

# BLAKE BEAT



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# 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

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## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

This newsletter is not possible without the hard work of the many hands who volunteer 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](mailto: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

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## ECO Assessment

The School Eco Club is aiming to achieve Platinum status by the end of this year. Please help by using reusable containers in you lunches.

## Snack Program Donation

An envelope will be coming home asking for donations to the morning meal nutrition program. Some of you may have already donated for the year. Remember that a donation of \$20 or more qualifies for a tax receipt.

## Kilometer Club Starting

The Kilometer Club will be starting in April, with laps being run and recorded before school, during lunch and after school. Some parent volunteers are required, to help with tracking laps. Contact Kelly Dymont through the office is you are interested/available.

## Coed Volleyball to Compete

The Co-ed Volleyball team competed in an inter-school volleyball competition at the end of March. The team competed at Leslieville school and the team did really well, coming in third, and everyone had a good morning.

## Exit 6 Stairwell Decorated

The stairwell at Exit 6 has now been decorated with graffiti art, by the same artist who did the other stairwell and the outdoor grounds. Take a look if you get a chance, or see the front cover of the newsletter for a small piece!

## Soccer About to Start

Girls' and Boys' soccer is about to start! Classes will be notified about when signups begin.

## Last Chance for Parent Coaching Training

The last chance for training for parents interested in coaching school sports at Blake is on April 18th at Westwood M.S. from 4:30 – 5:15. Parents interested in coaching at Blake must complete this training to be able to participate. Contact Valerie through the school office for details. As mentioned last month, Blake now has a Cricket team as a result of parent involvement,

## Track and Field Coming Soon

Stay tuned for more information about Track and Field training coming soon!

## From the Classroom: Mme Sinda, Room 201

### 100th DAY!!

To celebrate the 100th day in our class, students had to create a small craft with 100 objects and present it to their peers. Students were eager to show what they brought as well as curious about the other projects. Projects ranged from 100 piece Lego structures to 100 piece craft. Also, students were paired with their reading buddies during the afternoon and had various centers to explore (writing, creating, counting, building, etc.). All centers had one thing in common: use, reach or represent 100! The day was a success!



### January to March: CHESS!

Our class had the privileged to receive 8 Chess sessions with Mr. Jen. It was definitely a learning curve for many of the students, which all came out with something new they learned about the game of Chess. At the end of the sessions, Mr. Jen was handing 2 medals: congratulations to Samantha T. for winning the Chess tournament and to Elsa C. for receiving the Citizenship award.



### Cabane à sucre! (Sugar shack)

As we were too eager to celebrate the arrival of spring and promote French culture, students had a chance to experience a Maple syrup workshop at Kortright Center. During our visit, students learned lots about Maple trees: how to tell their age, how to find the scars from previous tapping, and the different layers behind the bark. The best part was to see how maple syrup is made in the "cabane à sucre" (sugar shack), as well as to get to taste it freshly made. It was YUMMY!





## From the Classroom: Mme Jamieson, Room 105

Room 105 has been a busy place these last few months!

In math, students have been learning about 3D solids. They learned about the different names for the parts of solids like "les sommets" (corners), "les côtés" (edges) and "les faces" (faces). Students played games to learn to identify solids using more than just their eyes; they had to feel the solids and guess what they were. They also had the chance to build them, discovering that the faces are made up of various 2D shapes. We even went out into the neighbourhood and searched for 3D solids in the natural and man-made world!



In language students have been working so hard. Many of our students are speaking in French almost all the time now, and we have begun guided reading groups! Students are very excited to demonstrate their learning and have begun to share poems and books during our sharing time after centres. We continue to write and draw stories during Writer's Workshop – students have been practicing writing by labelling the important details in their stories. Next month we will begin writing our stories at the bottom of the page!

## Morning Meal - April 2017

Monday Apr 3	Tuesday Apr 4	Wednesday Apr 5	Thursday Apr 6	Friday Apr 7
Nut-free low-fat Cereal (president choice oat o's) Strawberry Yogourt Apples	Pita Hummous Carrots & Cucumbers	Crackers Marble & Mozzarella Cheese Pineapple	English Muffin/Bagel Cream Cheese & Dip Cauliflower & Tomatoes	1 slice baked good (banana) Chocolate Milk Melons
Monday Apr 10	Tuesday Apr 11	Wednesday Apr 12	Thursday Apr 13	Friday Apr 14
Pita Hummous Yellow and Orange Peppers	Nut-free low-fat Cereal(Kashi granola) Vanilla Yogourt Strawberries	Crackers Marble & Mozzarella Cheese Tomatoes and Broccoli	1 slice baked good (pumpkin) White Milk Bananas	<b>Good Friday No School</b>
Monday Apr 17	Tuesday Apr 18	Wednesday Apr 19	Thursday Apr 20	Friday Apr 21
<b>Easter Monday No School</b>	Nut-free low-fat Cereal Strawberry Yogourt Tomatoes and Carrots	Crackers Marble & Mozzarella Cheese Pears	Pita Hummous Peppers and Cucumbers	1 slice baked good (zucchini) Chocolate Milk Oranges
Monday Apr 24	Tuesday Apr 25	Wednesday Apr 26	Thursday Apr 27	Friday Apr 28
Bun/bagels/Crackers Yogourt Tube Carrots and Cucumbers	Nut-free low-fat Cereal Vanilla Yogourt Apples	Pita Hummous Tomatoes and Peppers	1 slice baked good (banana) White Milk Strawberries	Bread/Buns /Crackers Marble & Mozzarella Cheese Carrots and Cucumbers

