



Anastasia Poulis  
Principal

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## Newsletter - December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### Holiday in the Hood - A Thank You from the Committee

A big thank you to everyone who pitched in to make Holiday in the Hood a success for our community and for our yard fundraising this year. Thank you to everyone who attended - we hoped you enjoyed the food, craft sale, kids-only room and Santa photos.

We want to acknowledge: the fabulous bakers and cooks, the tireless volunteers who gave their time and muscle, the student volunteers, the vendors (both adult and kids!), and our fantastic photographer, Denni Russel.

Of course, we need to send a shout out to Santa and Mrs. Claus for taking time out of their busy winter schedule to visit us at Earl Beatty. Thanks Claire and Jackie for their patience in the office and to Greg, Patty and Stephanie from caretaking. Thanks to Beatty Buddies for letting us share your space, and to Davidson's Valumart and Red Rocket coffee for your donations.

Our biggest thanks to you all!

Laura, Alison, Jill, Kathy, Pauline, Tulla and Zenobia

## Watch Hard & Rock Hard for Our Yard & Ugly Sweater Raffle

Our second "Watch Hard for our Yard" Movie Night is taking place this Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Please return your order forms as soon as possible. Earl Beatty shirts and hats will be sold at Movie Night, as well as Ugly Sweater Raffle tickets, available for \$1 each, with all proceeds going to the Yard Project. Come out and support our Yard Project and have some fun with the Earl Beatty community in the process. We hope to see you there!

**Rock Hard for our Yard** - A parent band night and silent auction, is taking place on Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, at Eton House. The night features Earl Beatty parents in bands, plus silent auction items. For tickets, email: ebyardcommittee@gmail.com

Due to the incredible work of our volunteers and the generosity of our community, **we are more than halfway to our goal of \$100,000!** There are many ways to be involved in the campaign. To find out more regarding volunteering or donating, email: ebyardcommittee@gmail.com

## Update from Transportation Services

As the system slowly recovers from the driver shortage, an on-going concern continues around late bus notification of parents with children on passenger buses. Parents can check the late bus portal at: <https://www.torontoschoolbus.org/> and/or parents may contact the school since the carrier should notify the school of the bus's status. Thank you for your patience with this process.

## Partnerships and Activities in Support of Student Well-Being

We have had the fortune of having several initiatives supported by members of the Board, as well as members of our wonderful staff. Michelle Cho, from the **TDSB Gender-Based Violence Team**, participated in an active session this past week with the **Student Council** and **Rainbow Alliance**, to provide support and build strategies to create an environment of inclusion and acceptance at the school. Mr. Nore and Mr. Reyes have done a wonderful job of leading the Rainbow Alliance at the school and have provided several opportunities for students to experience opportunities of leadership and learning. Ms. David, Mme. Loubier and Ms. Melino have been actively leading our Student Council, meeting every Friday and creating and organizing activities such as Spirit Days, to build a sense of community throughout the school. Heather Johnson, the **Mental Health and Well-Being System Leader** for the TDSB, is working in partnership with our

Intermediate Team to create a **Mental Health and Well-Being Symposium** at the school, taking place in the spring.

**Sharing assemblies** each month are being presented with a focus on mindfulness and breathing exercises, to provide strategies for students to use when they are working through challenging situations. **PALS** (Playground Activity Leaders - in the school), a child leadership initiative to help reduce bullying through physical activity, is starting up in the next few weeks - thank you to Mr. Briggs for his leadership with this initiative. Mme. Ristic and Mme. Lenehan, as well as Mr. Rumball, attended training sessions last week and will be starting "**Young Women on the Move**", and "**Boys2Men**" groups, to support the development of students in grades 3 to 6, focused on social development and building an understanding of empathy and strengthening resiliency skills.

Through the efforts of our community of educators, we continue to build a sense of belonging and well-being at the school and community level. Thank you to everyone involved in these many initiatives.

### **Big Brothers and Big Sisters**

The Big Brothers and Big Sisters Organization has been coaching and mentoring our intermediate students over an 8-week course, designed as a combination of fun activities and opportunities for discussions related to healthy living and making positive choices. It has been a fantastic opportunity for students to build a sense of belonging and make connections in an environment that allows for growth and understanding. Thank you to the volunteers who worked with the groups the past number of weeks.

### **Kids Have Stress Too Workshop - Date Change**

Our **Kids Have Stress Too Workshop** will be taking place in January, being led by Eden Rockett (the school's Toronto Public Health Nurse). Parents have to commit to attend two sessions scheduled for: Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, here at Earl Beatty at 6pm in the library. If you are interested in attending these workshops, please call Jackie Gallos to confirm your spot: 416-393-9070.

### **East Metro Youth Services - FREE Mental Health Counselling Service**

Ms. Rockett attended our most recent School Advisory Council Meeting and provided several resources for families, available through the [Healthy Schools](#) website. It was a great opportunity for parents and family members to hear about the many services available, including the East Metro Services and YouthCan Impact Danforth Walk-In

Counselling Clinic. This is a free mental health counselling service for people ages 0 - 29 and their families. You can walk-in for a counselling session to talk about: Depression, Anxiety, Family Conflict, School/Work stress, Sexual and/or Gender Identity, and Relationships. The Clinic is located at 1871, Danforth Ave., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor. For more information, call: 416-690-1888 or email: [recep\\_danforth@emys.on.ca](mailto:recep_danforth@emys.on.ca)

### **Important Dates**

December 16: "Watch Hard For Our Yard" Movie Night - Finding Dory

December 23: Carol Singing: 9 - 10 am - family members welcome!

January 14: "Rock Hard for Our Yard" - Parent Bands and Silent Auction @ Eton House