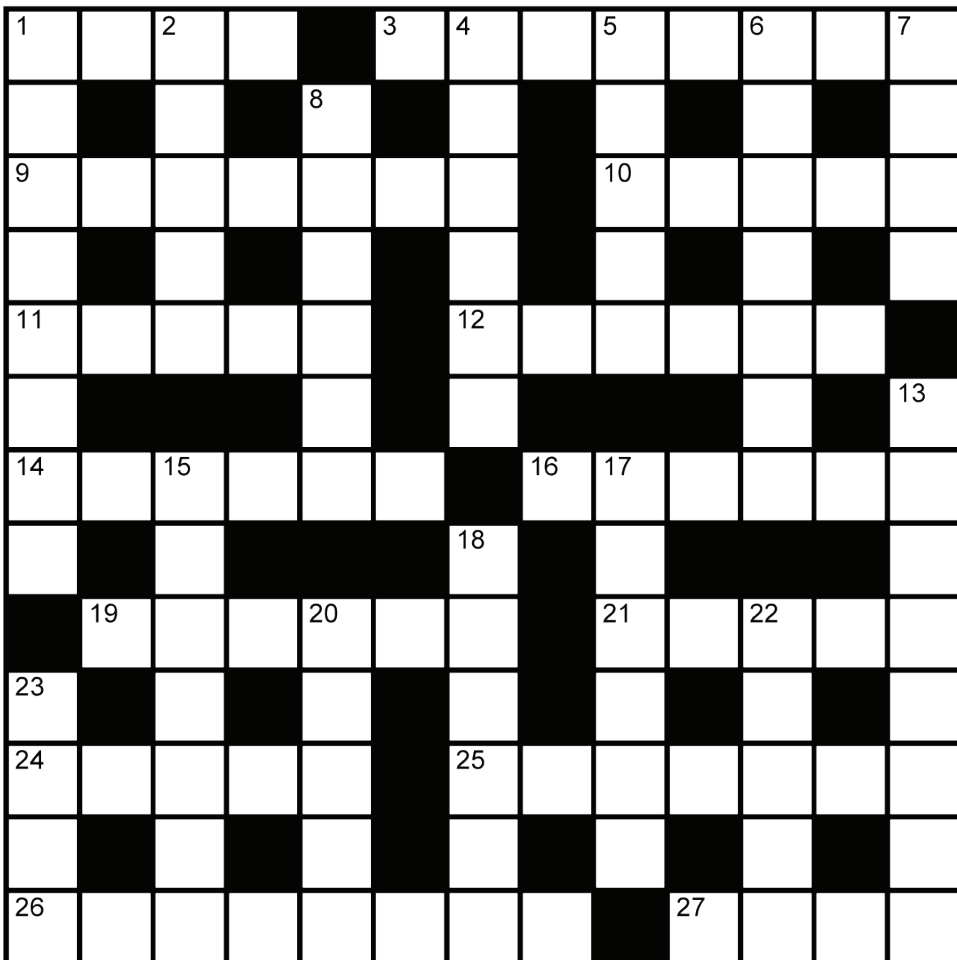
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- Condensed scheduling for all dancers leaving time for other activities, school work, and family time!

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Brooklin Bafflers by Liz Lowe



- Across**
 1 Figurehead's place (4)
 3 One who teaches (8)
 9 Basketball stat (7)
 10 Said to the horse... (3,2)
 11 Church part (5)
 12 Bread maker (6)
 14 Not sunny (6)
 16 Kind of artist (6)
 19 High standards (6)
 21 Endured (5)
 24 New moon, e.g. (5)
- Down**
 1 Lingo (8)
 2 Circle (5)
 4 Walk unsteadily (6)
 5 Humidor item (5)
 6 At that place; there (7)
 7 Eurasian plant cultivated for its seed and as a forage crop (4)
- Across**
 25 Piggid out (7)
 26 Do Zen (8)
 27 Apprentice (4)
- Down**
 8 In an advanced state of decomposition (6)
 13 "Bye!" (6-2)
 15 That is going out or leaving (7)
 17 Echo (6)
 18 Accompany to a party (6)
 20 All thumbs (5)
 22 Egg producer (5)
 23 Junk E-mail (4)

A Birthday Ride



For her birthday, Josephine Girling asked her neighbour, Terry Carson, for a ride on his motorcycle. Well, sure, he said, that sounds fine. Did we mention it was "Jo's" 90th birthday?

