

# Cosburn Middle School Newsletter

March 2014 Newsletter



Office Administrator:  
Heather King

Office Staff: Adrienne Laht

Guidance: Claudio Daniele

School Council Co-Chairs:

Ossama El Sarraff

Kit Hollingworth

Superintendent:

Mike Gallagher

Trustee: Cathy Dandy

520 Cosburn Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4J2P1

Phone: (416) 396-2335

Fax: (416) 396-2278

E-mail:

[cosburnms@gmail.com](mailto:cosburnms@gmail.com)

Website:

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/cosburn>

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ PA Day, March 7
- ◆ March Break, March 10-14
- ◆ International Women's Day, March 8
- ◆ Time Change, March 9
- ◆ World Water and Forest Day, March 22
- ◆ Cosburn Earth Hour, March 28
- ◆ WWF Earth Hour, March 29 from 7:30 to 8:30 pm
- ◆ Easter Weekend, April 18-21
- ◆ Earth Day, April 22

## Student Safety

Parents, Guardians and Students are all reminded that we each play a role in helping to keep our students safe. Please take a moment to review with your child the safe use of the internet and appropriate communication with you when after school plans change.

When dropping students off, please do not use the staff parking lot, the bus loading zone or the east side of Durant Avenue. Reinforce with your child(ren) the importance of using the crosswalks or signal lights on Cosburn Avenue.

When you are sending notes to inform the school that your child needs to leave before the end of the instructional day, **the notes must come to the office.** Please be sure to call the safe arrival number **(416) 396-2339** if your child is absent. **Our office staff must be informed by parents of absences.**

## Grade 8 Trip

The Grade 8 teachers are organizing an overnight excursion to Ottawa and Montreal May 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>. The cost will be \$399.00. A parent information night took place on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. All forms and information have been sent home in both paper and electronic formats.

Our goal is for 100% participation in this trip. We do understand that some families will be experiencing difficulty and we are establishing means to help. If you do require financial assistance, please contact Ms. Munro or Mr. Langevine (416) 396-2335 to discuss. We also ask that if you are able and willing to contribute more to help other students go, please let us know as well. Any help is greatly appreciated.

We will be holding fundraising initiatives here at school, and the result of those endeavours will be reflected in the final payment price. Parents will be notified of any price changes, well in advance.

Troy Langevine, Principal  
Catherine Munro, Vice-Principal



## Grade 8 Transition Information

Congratulations Grade 8 students and families! You have persevered and we have made it through the most critical part of our Choices for Nine program...making a choice!

With approximately 200 Grade 8 students at Cosburn, we have a number of students who have been accepted to such specialized schools and programs as Rosedale Heights School of the Arts, Wexford CI School of the Arts, Danforth C&TI MaST, Monarch PK IB, Birchmount BEAP, Bloor CI TOPS, Northern Secondary and others. Many of our students have opted to pursue opportunities at Leaside HS, East York Collegiate, Danforth C&TI, and Monarch PK CI. I am confident that all the hard work that teachers, parents and students have dedicated to learning, exploring, meeting, advocating, and sharing, have contributed to the informed decisions made by all.

Special thanks to the Grade 8 teachers who guided students during the process of transition to Grade 9. Our learners are truly in good hands. Most of all, thank you to the students who have shone throughout this endeavour. They have learned about high schools by attending Open House evenings; using MyBlueprint to set goals and complete Exploration modules to support decisions; investigating school programs and so much more. They have wowed us! Great job Grade 8's!

In closing, we still have other transition activities ahead as our school year progresses. It is important that our students continue to work hard academically, to make connections and participate in school life at Cosburn MS, so that these good habits will follow them to high school. Finish strong!

## Olympic Spirit at Cosburn

Here at Cosburn we have been very engaged in the Sochi Olympics. Each day during the Olympics, there were student news reporters on the announcements. In classrooms, students tackled math problems of Olympic proportions and learned about the history of the Olympic movement.

On Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, all students were placed into a country team and we had our own Cosburn Opening Ceremonies. On Wednesday, the school came together to cheer on our women's hockey team as they won gold! The atrium was alive with national pride on Friday as we watched the men's USA versus Canada hockey game. Congratulations to those students who won VIP seating during this exciting event.

Friday was to have been our own winter activity day but just like the real Olympics, they were delayed due to weather conditions to Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Icy conditions on Monday resulted in the events being moved indoors. Each country competed in a number of events including luge, hockey, and team ski events. Our Cosburn Olympics concluded with closing ceremonies in the afternoon.

Grade 8 student leaders were dedicated to ensuring all students had fun and participated. It was fantastic to see all staff and students come together in the spirit of good sportsmanship during our Olympic days!