\*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/>

## Community Events in April

The following are some of the community events that are on in the area in the next month. If you know of an event in the area you would like to publicise in the newsletter please contact us at [blakeschoolnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:blakeschoolnewsletter@gmail.com)

- Leslieville After Dark: Leslieville PS Silent Auction, Friday April 7, 7:00-10:30pm
- Pocket Easter Egg Hunt, Phin Ave. Parkette, Saturday, April 15, 10am-12noon
- Baisakhi Festival 2017, Gerrard India Bazaar, April 15, 4-10pm (for more info: [www.gerrardindiabazaar.com](http://www.gerrardindiabazaar.com))
- Beaches Lions Club 51st Annual Easter Parade, Queen St. E. from Munro Park to Woodbine Ave., Sunday, April 16, 2-4pm
- The Leslieville Flea, The Fermenting Cellar, Distillery District, Sunday, April 23, 10am-4pm (for more info: [www.leslievilleflea.com](http://www.leslievilleflea.com))

## A Few Words

Hello Blake Street Students and Parents,

With so many amazing initiatives happening right now at the school, it's the perfect time to dip your toes into the Parent Council pool!

We're small, but we are mighty and we're diverse, and we all share our love for our Blake community and family. Walking through our halls, you'll see artwork by our students, sketches for our new natural playground, new books on the library shelves and in our staircases, a whimsical mural winding from the floor to the ceiling. You'll find students enjoying a free breakfast, and you'll find a small set of new uniforms available for our sports teams.

Most of this due to the helping hands of our amazing Blake Families and Friends.

But still, your support is greatly needed! We have our largest event of year, the Blake Family Fun Fair, quickly approaching and we need more silent auction items! We have high hopes that



this will be our biggest and best year yet! Please find our wish list below and if you have any contacts (friends, co-workers, neighbours, family) please ask them to donate, we will have a letter in the office that you can pick up and share that will explain exactly how valuable donations to our silent auction are for our lovely little school.

- a big experience (a cruise, a wine tour, a hotel stay, luxury car at the track, a private flight around downtown TO, 2 tickets on WestJet or Porter etc)

- summer camps - we need a variety. Jack of Sports, This Way to Broadway, Oaks 'n Acorns, Pedalheads, East York Gymnastics etc
- tickets: Jays, Raptors
- smaller experiences: gift certificates for spa, food, salon
- memberships to: rom, science centre, climbing gym
- birthday party package: i.e. Sky zone, Zero gravity circus, soccer at the portlands, cake gift card to a baker, etc

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## Fundraising Update

Thank you to all who ordered magazines through Blake! You may soon start receiving renewal notices. If you would like to renew your magazine subscriptions, please visit [www.qsp.ca](http://www.qsp.ca) School ID: 3958253 rather than renewing directly through the magazine. This ensures the school receives a portion of the cost, which we can certainly put to good use!

**Next Parent  
 Council  
 Meeting:  
 THURSDAY  
 20 APRIL  
 at 6pm**



# Parent Council News

## Motions Voted On

At the last parent council meeting the following motions were voted on:

### OPAL Funds

The teachers requested that \$300 be donated by the Parent Council to enable them to buy required items from Value Village for the OPAL programme. The motion was passed after much discussion about the sourcing of items for the OPAL programme. Currently the primary problem for the OPAL programme is the lack of storage sheds. These are underway (we now have 2 storage sheds earmarked for us) and should be in place for next year, but currently there is little ability to store donations. A list of donation items will be stored on the school blog site, but at present the school is not able to accept donations from families.

### Nature Education Day Trips

A fund of \$2500 was established to enable every class to participate in a subsidised class trip to experience outdoor education in programs like the one run at the Brickworks. The fund will be reviewed annually.

### Benches in the Main Playground

The request to fund \$4000 for two benches in the main playground was not passed after much discussion including noting that the location was against the only wall in the playground without windows, thus limiting the potential for ball play, and that the plans for the redevelopment of the playground have not been finalised, thus suitability of the location could not be guaranteed, and the cost of relocation would be considerable.



# Upcoming Events at Blake St School

## March Break

The school will be closed **FRIDAY 14 APRIL** through **MONDAY, 17 APRIL** for Easter Break. Hope the bunny is good to you!

## Author Talk

Natasha Dean will be visiting the school on **WEDNESDAY, 19 APRIL** to speak with the whole school

## Spring Clean Up

The school will be participating in a spring clean up of the school and grounds on **FRIDAY, 21 APRIL**.

## Parent Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parent Council will be **THURSDAY, 20 APRIL** at 6 pm in the library. Dinner and childcare will be provided.

## Spirit Day

Spirit Day will be **FRIDAY, 28 APRIL**  
It's **RAINBOW DAY** - how many colours or rainbows can you wear?!

## Blue Spruce Visit

Blue Spruce author Vicki VanSickle will be 'visiting' the school on **FRIDAY 28 APRIL** to discuss her book, and reading in general.

Voting for the Blue Spruce and Silver Birch programs will be taking place soon.

## Pizza Lunch

Pizza lunch will be held on **FRIDAY, 28 APRIL**.