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Oxford Learning Centre

Learning doesn't stop just because school's out! Study smart and get a head start this summer at Oxford Learning Brooklin.

Studies suggest that, after a summer break, students can lose up to six weeks of learning skills and 2.6 months of math grade level equivalency. They're also more likely to score lower on tests.

Oxford Learning Brooklin's programs, including the summer ones, are customized to suit a child's specific needs. Our programs can help students maintain momentum and tackle problem areas in order to be prepared for the challenges of the next school year. Without the hustle and bustle of the regular school year, students are able to make great academic strides. This leads less school-related stress and fewer struggles at home once the school year begins.

Oxford Learning uses cognitive learning techniques to help children develop more effective ways of thinking, concentrating, listening, and remembering. The programs help children of all ages acquire the necessary tools to read and write, in both English and French if necessary.

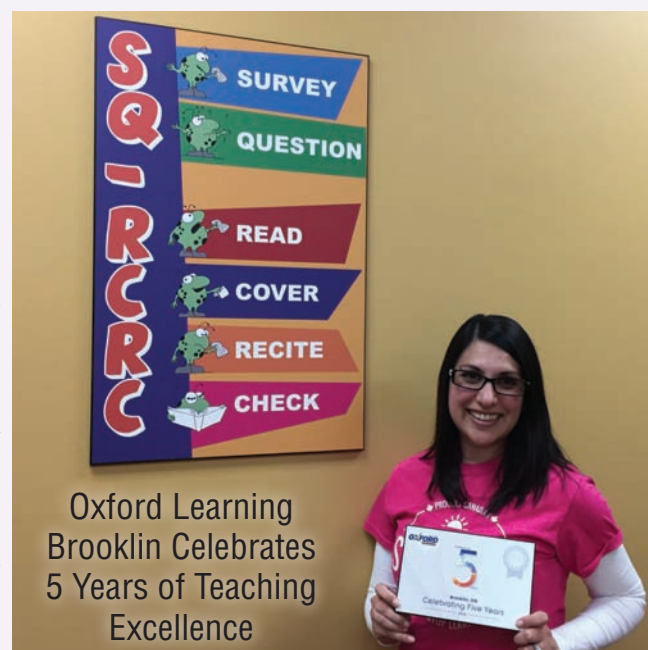
The children learn to study effectively as well as be better organized, motivated, and confident both inside and outside the classroom.

"I have seen kids flourish," says Trisha Dosaj, Oxford Learning Brooklin's owner and director. "There is a moment of clarity when they realize they can do it, especially when they learn to read or complete a task independently. We want to ensure we can help everybody; to make sure students have the right strategies to transfer from Oxford to their daily lives, whether it be at home or at school."

Oxford Learning programs cover all ages, grades, and subjects:

Little Readers & R.E.A.D. Elite (Ages 3-6), Beyond Tutoring (Grades 1-8), Advantage (Grades 8-12), and French (Grades 1-12).

To maintain learning or provide enrichment to have your child prepared for the next grade level, contact Oxford Learning Brooklin. Call or come in today and together we'll create a summer program that fits your family's busy schedule and your child's unique educational needs.



Oxford Learning Brooklin Celebrates 5 Years of Teaching Excellence

For more information or to book an assessment, call (905) 655-9500.

Friend us on Facebook! We are always posting great tips for parents to Like and Share.

For further information, visit our website at www.oxfordlearning.com



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