



The Armour Heights Gazette

ARMOUR HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



Website: www.armourheightsps.ca Twitter: [@TDSB_ArmourHts](https://twitter.com/TDSB_ArmourHts)

February 16, 2015 Issue 3

Principal's Message:

What an exciting start to 2015! I am very proud of the achievements of our students, so far. There are exciting and innovative teaching and learning opportunities happening both inside and outside of the classrooms at Armour Heights.

On February 10th, you received your child's report card. These Elementary Provincial Report Cards are written for all students in grades 1-6. Term one report cards communicate your child's strengths, needs and next steps as they relate to achievement of the curriculum expectations for each subject area as well as their achievement of the learning skills. Junior Kindergarten students received a summary report at this time. This summary is a means of communicating to parents/guardians a profile of their child's interests, strengths, development and learning. Page 3 and 4 of the report card provides parents/ guardians and the student with an opportunity to comment on student achievement, goals and home support. The response form links formal reporting to the process of assessment, reporting and communication about the student's learning that continues throughout the year. Please use this form to focus your conversations about goal setting and next steps after you have reviewed the report card with your child.

I encourage each and every parent/ guardian to maintain a positive, open line of communication with your child's teacher(s). Learning is a partnership and we look forward to continued success in term two.

Staffing Updates

Please join us in welcoming Mme Gountas, who has taken over as a Long Term Occasional Core French Teacher. She will be teaching Grades 4, 5 and 6 in the afternoons. We are very excited to welcome Mme Gountas to our Armour Heights Staff.

We also welcome Ms. Pereira, who will be teaching the JK/ SK students in Room 103. Ms. Pereira will be working with our children until Mrs. Lenet returns.

We are extremely fortunate to have these wonderful educators as part of our dedicated team at Armour. Welcome Ms. Pereira and Mme Gountas!



FSA Updates:

Silent Auction News

Save the date!

On Saturday, April 18 please join us for the annual Silent Auction. We are excited to throw a "block party" at the Cricket Club to raise money for our wonderful school. This event is always a ton of fun and everyone is welcome! All proceeds from the auction will be used to enhance the curriculum at Armour Heights. Tickets will be available after March break and more details will follow!

We are currently looking for donations for our event. If you have an item, experience or skill you would like to donate please contact us. Wine, gift certificates, tickets to an event -any item would be appreciated!! Please contact us if you can help us out.

Your Auction Co-Chairs

Danielle MacDonald
Dani.macdonald@gmail.com
Tara Sweeney
dmts@rogers.com

Fun Fair News

This is our largest FUN-raising event. It is a day long fair held at the school and it's geared specifically to the kids. There are bouncy castles, rides, midway games, cotton candy, DJ, prizes, spa, cakes....the list goes on. It's an extremely fun day which helps the school raise funds for next year's programs.

We need 2 types of volunteers for this event.

1. Volunteers to commit an hour or two on the day to help take tickets, spin cotton candy, paint faces, flip burgers, etc.
2. Volunteers to help steer the event and manage an area. You never do this alone - there are dozens of people to help you. It's not as scary as it sounds.

Event Date is May 23rd.

We Need Volunteers! Please contact me at balldorson5@gmail.com if you are interested or have any questions.

Thank you,
Barbara Patten Halldorson

"THESE EVENTS CAN'T RUN WITHOUT

February is Kindergarten Registration Month

Kindergarten is the first step in a lifelong journey that will see your child learn, grow, and succeed at the Toronto District School Board. At Armour Heights, we know early learners learn best through doing; so our four and five year olds are introduced to math and science through play as part of K-12 STEM programming. To inspire a love for learning, kindergarten classrooms are bustling with inquiry and exploration through science activities, math games, art projects and more. Please call the school to arrange an appointment to register.

To attend Junior Kindergarten in September, children must turn four-years-old by December 31. To register for Senior Kindergarten, children must be five-years-old by December 31.



Junior Journalists

ARMOUR HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL'S STUDENT NEWSLETTER



Who Are The Junior Journalists?

Well, this program all started by a few kids who decided to ask Mr. Birnbaum if there could be a program that the students write articles. Mr. Birnbaum said yes, so, that's how it all started. The students in this program get to write articles for the school newsletters. They can write about lunch programs, school sport teams, experiments, and more. My article is "Who the Junior Journalists Are" which is the one you're reading. This program is only for grades 4, 5, 6. How it works is, when you give your finished article to Mr. Birnbaum, he will post it onto the school newsletters. It's too late to sign up but if your child is interested, then feel free to talk to Mr. Birnbaum to join. Today is our first time this program is posting any articles yet. Mr. Birnbaum does help listing ideas, but the ideas are all from us. It's really fun to publish your own articles and be in a part of this program. There are some other articles you can read. So I hope you will enjoy it!!

By: Joshua Y.

