

BLAKE BEAT



In this issue:

From the Classroom: Room 203	Page 3
From the Classroom: Room 105	Page 4
School News and Events	Page 5-6
Morning Meal	Page 7
Recipe of the Month.....	Page 7
A Word from our Co-Chairs.....	Page 8
Super Sport Saturdays in Summer.....	Page 9
Activities With Kids	Page 10

Help Needed	Page 11
Interview with a Volunteer Coordinator.....	Page 12
How can I help at the Fun Fair?.....	Page 13
Silent Auction Prizes	Page 14
Fun Fair.....	Page 15
June Calendar	Page 16

BLAKE MISSION STATEMENT

At Blake our mission is to provide a caring, safe, and bully-free environment that meets the intellectual, physical, social, and emotional needs of our students.

With the assistance of our families and greater school community, we are committed to supporting our students and leading by example so that they reach their full potential.

Our Code of Conduct clearly states that all students have the right to be heard and valued, must respect themselves, and also have the responsibility to follow staff directions.

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editing Alexandra Knowles and Keri Williams

Layout Keri Williams

May Contributors

Melissa Jenkins-Gray, Alan Lyons, Jeanette Rees, Jonah Weslak, Jamie Gillingham, Lynne Logan, Tara Jamieson, Kelly Dymont, Alexandra Knowles, Keri Williams,

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

This newsletter is not possible without the hard work of the many hands who volunteered their time. We'd love to hear from you! If you have a newsletter submission or idea, please e-mail it to blakeschoolnewsletter@gmail.com, or drop a copy in the School Council mailbox in the office, by the 20th of every month.

Items should be sent in Microsoft Word format if possible, but do not need to be formatted. Simply forward text and/or images. Please do not embed images.

PARENT COUNCIL CONTACTS

Co-chairs Jeanette Rees and Alan Lyons
BlakeSchoolCouncil.tdsb@gmail.com

Treasurer Jamie Gillingham

Newsletter Editors Alexandra Knowles and Keri Williams
blakeschoolnewsletter@gmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator Volunteer Team
VolunteerAtBlake@gmail.com

Blake Street Public School

21 Boulton Ave, Toronto, ON, M4J 1A7

Phone #: 416 393 9415

Fax #: 416 393 9414

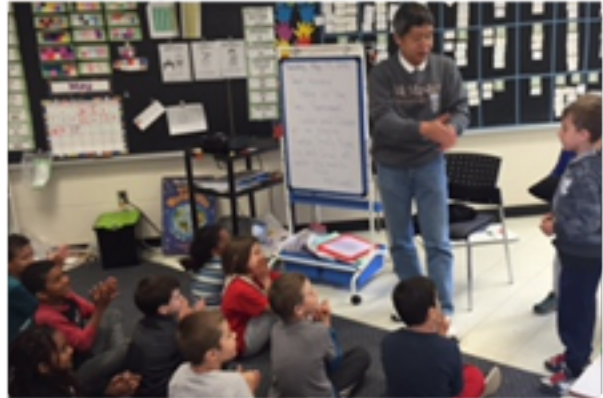
www.BlakeStreetPublicSchool.com

From the classroom - Ms Logan, Room 203

Chess

During the last 8 weeks, we have had the wonderful opportunity to join Ms. Davey's class for chess lessons with Mr. Jen. Over this time, it has been incredible to see how the chess instruction and games have provided so many benefits of learning to all of the students. Each student began to see the importance of thinking ahead and anticipating outcomes, while learning the importance of sportsmanship and fair play skills.

Thank you to Mr. Jen for teaching us how to play chess!



Save the Bees!

This Spring we have been learning all about bees and why they are so important in our environment. Did you know that 1 out of every 3 bites of food that you eat has been made possible by the pollination of bees?

The honey bee population has been declining at dramatic rates and now the bee populations in Canada are unstable. Room 203 has decided to do something about it!

