Great Turnout for Resiliency Workshop

On February 15th, in partnership with Toronto Public Health, we were thrilled to offer an important workshop for parents and families. The workshop entitled "Helping Your Child Do Well in Life—Understanding Resiliency" was presented by Ms. Cary Hui, a public health nurse with the city of Toronto. Parents who attended, learned about some ways that they can support their children develop healthy attitudes by modeling positive coping strategies, building caring relationships and encouraging a strong sense of self and well-being. It was a wonderful learning opportunity for everyone involved! Thanks so much to all who attended.

Kindergarten Information Night—February 6th

On February 6th, we opened our doors for a wonderful evening about our Kindergarten program. Some of our staff was present to talk about what the JK experience looks like and feels like. Thank you to everyone who came out to learn more about how to support our children for their first schooling experience. Here are some highlights that were shared with our community:

Social/Emotional Development

• Encourage your child to persist in tasks when encountering a problem by giving him or her tasks slightly above his or her current ability level. When your child cannot find a solution on his own, encourage him to calmly ask for help.
• Play board games to practise taking turns.
• Set up several play dates with friends of various ages.
• Allow your child to stay with other trusted adults for a few hours at a time prior to kindergarten (especially if he or she has rarely been in the care of someone other than mom and dad).

Language Development

• Verbally give your child specific one-step and two-step directions and encourage him or her to follow through.
• Read to your child for a combined total of at least 20 minutes each day.
• While reading, point out how to hold a book (right-side up with the spine on the left) and the orientation in which we read the words and look at the pictures (left to right).
• After reading, ask your child what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story.
Sing it Out for Davisville!

Congratulations to Davisville for their outstanding success at the 2017 Kiwanis Music Festival. Davisville choirs entered 4 choral classes and were awarded 4 Platinum Awards. After months of preparation and rehearsals, our students were truly ready to take the stage and compete against some of the best school choirs in the city. Their hard work and dedication during many early morning and lunch rehearsals showed wonderful results. This year adjudicators, Linda Baupree, Jim Sparks and Susan Quinn were applauding our choirs for having a great focus, good breath preparation, wonderful musicality and artistic expression in all of their performances. Congratulations to every Davisville chorister who represented our school so well - we are all very proud of you! Thank you to all of the Davisville staff, parents and families who came to watch and support us.

Mrs. Konjhodzic

If You Missed the Performances (Or Want to Watch Them Again)...

Here are all three days online in private videos! You can watch & share the links with your family via email, but do not attempt to embed or download please. Some families also ordered DVDs that were already delivered. There are a few extras, please contact Tanya Murdoch if you’d like to get one ($10 /DVD) ms.tanyamurdoch@gmail.com All profits go to support the school.

Grade 2/3 Choir performances at Kiwanis (about 5:00 min):  
https://vimeo.com/tmurdoch/kiwanis2017feb08  
password: Wednesday

Junior Choir first performances (about 6:00 min):  
https://vimeo.com/tmurdoch/kiwanis2017jrchoir1  
password: Friday

Junior Choir second and third performances (about 15 min):  
https://vimeo.com/tmurdoch/kiwanis2017jrchoir2  
password: Tuesday
February Was a Time to Learn About…

Teachers Attend Junior Literacy Workshop

On February 23rd, some of our teachers attended a workshop about literacy. Thank you to Julia Atkins our Learning Coach who organized this professional development opportunity for our staff. We all appreciated learning and discussing important ideas related to literacy in the context of curriculum.

Officer Janet Helps Us Learn About Safety

Our school community learned so much during the week of February 13th to February 23rd as some classes learned about internet safety, cyber-bullying, street safety and community helpers. Officer Janet spoke to many classes about the importance of safety in various contexts. The students participated in interactive discussions, watched videos and listened to Officer Janet speak about staying safe.

Skate Night – A Huge Success!

On February 10th, our awesome community came together for a lovely evening of skating and fun. The snowfall created a delightful scenic backdrop for our families who came out for this great event. Families also enjoyed some snacks such as baked goods and hot chocolate provided by our parents. Thanks to everyone for making this Skate Night so memorable!
February was a busy month at Davisville as we learned about important people who helped shape our Canadian history. In honour of Black History Month, Lula from Mme Bogner’s class did a wonderful morning announcement about Viola Davis. Do you know who Viola Desmond was?