Boys Basketball

The boys basketball team are now 1-2 (1 win, 2 losses). The team is improving well. The team has an upcoming game. After that game is the playoffs. If we make the playoffs we could make the conference finals. Since we are in division 2, we cannot make the city finals. Currently we're in about 3rd place, and the top 3 make it to the Playoffs. There is a chance that we will lose our spot, so we have to practice hard.

We have improved from last year. In the past game we won we did great as a team. Unfortunately we lost to Vradenberg and Bedford Park, but we won against the Broadlands. We are looking forward to the playoffs.

Armour Heights Team:

Alfred F., Charlie K., Chryz F., Cole B., Gabby P., Justin E., Kasra N., Marlowe B., Matthew M., Rowen M.

Coaches:

Mr. Wilson, Mr. Barta

By: Kasra and Cole

Junior Journalists

Movie of the Week

We asked our grade 5 to 6 students at Armour to vote on which new movie they think is the best. So, this week's most voted movie is Paddington. We found most students voted for that movie with amazing certainty. When we asked our students why they chose Paddington, they responded "I think it is just a fun and cute movie for all ages". If you didn't get the chance to vote, make sure to find our Junior Journalists to give us your favourite movie of the week next time!

By: Aleksi

Assemblies

One recent assembly was from Mrs. Rodriguez and Mr. Jackson's class. They did a fantastic play on Black history and teamwork. The class spent over two and a half weeks working and rehearsing it. The play was about a teacher and her students who went to many different countries, saw different points of view, and the students learned a lot about Black history and teamwork.

There were many different characters in the play. For example, there was Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King Junior, Mary-Ann Shad, Nanny, Matthew DaCosta, kings and queens from Africa, narrators, the traders, students, the teacher, the places around the world, and many more.

After the play, there were many students and teachers who came over to the class and congratulated them on their excellent work. The play was a success and all of the kids from kindergarten to grade six learned so much from this forty minute play.

By: Eden B. and Abigail I.

Editorials

Do you have a specific opinion about something? Do many people disagree with you about a certain thing? Well now you can be heard! Simply contact me, Aleksi , and I will give your views a chance to be heard! Here is an idea of how the debate would work!

Should kids be allowed to watch horror movies?

Yes, they should because they are filled with excitement and cliff-hangers, perfect for the everyday tween! It's a great way to hang out with your friends, and have some bonding time. Boos and ghouls both love it! I think kids definitely should watch horror movies.

No they shouldn't because kids can easily have nightmares. It is bad for your health to eat so much junk food most people do while watching any movie. Many times the idea are just plain demented! Horror movies are for older kids, kids with more maturity. That's why I say down with horror movies!

By: Aleksi T.

HASHTAG OF THE WEEK

#ARMOURJUMPSTONEHEIGHTS

This year, Armour Heights is doing Jump Rope for Heart in February. We are very excited, and this year our goal is \$3,000. We believe that we can get there! Lots of students are committed to bring in lots of money to donate to Jump Rope For Heart. Using the #armourjumpstoneweights you can show your support for this charity!

Please include our hashtag in any type of social media. Well... what are you waiting for?

Start hashtagging!

Triple Riddles Section

If I have it, I don't share it.

If I share it, I don't have it. What is it?

What has 4 eyes but can't see?

What is at the end of a rainbow?

WRITE YOUR ANSWER TO THE RIDDLES AND WRITE YOUR CLASS NAME AND YOUR NAME. IF YOU ARE RIGHT AND SEND IT IN FIRST YOU GET MENTIONED IN NEXT ISSUE.

By: Sophia P.

Choir

Choir on Monday, February 9th we finished the book and we went through what we need to memorize. A lot of people needed to memorize their lines and practice acting. We had fun because Tanya brought a hook for Captain Hook (Luke M.) and Captain Hook put it on! He got into character. The groups at the end of the script were The Pirates, The Fairies, The Lost Boys, The "Indian" Braves, Peter Pan, Wendy, John, Michael and The Chorus. Everyone has to work on their lines. We had a great time.

By: Blenda B.

Junior Journalists

Experiment of the Week

This week's experiment: How to make alum crystals.

- 1 tablespoon of alum (a spice that can be found in the spice aisle in most grocery stores)
- 1 cup of water
- measuring cup
- mixing spoon (metal)
- food colouring
- coffee mug
- cooking pot
- plate

Steps:

1. Ask your adult helper to help you boil a cup of water.
2. After boiling, gently pour one tablespoon of alum into the water.
3. After stirring, put 1-3 drops of your colour choice of food colouring in the water.
4. Pour the water in a mug and wait overnight.
5. After waiting overnight, fish out your crystals!
6. Put your crystals on a plate and wait for them to dry. This will take about 10-15 minutes.
7. Growing your crystal MORE! (Optional)
8. To grow your crystals, dangle a string with one end tied to your crystal and one side tied the middle of a pencil.
9. Secure the pencil on top of the mug's rim with the crystal dangling in the mug. Tip: your
10. string should be long enough that the crystal goes into the cup but doesn't touch the bottom of the mug.
11. Make more crystal solution (water with alum and food colouring) and pour it into the mug. Wait overnight.
12. Take the crystals out of the mug and detach them from the string. The best thing about alum crystals is that you can do this as many times as you want and grow it as big as you want. Make sure you dry the crystals.