At the beginning of May, we ordered and planted bee-friendly wild flowers to take home to our balconies and gardens as a way to help increase honey bee populations. This month in class, we have been busy with many language and math activities focused around our 'Save the Bees' theme. Here are some of the activities we have done:

"We each wrote a bee adventure story." – Ryan

"We read real facts about bees on the computer and on our ipads." - Peter

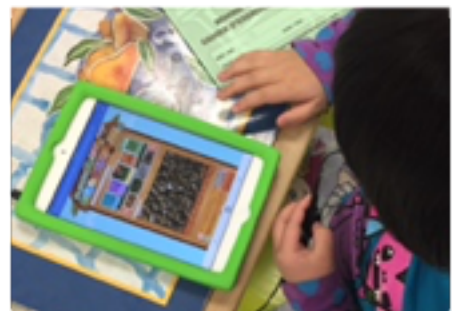
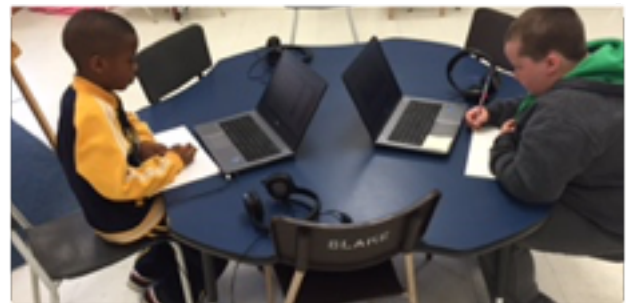
"We made posters about how to protect bees." - Trevor

"We made math (area and perimeter) gardens to plant flowers in, to help bees." - Lin

"We read non-fiction books about honey bees." – K.J.

"We made a bulletin board to tell other students about bee facts." – Joshua

"We learned and wrote about ways to save honey bees." - Jordienne



From the classroom - Ms Jamieson Room 105, French SK

May has been a busy month in Room 105. We've been discussing the changes that occur in spring, and students have been making exciting discoveries in the yard outside! We've found worms, centipedes, potato bugs and butterflies. We planted a Venus fly trap and are waiting for it to bud. We've also brainstormed and begun decorating our class for spring and summer while exploring a variety of art media.

We've also talked about the importance of water in our lives and are participating in painting a schoolwide mural.

Finally, we have started partners with Mme Sinda's class! Students are excited to be upstairs with "les grands amis" doing a variety of activities.



In language, we have been practicing writing stories. Students have mastered drawing a story with descriptive details, and are now beginning to write their story either at the bottom or top of their page. We have also been looking at rhyming words, through poems, songs and stories and we have been learning new sounds!

In math, we continue to work on concepts in numeracy – we've started to learn to count by 2's and 5's. We've been practicing making math stories (addition sentences), and working with 3D solids. Students have been using this terminology while presenting their structures during Sharing Time.



EcoSchool Gold!

Congratulations to students and staff for achieving Gold certification on the spring EcoSchools Audit!



This reflects the hard work the school has put in to making our school an eco-friendly environment. It includes, but is not limited to, Freaky Fridays, where school lights are turned off to save on electricity, and teaching the school at assembly about how to use less plastic.

Can You Make a Cupcake?

Can you make a yummy & delicious cupcake?

Then, we want you!

We are looking for cupcakes for the kindergarten and grade 6 graduations, which are both on Tuesday, June 28. (Kindie is in the morning, grade 6 in the evening...) If you are interested please email Erin Barr erin.barr@tdsb.on.ca as soon as possible.



Folk Dance Fun

Our Folk Dance club gave a great performance at the recent TDSB Jamboree this month. Our girls danced their hearts out and did an amazing job. There were tons of schools participating and we finally got some beautiful weather for the event.

The Spring Concert

By Sara Bosch, Grade 1 Mme Sinda's class *

*(with mummy's help figuring out the letters)



I liked the spring concert. This was my first year that I was in the spring concert. I really liked it especially when I sang in it. I was really happy because my parents were there and my sisters. I liked it a lot because it



was really fun and I got to dance. I liked when the hoe down was dancing and I also liked when Ms. Barr's class and Ms. Davie's class did sing their song. Also when Mr. Tsai's class did their act (the weed song).

