

UPCOMING EVENTS

Churchill Public School

188 Churchill Avenue

Toronto, ON M2N 1Z5

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Principal: Laura Slater Superintendent: Linda Curtis Trustee: Alexander Brown

<http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/churchill/>

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Monday, January 5, 2015

- Back to school

Friday, January 9

- Winter Walk to School Day
- Pajama Day
- Character Education Assembly, 9:10 a.m.

Friday, January 16

- Pizza Lunch

Friday, January 23

- PA Day – no school

Friday, January 30

- Colour House T-shirt day
- School Council Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
- Pizza Lunch

Thursday, February 5

- Prologue: Chris McKhool Fiddle Fire, 12:55 p.m.

Wednesday, February 11

- Term 1 Report Cards go home

Thursday, February 12

- Parent/Teacher Conferences to 8:00 p.m.

Friday, February 13

- PA Day – no school
- Parent/Teacher Conferences, AM

Monday, February 16

- Family Day Holiday – school closed

Wednesday, February 18

- Churchill's Science Night

A warm thank you is extended to all families who contributed to our Food Drive, Book Drive, and the Women's Shelter; your generosity is appreciated far and wide. Thank you to all parents who continue to volunteer at Churchill: your support with our pizza days and decorations this month, along with field trips and class help is appreciated.

Congratulations to all students for two wonderful holiday assemblies. Between the classes and the choir, these were occasions to be remembered. Many thanks to all the teachers who worked hard to bring the concerts together, from practices to stage assembly. Remember: we are gearing up for our School Show next!

Winter Walk to School Day

On Friday, January 9th, Churchill PS will encourage all students to walk to school. Between 8:30 and 8:55, anyone spotted walking to school will receive an "I WALK" sticker. Winter Walk to School Day was originally encouraged by Green Communities Canada to promote safe communities, a healthy lifestyle, and a sense of community. Any parents/caregivers interested in helping to hand out stickers are asked to meet with Ms. Porter on Thursday, January 8th at 8:30 a.m. in room 6. Let's see everyone walking on January 9th!

Play Structure: The play structure in the school yard is closed for the season, 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. With the ground frozen and the plastic slick, the structure is too dangerous to use during the winter. Kindergarten Yards: The fenced play areas that lead into the kindergarten classrooms are closed before and after school. At no time may older students use these yards, and no one is to be in these areas without direct teacher supervision. Supervision Before and After School: Teacher supervisors are in the school yard from 8:40 a.m. and until 3:45 p.m. However, kindergarten students must ALWAYS be supervised by caregivers. It is also expected that caregivers *directly* supervise their children beginning at 3:30 every day in all areas including the play structure, field, tarmac, and parking lot.

Winter Clothes: Students must always dress according to the weather conditions. All students are expected to be outside during morning and afternoon recesses (15 minutes each) and during lunch (35 minutes), except in extreme weather conditions. All students must wear snow pants during recesses, and students will be sent off the snowy field if they are not wearing them. Parents/Guardians are reminded to send an extra pair of indoor shoes to school; a complete extra set of clothing is recommended.

Library

"Libraries are necessary gardens, unsurpassed at growing excitement" – J. Patrick Lewis. Churchill PS extends a very heartfelt thank you to Uncle D., whose contributions to Churchill over the years are immeasurable. Uncle D. put his special artistic touches on our beautiful new library, and we can attribute much of the library's warmth and character to his painted murals. Thank you!

Parking:

All cars parked in areas other than parking spots are not to be left without a driver. **Emergency vehicles** must always have access to the lots and other cars must always be able to leave their spots. Please refer to the recent notice sent home about parking on the streets around Churchill PS. There will be a need to have cars tagged and/or towed in the new year should cars continue to be parked in handicap spots, in areas blocking other cars, along the fence line in the new, east parking lot, or in other inappropriate/illegal places. **At NO TIME shall a child be let out of a car while on a main street.**

Attendance:

Please remember to call the school if your child is absent. It is imperative that children arrive to school on time; our first bell rings at 8:55 and all students enter the building within the following few minutes, in order to be prepared for opening exercises at 9:00. Remember that the number of times a student is late or absent in a school year is indicated on their permanent report card.

Intramurals

The month of December saw the champions crowned for both our primary and junior intramural activities. In our primary indoor soccer championship, congratulations go to both the red and black houses for winning the championship. After two matches that both ended in ties, both houses were declared champions! In our junior pass and catch final, the orange house narrowly defeated the black house to take home the championship. Special thanks go to all Churchill Athletic Members who volunteered their time to help run our intramural activities. Intramurals will start up again in January!

Interscholar Athletics

December was a busy month for the boys' volleyball team and the girls' basketball teams. The boys' volleyball team made it all the way to the TDESAA North Region semi-final before being defeated by Brian PS in a very tight match! Our girls' basketball teams also were in action in December. The highlight for both teams had to be the game when the two played each other in an extremely tight match, which was decided by a last-second basket! Congratulations to all members of both teams for their hard work and effort during the season. Students can look forward to girls' volleyball and boys' basketball in January.
-Mr. Lee

Stay Healthy During Flu Season

Flu season is here again. In Canada, flu season tends to run between October and April. The Ontario government is encouraging Ontarians to avoid getting sick this flu season by getting their annual flu shot. Toronto Public Health is recommending that whenever students and staff experience flu-like symptoms, they are sent home and do not return to school until they are no longer infectious to others. Therefore, ill students and staff members should be symptom-free (especially from vomiting and diarrhea) for at least 48 hours before returning to school.

The primary concern is the health and safety of all students and staff members. Please note that no special measures are required when there is a case of influenza in a school or daycare. However, everyone should do their part to stop the spread of the flu. As parents, you can also assist by:

- Reminding children to wash their hands often, especially after using the washroom and before and after eating;
- Reminding children to cover their sneeze and cough with their arm;
- Watching for symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness, and/or high fever;
- Informing the school if your child is ill;
- Keeping your child at home when he/she is ill.

For more information, please visit the Toronto Public Health website, www.toronto.ca/health, or contact your family doctor or Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000.