Conclusion:

You will know you reached your goal when the crystals are solids. Not liquids or gases, if you chose to grow your crystal more, it should have grown overnight and maybe changed shape a bit. The crystals are the colour you coloured them and they should look a bit like this:

How it works:

The alum powder dissolves and re-forms into one crystal. Did you know you can make these crystals with sugar? After you can eat them and you can also make crystals with salt. Anything that can dissolve can be made into crystals.

By: Noah F.

ARMOUR'S FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
PLAYING "RISE OF THE GUARDIANS"

WEDNESDAY MARCH 4th, 2015

5:00 PM PIZZA/ 5:30 SHARP MOVIE



BRING BLANKETS, PILLOWS, STUFFED TOYS , PJS ARE WELCOME

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

RSVP IS REQUIRED FOR MOVIE TICKETS AND FOOD BY FEB 26TH

PLEASE FILL IN THE FORM BELOW AND SEND IN WITH YOUR CHILD WITH
PAYMENT OF CASH OR CHEQUE TO AHFSA (DROP BOX IN OFFICE)

MOVIE TICKETS \$2 /PERSON _____ X\$2= _____

CHEESE PIZZA SLICE \$2 /SLICE _____ X\$2= _____

PEPPERONI SLICE \$2/SLICE _____ X\$2= _____

WATER BOTTLES \$1 EACH _____ X \$1= _____

FAMILY DEAL

1X LARGE CHEESE OR PEPPERONI PIZZA (PLEASE CIRCLE CHOICE) AND
4X MOVIE TICKETS \$20 X _____ = _____

I CAN'T ATTEND BUT WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO THE GRADE 6 TRIP
\$ _____

TOTAL =\$ _____

FAMILY NAME _____

(TICKETS FOR FOOD AND MOVIE PICKUP NIGHT OF EVENT)

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE GRADE 6 GRADUATING CLASS TRIP TO
OTTAWA. PLEASE COME OUT AND HELP SUPPORT OUR GRADE 6'S !!!

Upcoming Dates:

African Heritage Month

African Heritage Month is an opportunity for staff and students to reflect on the history, achievements and experiences of people of African descent in Canada and throughout the world. The experiences of African Canadians are evolving, complex and contemporary. They go beyond heroes, heroines and particular historical dates.

Canada is made up of people from many different backgrounds and they have all contributed to the formation of this country; however, these experiences have not been fully acknowledged in our history books. Studying African heritage is important because it gives students a fuller picture of the experiences and contributions of all Canadians.

Throughout the month of February, schools across the TDSB will engage in local initiatives and participate in community events to celebrate African Heritage Month; however, the importance of studying African heritage is not limited to the month of February. We celebrate the achievements of people of African descent in Canada and around the world this month and embed issues of equity throughout the year in our teaching and learning at Armour Heights.

- February 19- Lunar New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhism)
 - Social Media Presentation at John Wanless at 7pm
- February 20- Junior Speech Arts Competition at Rockford PS
- February 23- Parking Lot Safety Advisory Committee at 3pm
- February 26- Character Assembly (AM)
 - Pizza Lunch
- March 4- Family Movie Night at 5:30pm (Dinner at 5pm)
- March 5- Magha Puja Day (Buddhism)
 - Purim (Judaism)
- March 6- Holi (Hinduism)
- March 13- Dance a Thon (PM)
- March 16-20- March Break
- March 23- School Resumes
- March 26- Pizza Lunch
- March 31- Character Assembly (PM)
- April 3- Good Friday
- April 5- Easter Sunday
 - Passover begins (Judaism)
- April 7- Social Media Presentations at Armour
- April 8- Spelling Bee at John Ross Robertson
- April 12- Pascha Easter (Orthodox Christianity)
- April 14- Baisakhi (Sikhism)
- April 16- Yom Hashoah (Judaism)
- April 18- Silent Auction at The Cricket Club
- April 21- FSA Meeting at 7:30pm
- April 22- Annie at 6pm
- April 27- Welcome to Kindergarten Orientation Visits
- April 30- Spring Concert at 6pm/ Open House at 7pm

PRINCIPAL:
Corey Birnbaum

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:
Voula Szerepi

HEAD CARETAKER:
Patrick Smith

ARMOUR HEIGHTS PS
148 WILSON AVENUE
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M5M 3A5

PHONE: 416-397-2950

FAX: 416-395-4464

SAFE ARRIVAL: 416-397-2959

SUPERINTENDENT
Peter Chang

416-394-2032

TRUSTEE
Jennifer Arp

416-395-8787