Here is what Lula shared with us over the announcements: “Viola Desmond was a black woman from Nova Scotia who fought for social justice. She was born in 1914 in Halifax. She was discriminated against in a movie theatre—she sat in an area that was for white people only. As a result of this, Viola was arrested. But Viola stood up against this terrible situation and because of this, she is a true heroine!”

Bravo Lula for doing such a great job talking about Viola Desmond. Indeed, her act of courage is a reminder that it is important to stand up against intolerance. We are proud of you for reminding us about this important Canadian history maker.

In February, we also learned about the character trait of fairness. Through daily morning announcements, we discussed the importance of fairness in our daily lives. What does fairness mean to you? Here are some things that we discussed:

Fairness is when you treat people that you want to be treated. It is also when you think about how your actions can affect others. Taking turns, playing by the rules, having an open mind and not being judgmental are all great examples of exhibiting fairness.

The Importance of Mindfulness

A Minute for Mindfulness

Mindfulness is the meditative practice of being “present”. Bringing more awareness to your daily activities reduces stress and anxiety and helps calm a busy brain. Try taking one minute to focus on your breathing and body movements while doing an everyday task like brushing your teeth, combing your hair or walking up the stairs!

To learn more join us for our free workshop, Moving Through Mindfulness on April 25 at 6:30pm. Contact lesley@dailyapple.ca to register!

“Mindfulness is simply being aware of what is happening right now without wishing it were different; enjoying the pleasant without holding on when it changes (which it will); being with the unpleasant without fearing it will always be this way (which it won’t).”

– James Baraz
Congratulations to our French Speech Contest Participants

Davisville was proud to host its 4th annual French Speech Arts competition on February 8th, 2017, for students in M. Ross, Mme. Cenac-Lopes, and M. Bell's junior classes. We'd like to give special thanks to all students, parents, and staff who supported this event. Judges selected the 1st place recipient, Cleo Craft-Holloway (grade 6), who will represent our school at the TDSB competition on March 27th. Special acknowledgement to Teos Vaccaro (grade 5), for his second place finish. We also celebrate the strong performances of the following finalists: Lauren Millar (grade 6), Evan Edgell (grade 5), Zoe DiRisio (grade 4), and Cameron Sasu (grade 4). Excellent effort from our junior division!

Visitors from Uganda

On Tuesday March 28th, our school hosted a visit delegates from Uganda. We were so pleased to welcome Mr. Mukwana Andrew who is a principal at Munyonyo in the capital city of Kampala and Ms. Baky who is a nurse and elementary teacher in Uganda.

Thank you Madame Cenac for showing our guests around the school and to our staff for hosting our visitors into their classes. Our guests commented on how engaged and happy our students appeared to be during their classroom observations. All in all, it was a wonderful visit and successful tour— we are so proud of our school!

From Chris (Our Snack Man)

Please note that there will be no morning snacks provided for our students the week that we come back from March break (week of March 20th). We ask families to ensure that snacks from home will be provided during this time.

Our snack program will resume the week of March 27th.

Thank you for your understanding!

Important Dates:

Pizza Lunch
Friday March 10th

March Break - No School-March 13th to March 17th

Lice Check
March 27th

NSRT Meeting
March 23rd 6:30 pm

Future Pizza Lunch Dates
Friday March 24th
Friday April 7th

Earth Week
Tuesday April 18th to Friday April 21st

Other Updates

School Cash Online

In the past couple of weeks emails and a paper copy have gone home requesting parents to sign up for School Cash Online. After the March Break, Davisville will be using this system proactively. Parents who have not yet registered are therefore requested to do so immediately.

Davisville Junior Public School
Principal: Shona Farrelly
Vice Principal: Cecile Robertson
Superintendent: Ian Allison
Trustee: Shelley Laskin
School Website: http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/davisville
Twitter: @DavisvillePS

Toronto District School Board
Website: http://www.tdsb.on.ca