

# Blake News

The Newsletter of  
**Blake Street Public School**  
 Phone: (416) 393-9415

**Blake Street Public School**  
 21 Boulton Avenue, Toronto, ON M4J 1A7  
**Jennifer Zurba**, Principal      **Tina Weinberg**, Vice Principal  
**Mary Jane McNamara**, Superintendent of Education      **Jennifer Story**, School Trustee

It was a pleasure to meet so many of you at this past Tuesday's school council meeting. I was impressed by the turnout as well as the significant roles the council plays to contribute to the life of this school.

This week brought some changes to our school. As a result of non-compliance with student number regulations for split grades, the primary English classes went through a re-alignment, which affected the move of some students to other classrooms. Furthermore, because of some very low French immersion primary class sizes, we unfortunately had to declare Mme Bertrand surplus to our school, and we had to re-organize our entire primary French immersion division. The reduction of a class meant that students currently divided into 6 classrooms had to be re-assigned into five. Our French immersion teachers, with the support of Ms. Weinberg, worked hard to ensure that children moved with a classmate, and that the least number of children were affected. Primary French immersion parents will receive a personalized letter today letting them know if the change impacted their child; and if so, the change in teacher, room number, and or the classroom grade makeup.

Thank you to all parents involved in both the English and French shuffle. Your support and understanding during this challenging time was appreciated and made the entire process more manageable.

A reminder that next Thursday September 28<sup>th</sup> is Curriculum Night. There will be two duplicate sessions to accommodate families with more than one child at the school. The first session will begin at 6:30, and the second at 7:00. Parent council has also organized a Pot luck and welcome back barbecue, which begins at 6:00. We look forward to seeing you there!!!

Finally, for those in our community celebrating the Jewish New Year this week, we wish you Shana Tova.

Should you have any questions or concerns with the content of this newsletter, or any other school related issues, please email me directly at [jennifer.zurba@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:jennifer.zurba@tdsb.on.ca)

Jennifer Zurba

## Indigo "Adopt a School" Fundraising

It's that time of year again! This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row that Blake has joined this successful fundraising venture to put more up-to-date books in our library. In the 2015 school year we raised \$4,000 through the online campaign all on our own. Last year we were adopted by one of the largest stores in Canada – the Eaton Centre location – and \$14,000 was raised for our school! This year we were fortunate to be adopted again, this time by the Coles Beaches store – their goal is to raise \$6,000 for us, and combined with our regular \$4,000 that we're usually able to do on our own, we're hoping for another \$10,000 for our library! For every 2 books you donate online (\$20), Indigo will give us another (to a maximum of 100 extra books). You can also share a story about why books and/or our library are so

important to you. We can have a maximum of 20 additional books for those stories, and we're currently sitting at 5. You can also buy books at the Coles Store in the Beaches (2169 Queen Street East at Lee) and make a direct cash donation. Finally, be sure to look at our Indigo page and 'like' one of the stories that were shared. The top 5 'liked' schools will earn additional funds from Indigo – you can only vote once for one story, so choose wisely! Currently we're in 8<sup>th</sup> place! 5 days into the campaign we're at \$1,000! Here's the link: <https://adoptaschool.indigo.ca/eng/schools/612>

## Terry Fox

In honour of Terry Fox's legacy of perseverance and generosity EAST and Blake Street will be holding their annual Terry Fox school walk on Wed. Sept. 27 from 1:05 to 2:05. We will have a kick-off assembly in the gym

at 1:05 and then begin our community walk. This year the walk will be along Boulton to Jones, north on Jones to Strathcona, west on Strathcona to Blake and south on Blake to return to the school, where classes will run or walk a designated course around the school grounds.

Students are encouraged to bring in a loonie or toonie. All donations will be donated to Terry Fox Foundation to support their work in cancer research.

## Important BUSSING Information

If your children ride the bus, it is necessary that you register in with the TDSB bus portal, otherwise you will not receive updates on bus delays. If you have not yet done so, please register at <https://www.torontoschoolbus.org/>

In light of the extended time our students were riding the bus, the morning bus route has been split to decrease the time on the bus in the mornings. New bus times are as follows:  
 AM Route PFM0370  
 Thorncliffe, am 7:47  
 William Burgess, 7:55  
 Chester PS, 8:00  
 Leslieville, 8:16  
 Drop off at Blake at 8:22

#### **AM Route CFM0302**

McGregor, 8:21  
 Wilkinson, 8:27  
 Roden, 8:36  
 Drop off at Blake 8:45

#### **PM Route PSN0955**

Blake pick up at 3:35  
 Leslieville, 3:47  
 Wilkinson, 3:53  
 RH McGregor, 3:58  
 Chester, 4:08  
 William Burgess, 4:12  
 Thorncliffe, 4:18

Thank you for your patience.  
 We will continue to keep you updated as changes occur.

#### **Friday is Orange Shirt Day**

On Friday September 29<sup>th</sup>, students and staff across the TDSB will come together and wear Orange Shirts to recognize the harm that the Residential School System did to First Nations, Metis and Inuit children and to recognize that "Every Child Matters."  
 Orange Shirt Day is a movement that officially began in 2013 but in reality it began in 1973 when six year old Phyllis Webstad entered the St. Joseph Mission residential School outside of Williams Lake, BC. The date, September 30, was chosen because that was the time of the year the trucks and buses would enter the communities to "collect" the children and deliver them to their harsh new reality of cultural assimilation, abuse, shame and deprivation. The impact of residential schools affects every Canadian. (Bob Joseph, Working Effectively with Indigenous Peoples, 2015).

Honouring this day shows our commitment to Reconciliation. Students will be encouraged to wear an orange t Shirt, and classes will be discussing the impact of residential schools in

developmentally appropriate and meaningful ways.

#### **Date; to Remember**

**Week of September 25:** Cat 4 and Universal Screening

**September 27 :** Terry Fox Run, 1:00

**September 28:** Curriculum Night

September 29 – Orange Tshirt day

**October 5:** Pizza Lunch and Spirit

Day (wear your Blake gear)

**October 6 – Pa Day**

**October 9 :** Thanksgiving

**October 12:** Grade 1-3 English to YP

**October 13:** Grades 1-3 French to YPT

**October 20:** Photo Day

**October 27:** Pizza Lunch