Class Trip to Book Bank



Mr Stoch's class, JK/SK had a class trip to the Book Bank, where the kids enjoyed listening to a story, and then got to choose a book of their own to take home. All that plus a day trip on the streetcar? A great day!

Free The Children Club

The Free the Children Club is rounding off a successful year. They donated 98kg of food to the Eastview Community Centre, raised \$335 through bake sales and other events for education initiatives in Kenya, and 35 students took a vow of silence one Friday morning. Not only did they raise awareness for their message about being heard, but they also inspired other classmates to join in!

Morning Meal - May 2016

Monday June 6	Tuesday June 7	Wednesday June 8	Thursday June 9	Friday June 10
Pita Hummous Tomatoes & Carrots	Nut-free low-fat Cereal Vanilla Yogourt Melon	English Muffin/Bagel Cream Cheese Peppers & Cucumbers	1 slice baked good Chocolate Milk Strawberries	PA Day No School
Monday June 13	Tuesday June 14	Wednesday June 15	Thursday June 16	Friday June 17
Nut-free low-fat Cereal Strawberry Yogourt Apples	Pita Hummous Peppers & Cucumbers	English Muffin/Bagel Yogourt Tubes Pineapple	Crackers Marble & Mozzarella Cheese Carrots	1 slice baked good White Milk Strawberries
Monday June 20	Tuesday June 21	Wednesday June 22	Thursday June 23	Friday June 24
Nut-free low-fat Cereal Vanilla Yogourt Cucumbers & Carrots	English Muffin/Bagel Cream Cheese Bananas	Pita Hummous Tomatoes & Peppers	1 slice baked good White Milk Strawberries	Crackers Marble & Mozzarella Cheese Cauliflower & Broccoli
Monday June 27	Tuesday June 28	Wednesday June 29		
Pita Hummous Tomatoes & Cucumbers	Nut-free low-fat Cereal Strawberry Yogourt Oranges	Crackers Marble & Mozzarella Cheese Carrots		

*Fruits/vegetables subject to change due to supply

**all grain products served meet a minimum of 2 stars (out of 3) of the Guiding Stars program. For more information see <http://guidingstars.ca/>

Spinach and Mushroom Lasagne

By Alexandra Knowles

Ingredients

- 1lb mozzarella, shredded
- parmesan cheese, grated
- 2 containers ricotta cheese
- large clamshell container of baby spinach
- 3-4 cups mushrooms, sliced
- 2 eggs
- 2 jars tomato sauce
- lasagna noodles
- salt/pepper

Method:

Cook mushrooms in a little oil or butter on high heat until they have released water and it has cooked off. Stir in an entire container of baby spinach a little at a time (it will seem like too much, but stir it until it is wilted). Add ricotta, salt and pepper and two beaten eggs and mix until combined.

In lasagna pan, spread thin layer of sauce on bottom and lay down layer of noodles, then another layer of sauce. Layer ricotta mixture over sauce layer, then add layer of mozzarella cheese and liberal sprinkle of parmesan. Spread another layer of sauce, then noodles, sauce, ricotta, mozzarella, parm, sauce, noodles, sauce, etc. until you have run out of room or stuff. :) Top layer should be noodles, sauce, mozzarella and then a lot of parmesan.

Bake covered in foil for 45 minutes at 350 degrees. Uncover and cook for another 10-15 minutes. Turn on broiler and cook until cheese is melted and bubbly on top (this only takes a few minutes). Remove from oven, let stand for 10-15 minutes before serving.

A Few Words from the Blake St School Parent Council Co-Chairs

Hello Blake Street Students and Parents,

This is our final letter from the Parent Council Co-Chairs for this school year. As we begin to reflect on our year as Co-Chairs, what becomes crystal clear is how lucky we are to have so many committed, caring and energetic parents at Blake that continue to produce incredible results for our students, staff, and the entire community. We have been constantly amazed and humbled by the efforts that parent council members put forward.