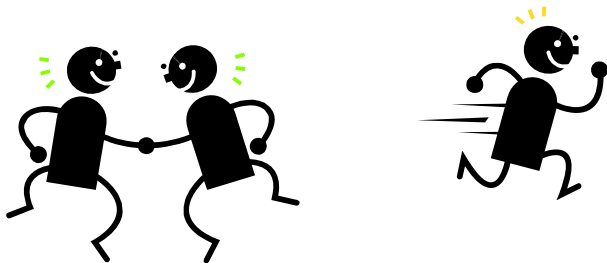


## Cosburn Family Health and Wellness Night

On the evening of February 27<sup>th</sup> the Cosburn school community came together to learn about health and wellness for teens and their families.

The evening featured a panel of speakers for parents. Our thanks to Carolyn Hay, Registered Dietician, Toronto East General Hospital, Patty Hayes, Manager of Counselling, Family Support and Parenting Programs, YouthLink and Ted Temertzoglou, VP Teacher/Student Success at Thompson Educational Publishing.

While the parents were engaged in the atrium,



Mr. Wolch, Ms. Solomon, Mr. Ryan and Ms. Raffik taught the students a new fitness circuit. The night ended by parents joining in the fitness activities in the gym. Overall, it was a great opportunity for each member of our community to take an active role in helping our students become healthy, active teens.

A number of our teachers also setup demonstrations and displays to help both parents and students understand the positive health impacts of being actively involved in clubs and teams. Thanks to Mr. Malisani for his technical support and his Legorobotics demonstration, Mme. Sezer and her Ecoteam for their interactive station, Ms. Tuff for showcasing the library as well as to Mr. Wolch, Mr. Ryan, Ms. Solomon and Ms. Raffik for their excellent activities in the gym.

This event was jointly hosted by our Parent Council and Home & School. Thank you to all volunteers who helped make this night possible.

## General Reminders

- ◆ Grade 6 Students are not to be leaving school property at lunch unless they are going home.
- ◆ Grade 7 and 8 students who have parental permission may eat at the neighbouring restaurants may do so. No students are to be visiting restaurants along Coxwell Avenue or the Civic Centre cafeteria during lunch.

Safe arrival calls should be made to (416) 396-2339. This is a 24 hour phoneline.

**ALL VISITORS TO COSBURN, INCLUDING VOLUNTEERS, ARE TO SIGN IN AND OUT WITH THE OFFICE.**

## We're on the Web!

Visit us at <http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/cosburn>

Follow us on Twitter: @CosburnMS

Join our email list: [cosburnms@gmail.com](mailto:cosburnms@gmail.com)

(Please be sure to include your child's full name and class in your message)

## Ecoteam News



The Ecoteam continues to tirelessly advocate for the environment as Cosburn goes for platinum status this year.

In March and April, there will be a number of events our school community will be participating in.

On March 6<sup>th</sup> at lunchtime, the Ecoteam will conduct a waste audit in the cafeteria. All students are asked to bring a litterless lunch that day and to take home any waste they might generate that day. This is an important part of the Eco-certification process, so we ask that all students take part.

Two of our Grade 6 classrooms have taken the Canadian Geographic Energy Pledge. Cosburn parents are also asked to support these classrooms by signing up to support the **Cosburn Ecostars** at [www.energydiet.canadiangeographic.ca/2014/main/pledge/2734](http://www.energydiet.canadiangeographic.ca/2014/main/pledge/2734) and the **Lightening Riders** at [www.energydiet.canadiangeographic.ca/2014/main/classroom/2735/lightening-riders](http://www.energydiet.canadiangeographic.ca/2014/main/classroom/2735/lightening-riders)

Earth Hour will be observed at Cosburn on March 28th from 2 to 3 pm. We challenge all of the Cosburn Community to join in Earth Hour on March 29th from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. Local events can be found at [www.wwf.ca/events/earthhour/](http://www.wwf.ca/events/earthhour/)

Cosburn will also be observing Earth Day on April 22nd. More information about Earth Day can be found at [www.earthday.ca/](http://www.earthday.ca/)

## From the Library



The Cosburn Library continues to be a very busy place. At any time of day, it buzzes with students using the computers or iPads, researching a project, completing homework or sharing a book with a friend. It is fantastic to see so many students engaged in learning in our library. Thank you Ms. Tuff and your team of volunteers for your hard work to keep our library running so smoothly.

**The Forest of Reading** Cosburn readers have been very enthusiastic about the Forest of Reading. Please encourage your children to participate as there is something for everyone (French, Fiction and Non-Fiction). In order to

vote, students have to read 5 of the 10 books by April 1<sup>st</sup>. After they read their first book, they will be given a passport in order to record their books. Many students have started to fill-up their passports. My school Virtual Library: <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Findyour/Schools/LibraryCat.aspx?schoolno=1521>



## Lost Something?

The Lost and Found has been overflowing lately. Next time you are in the school, take a moment to check for your students belongings. Be sure to label your child's lunch bag, water bottles and gym clothing so they are easy to return if lost. Thanks to the parent volunteers who have been helping keep the lost and found organized.



## Dress Code

Since school is our students' work environment, we expect that they dress appropriately. Non-religious head gear is not to be worn in school. Students are expected to dress in a manner that is neither offensive nor distracting. Clothing must not be too revealing. Clothing which leaves undergarments visible is not acceptable.