



**Dundas Public School**  
**935 Dundas St. E.**  
**Toronto, Ontario**  
ff  
**January 2017**



### 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. There have been many changes that took place over the holidays as First Nations moved into its new location. Given our increase in student numbers, the rooms next door will become available for Dundas PS as we grow. This month we will have our extended French information night on Tues. Jan. 17, 2017 at 6pm in the Gym. This is a great opportunity for parents whose children are in grade three and would like to learn more about the grade 4 extended French program at Dundas PS. **If you would like to get more information on the French programs in the TDSB please visit [www.tdsb.on.ca/French](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/French). 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](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/pars). The application process is open from Jan. 9 2017 to Feb. 2, 2017.**

There are many extra-curricular activities that are continuing such as morning reading club (K-5). On Monday after school and Friday at lunch, our Swim Club is taking place for grades 3-5 at Queen Alexandra MS. As well, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the Girls Volleyball Team meets after school in our Gym. We have our junior co-ed basketball team practicing at lunchtime on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. And this year

we will have two chess clubs happening at lunchtime – primary and junior.

### LUNAR NEW YEAR: YEAR OF THE ROOSTER



Chinese New Year will be celebrated on Jan. 25, 2017 at Dundas Public School with an assembly at 9:15am. All our children will have an opportunity to enjoy a traditional Chinese meal through our hot lunch program. We hope you can join us for our assembly as we will have the Queen Alexandra Lion Dancers perform under the guidance of Master Ian Chow. Students from the Mandarin International Language will also present songs. As well we will also have students performing Chinese fan dancing.

We will end the month with our teamwork assembly and spirit day for January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 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 Wed. Jan. 18, 2017 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 25, 2017 6:30pm and more information will be shared with our grade five students.



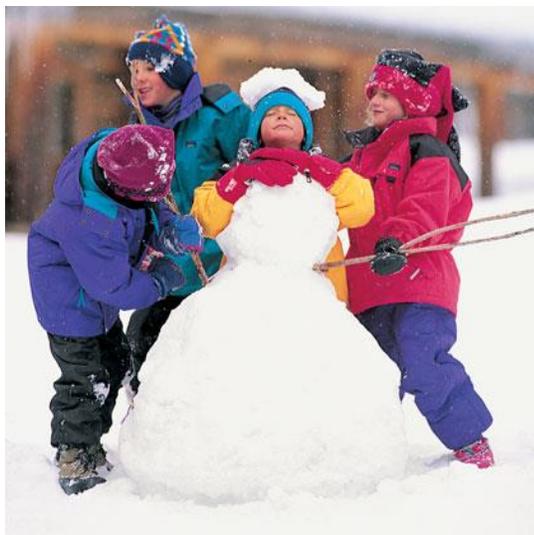
## **SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM: AUTOMATED SYSTEM**

One measure of keeping students safe is ensuring students have safely arrived at school. It is important that if your child is going to be absent or late for any reason, you contact the office in advance and report the absence/late and the reason. You can leave a message on the Safe Arrival line 24 hours a day (416) 393-9565.

If there is no report of an absence, we will make attempts to contact you to determine the reason for the absence through our automated Safe Arrival Program. The automated Safe Arrival system will mean that you will be contacted more quickly than is currently possible with a manual system. It's important that if you receive a call from our automated system to listen and follow the prompts. If the prompts are not completed, the system will continue calling.

We recognize that regular attendance is essential to the safety, academic success, and well-being of all students. Thank you for your continued cooperation with keeping your child safe and accounted for.

## **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 pay close attention to the weather, especially when the wind-chill is below -20 C.

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 -20C or lower, students are kept indoors. Recesses and lunch hour may be shortened if the temperature and wind chill reading is between -15C and -20C.

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.



In the event that severe winter weather forces the cancellation of transportation services or closure of schools, 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](http://www.tdsb.on.ca).

### IMPORTANT!! FOOD ALLERGIES



We have students who have severe food allergies and may have anaphylactic reactions to nuts. Please do not send lunches or snacks with any nut products into the school. Please read all food labels carefully.  
Thank you for your understanding.

### 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.

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



## **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 2017. 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. 22 and 23 2017 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](http://tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten).**

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Jan. 17 – Extended French Info Night 6pm –**

**Jan. 18 – Westwood MS Open House 6:30pm**

**Jan. 25–Queen Alexandra MS Open House  
6:30 pm**

**Jan. 20 – PA Day**

**Jan. 25 – Chinese New Year Assembly 9:15am**