Look through this list and see if you and your child benefited from the hard work that our parent volunteers put in this year:

- If you go to the Fun Fair
- If you went to a movie night
- If you attended a school dance
- If you picked up something from the clothing and book swap



- If you are excited about the kindergarten students getting a new playground
- If you drank some Mountain View Coffee, Tea or Hot Chocolate
- If you had your hair checked for lice
- If you learned something in the garden
- If you took part in a cultural or sports family fitness night
- If you own clothing with the Blake Bobcats logo
- If you ate a slice on pizza day
- If you laughed during a spirit day
- If you feel safer because a fence will be built between the railway tracks and the schoolyard
- If you enjoyed the ukelule club at the Spring Concert
- If you used Mabel's Label's to find a lost article of clothing
- If you are glad that the teachers enjoyed a pot luck dinner during parent interviews
- If you are getting more and better communication about what's happening at the school
- If you are reading this newsletter

There isn't one Blake student or parent who has not benefitted from the dedicated parent volunteers who make up the Parent Council!

We want to thank every parent who attended a meeting, volunteered their time, helped out at an event, joined a committee, or led an initiative!

We could never thank you enough!

Jeanette Rees & Alan Lyons
BlakeSchoolCouncil.tdsb@gmail.com

Super Sports Saturdays - For Families



What: An informal get together of families from the Blake Street community. We'll use our great green field space to play sports together for fun.

When: Every Saturday morning from 10:30am to noon (Saturdays in June & July, starting Saturday June 18th)

Where: The field of Blake Street Public School

Who: Families of Blake Street and our friends from the community

Cost: Free - Just show up!

What to bring: No need to bring anything, but if you would like, bring a ball or a bat. Please just come out.

Why?:

- Keep up connections with school friends over the summer
- Exercise & health
- Come out and have fun!

If you have ideas or would like to be involved in helping to run Super Sports Saturdays for families, please contact Emma at emmazoelouise@yahoo.com



Spring Clean Up Sunday

29 May, 10am -2 pm

Many hands make little work!!!

Please join us at the school on Sunday morning to clean up the school grounds, we are hoping to clean up the garden, plant new flowers, rake some leaves, paint some benches and sweep some mulch.

We need you and your elbow grease, and some tools!

If you can spare an hour or two please come down, bring an outdoor broom, or old painting supplies (brushes, rollers, paint trays), rakes, brown compost bags, gardening tools (shovels, gloves, etc) and if you have any plants that you would like to donate to the school, we would love to have them!

If you have tools that we can borrow, please let me know I can arrange a pick up or if you can also join us, please bring them.



PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU CAN JOIN US AND IF YOU HAVE ANY TOOLS YOU CAN LEND US FOR THE DAY. Jeanette & Alan
BlakeSchoolCouncil.tdsb@gmail.com

Kids welcome!!!!

Outdoor Bi-Plane Craft

By **Melissa Jenkins-Gray**

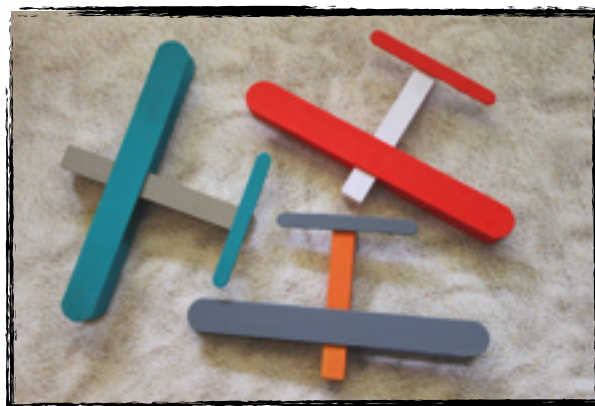
It's time to get outdoors and have some fun with basic tools for airplanes that really fly. The best part? You'll need to get through some Popsicles so you have enough sticks to get going!

You'll Need:

- * Popsicle sticks (large and small sizes)
- * Clothes pin
- * Glue
- * Paint

Paint the sticks anyway you like, bright colours are great to see them easily when they take flight.

Glue two large Popsicle sticks on either side of the clothes pin to create the double decker wings. Then glue a smaller Popsicle stick as the tail wing. After it completely dries, you're ready to get some friends together & let your crafts take flight!



Coaches needed, and coaches need training!

