



Dundas Public School
935 Dundas St. E.
Toronto, Ontario
January 2018



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

January is here! Happy New Year!! We look forward to a wonderful year filled with success and goodwill. We hope that everyone has had a happy holiday with family and friends. We are thrilled to have two new classrooms converted into full day kindergarten rooms. We are thankful of the support of our Trustee Jennifer Story, our Superintendent John Chasty and the Dundas Parent Council. Check out these rooms!



Our extended French application process is open and if you would like to apply to the grade 4 extended French program at Dundas PS and your child is in grade three please go to www.tdsb.on.ca/pars. The application process is open from Jan. 8 2018 to Feb. 8, 2018. If you would like to get more information on the French programs in the TDSB please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/French

There are many extra-curricular activities that are continuing such as morning reading club (K-5). On Thursday after school and Tuesday at lunch, our Swim Club is taking place for grades 3-5 at Queen Alexandra MS. As well, on Monday and Friday the Girls Volleyball Team meets at 8am in our Gym. Then we have our junior boys basketball team practicing at lunchtime on Tuesday and Thursday.

We will end the month with our teamwork assembly and spirit day for January 31st, 2018. Our spirit day will be to wear a shirt or any attire for a favourite sports team.

Finally, Westwood Middle School 994 Carlaw Ave. (grades 6-8) will be hosting an open house on Tues. Jan. 16, 2018 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm in Gym A. And Queen Alexandra Middle School (grades 6-8) will be having their open house on January 24, 2018 6:30pm and more information will be shared with our grade five students.



Winter Weather and Student Transportation

From time to time, it may be necessary to cancel student transportation, classes and/or programs due to severe weather. On rare occasions, severe weather makes it necessary to close schools, administrative offices or sites.

With approximately 246,000 students in our schools and sites each day, any decision to cancel buses, classes and/ or programs or to close sites can have a significant impact on thousands of families across Toronto. This decision is not taken lightly. When schools remain open on days with inclement weather, parents/guardians make the final decision on whether to send their children to school and they can keep children home from school if they so choose.

Should a cancellation or closure be necessary, information will be posted on the TDSB website, TDSB social media and provided to local media by 6 a.m. In the event that severe winter weather forces the cancellation of transportation services, parents are advised to listen to major radio stations such as 680News, CFRB, CFTR, CBC, CHUM, KISS FM < CKEY, CRRM, Q107, KISS92, FAN 590, 98.1 CHFI & The Weather Network for up-to-date accurate information or check the TDSB website at www.tdsb.on.ca

RECESS DURING COLD WEATHER



Principals are often asked how we decide whether it's too cold to allow our students out in the schoolyard for recess.

Fresh air and exercise are important for children. It keeps them physically fit, and helps them stay alert all through the school day. Parents can help by making sure their children come to school prepared to spend time outdoors. Hats, mitts, boots and a warm jacket are important to keep students comfortable during lunch and recess.

But extreme cold can be dangerous, and parents want to know that their children will be safe. When the temperature is predicted to drop below -15C, the City of Toronto may declare a cold weather alert. Schools are very sensitive to the needs of our students and will pay close attention to the weather.

The TDSB Severe Weather Protocol is flexible, so that every principal can make a decision that meets the needs of his or her school. It sets guidelines for when to allow students outside for recess, when to make outdoor breaks shorter, and when to keep students inside altogether.

Canadian winters can be wonderful but when the weather is cold, school staff keep one eye on the thermometer and the other on the needs of our students - a perfect balance of fun and safety.

Elementary school students are kept indoors for recess and lunch times for a number of weather conditions such as rain, lightning in the area, extreme winds and extreme cold. When temperature and wind chill measure -15C or lower, students may be kept indoors. As well, recesses and lunch hour may be shortened if the temperature and wind chill reading is between -10C and -15C.

If a student's medical condition requires further consideration due to weather conditions, or if parents have other questions or concerns about how and when weather conditions affect your child's school day, please contact the school office.

Please remember to bring your indoor shoes to school, and remember that running shoes will probably be best – for gym as well as other activities including fire drills and other kinds of emergencies make running shoes more practical if students need to exit the school in a hurry.



TRAFFIC SAFETY TIPS: HELP MAKE THIS A SAFE WINTER SEASON



Now that winter is here, we know that severe weather will be part of our daily lives for the next few months. While traffic safety is an important matter all year long, this is a particularly good time to review what we can do to keep students safe.

The need to be aware and alert at all times, on any road, and even in the most routine circumstances is key to traffic safety. This applies to students and drivers alike. Road conditions can be challenging in the winter months. So to those of us who drive, please take extra care on the roads and in parking lots, especially in areas where children might be present.

School staff periodically review street and traffic safety with students. Parents can help reinforce these safety messages with children at home. Below are some tips that might be helpful to review.

- Stop, look, and listen for traffic.
- Only cross at corners and crosswalks.
- Make eye contact with drivers.
- Walk on the right side of the crosswalk.
- Wear appropriate footwear to reduce the chances of slipping.
- Never run into the street.
- Obey crossing signals.
- Cross only if clear.
- Walk on sidewalks.
- Where there are no sidewalks, walk as far away from traffic as possible, facing traffic.

The safety of our students is always a top priority. Let's work together to make the winter season safe so we can enjoy all it has to offer.



FEBRUARY IS KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION MONTH

Kindergarten is the first step in a lifelong journey that will see your child learn, grow, and succeed at the Toronto District School Board. We look forward to sharing this journey with you and your child.

To attend Junior Kindergarten in September, children must be four-years-old by December 31 2018. For registration in Senior Kindergarten, children must be five-years-old by December 31.

Please call the school at 416-393-9565 to make an appointment to complete an application. We will be registering on Feb. 21 and 22 2018 by appointment. Please also let friends and neighbours know that we will be registering students in February and an appointment must be made. **For more information, please visit tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan. 16 – Westwood MS Open House 6:30pm

Jan. 19 – PA Day

Jan. 22 – Caring and Safe School Mtg 11:30am

Jan. 24–Queen Alexandra MS Open House 6:30 pm

Jan. 31 – Teamwork Assembly/Spirit Day- 10:20 am