Elementary Athletics Coaching Training for Blake Parents!

Urgent!! Anyone interested in helping our staff at Blake with your know how in Athletics?! Basketball, Volleyball, Baseball, Soccer, and Track and Field. Looking for eager parents willing to volunteer time in helping our kids grow athletically and inspire them to be their best athlete!

There are parent training/coaching clinics available, see below for available dates for Humewood PS.

Police checks are mandatory anytime working with children and forms are available through the front office. See either Ms. Reashore or Ms. Karaliadis for the form.

Let me know what is your availability with the dates given and please email me asap at

ladyv3006@gmail.com. I can provide a ride there for the clinic.

Session is approximately 45 min.-60 min.

Monday, May 30 - 3:00pm to 5:00pm

Tuesday, May 31 - 7:00 am to 3:30 pm

Wednesday, June 1 - 7:00 am to 3:30 pm

Thursday, June 2 - 7:00 am to 3:30 pm

Friday, June 3 - 7:00 am to 3:30 pm

Monday, June 20 - 24 - 7:00 am to 3:30 pm

We need all green or semi-green thumbs!

The Blake school garden needs the neighborhood's help this summer! With the school closed in July and August, assistance is needed from the Blake community to water and weed the garden. The garden committee will be looking to populate a calendar, with volunteers expected to spend a little time on maintenance once or twice a week, for only the weeks they are available during the summer. All supplies are provided and a brief training session will be offered closer to the end of the school year. Please email volunteeratblake@gmail.com if you can help!



Interview with a Volunteer Coordinator Or “How can I help?”

BLAKE BEAT: Can you introduce yourself?

JONAH WESLAK: I am Jonah Weslak, dad of two girls, one of whom is an SK student at Blake. My wife Andrea and I have been involved in the parent community at Blake since our daughter started here in 2014 and I manage the volunteers for the Fun Fair.

BB: The Fun Fair?

JW: It's the biggest event school event of the year! This year's is on June 11th, the day after the PA day in June.

BB: What makes the Fun Fair a great event?

JW: It's fun for the Kids! It's also great showcase for the school. It does a good job of showing who we are for new families coming in the fall and for those who live nearby and don't attend.

BB: But it's also fundraiser, isn't it?

JW: Absolutely. It is by far the biggest school fundraiser of the year. Without the Fun Fair the Parent Council would not be able to fund many of the workshops and other events on the school calendar.

BB: How important is it to get the community involved?

JW: The Fun Fair must be something that reflects us as a school community and it must be inclusive and welcoming. That is a non-negotiable.

BB: How important is the army of volunteers to the success of the Fun Fair?

JW: Without parents giving their time, the Fun Fair cannot happen. The entire event is Volunteer run.

BB: Do we always have enough volunteers?

JW: Actually, no. Last year we asked the teachers to stay the entire day, when ideally everyone should just be doing a shift or two and then enjoying the fair for themselves. Last year we also had a large contingent of U of T students.

Without them, we simply would not have had enough volunteers to run all of the stations.

BB: How can parents get involved?

JW: You can email me at volunteeratblake@gmail.com, or sign up on the sheet across from the school office.

BB: If I volunteer do I have to work for the entire fair?

JW: No, if all you can give is one hour, it would be greatly appreciated. Obviously if you are able to commit to more, it would be greatly appreciated.

BB: What if I'm interested in Volunteering, but I'm not available on June 11th?

JW: Setup is the day before on Friday June 10th, which is a PD day. We have people on site from 9:00am until 9pm getting everything ready.

BB: Sounds like it takes a lot of people?

JW: It does! We used over 150 volunteers last year to make the event happen. The trick is having as many families contribute as possible. If every Blake family worked a shift or two at some point over the weekend we would have enough people to run all of the stations. If you can hand someone a burger or take tickets at the bake sale table, then you have the skills we need!

BB: The best of luck with the Fun Fair.

JW: Thanks



FUN FAIR - WHAT DO WE NEED?

VOLUNTEERS VOLUNTEERS VOLUNTEERS!

We need YOU! Especially on the day (for as little as an hour!), but also as below:

volunteeratblake@gmail.com

There is also a signup sheet on the notice board opposite the school office
You can volunteer for selling tickets, running games and activity stations, helping at food stations, face and nail painting and tattoos, silent auction and raffle, and more!

BAKE SALE GOODS

Anything baked is definitely needed for the baked goods stall. Donations can be dropped off to the gym anytime after 10.30 on the day

JARS

Please bring jars, empty or full of toys, craft materials, etc, or just the fillings to the school office. Donations will be gratefully accepted up to the day!

POSTERING

We need to let our community know the Fun Fair is ON! If you can help with postering please contact the Fun Fair Committee at

volunteeratblake@gmail.com

Note: we also want to be responsible and take them down after!

WINE DONATIONS

Bottles of wine (or any form of alcohol really) needed for the silent auction gift baskets. Please deliver to the school office

Silent Auction and Raffle at the Fun Fair

Just a few of the amazing Silent Auction items you can bid on at the Fun Fair!

This Way to Broadway Dance Studio	Wine Basket
Monarch Movement Dance Camp	Artist's Play
Jack of Sports Camps	Toronto Athletic Camps
Blue Jays Tickets	Sportplay
Toronto Rock Tickets	BangSalon (4 Stylists)
Toronto Marlies Tickets	Ontario Science Center
Restaurant gift certificates	Courtyard Marriott Toronto – weekend for 2
Buckler Aquatics Swim lessons	Fairmount Royal York – weekend for 2
Joy of Dance – 50% off	East York Gymnastics
The Basketball Academy - Summer Camp	Center of Gravity – Circus Academy
Charlotte Schwartz Fitness Sessions	Louis Cipher
National Ballet of Canada – 2 Premium Seats for the Nutcracker	Pizza Libretto
Zili Otto gift certificate	Fusion Chiropractic Massage
Riverdale Catering – catered dinner for two	Raptors signed photograph (Jonas Valanciunas)
Legacy Spin Studio	Guitar Lessons
Energia Fitness passes	The Rock Oasis
Photography Sessions	<i>And more...be sure to check it out in the gymnasium on the day of the Fun Fair!!</i>
Beautiful Homemade Knitted Items: throw pillows, blankets, dolls, scarves, etc.	
Salomon Men's Ski Jacket (size medium)	

*There will be a great **Raffle** too - tickets will be sold for .50 cents at the Fun Fair*

COME ONE, COME ALL!

Blake's Family

FUN FAIR!

SATURDAY JUNE 11, 2016
11 AM - 3PM (RAIN OR SHINE!)

SATURDAY JUNE 11, 2016 11 AM - 3PM

FOOD! ENTERTAINMENT! RIDES! RAFFLE! SILENT AUCTION!

BLAKE STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL

21 Boulton Ave.

JUST NORTH OF THE RAIL BRIDGE ON JONES AVE.



A Proud Sponsor

DONNA LEE

Sales Representative



Signature Realty
IND. OWNED & OPERATED BROKERAGE

office **416.443.0300**

direct **416.566.3727**

donnalee@royalpage.ca



* Not intended to solicit those already under contract with another Realtor

Upcoming Events at Blake St School

Bike to School Week

30 MAY to 3 JUNE Let's fill those bike racks!

Details to follow - watch your Friday Folders

Duffel Bag Theatre
performs **The 3 Musketeers**

TUESDAY, 7 JUNE, Fun for
all, parents welcome!

PA Day

The school will be
closed

FRIDAY, 10 JUNE.

Ukelele Club Performance

WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE,
1 pm in the Wilkinson gym.
Parents welcome

Parent Council Meeting

Wrap up the year on **THURSDAY 16**
JUNE at 6 pm in the library. Dinner
and childcare will be provided.

Eco Day

MONDAY, 20 JUNE.
Grades 1-6

Spirit Day

FRIDAY, 24 JUNE
It's vacation time! What will
you wear on vacation?

Pizza Lunch

Pizza lunch will be
held on **FRIDAY,**
24 JUNE. \$5



Graduation Day

TUESDAY, 28 JUNE.
Kindergarten in the am
Grade 6 in the evening