



Where – Anything is Possible!

Anastasia Poulis
Principal

David Budd
Vice-Principal

Newsletter – February 24th, 2017

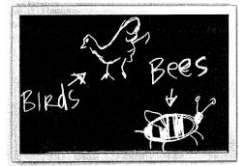
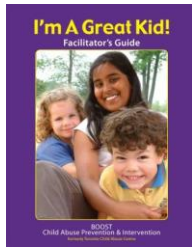
Swim-a-thon - March 3, 2017



On Friday March 3rd students from Grades 1 to 8 will be participating in a Swim-a-thon to raise money for our new schoolyard project. Kindergarten students will be participating in a Swim-a-thon without water on the same day in the afternoon. They will be using pool equipment and toys in creative ways during active relays and games to simulate a swim meet in the gymnasium. Grade 7 and 8 students from Ms. Swire's class will lead the activities and Grade 3 students in Ms. Gerencser's class will act as team leaders.

Please collect pledges from your family and friends and return your pledge envelope to the **Main Office by Thursday March 2nd**. Cash and cheques are accepted. Please make all **cheques payable to Earl Beatty P.S.** Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$25 or more.

A letter detailing the organization of the Swim-a-thon will be sent home closer to the event date. We are 75% of the way to reaching our fundraising goal so **Swim Hard for Our Yard!**



Developing Healthy Relationships at Earl Beatty

To support the learning of expectations as set out by the Ministry of Education in the Physical Health and Education document, we will be welcoming Malca Gaffe, our Sexual Health Educator from Toronto Public Health, to present on the topic of **Raising Sexually Healthy Children**. Ms. Gaffe will be working with our staff during a "Lunch and Learn" on March 7th to support curriculum planning, and offering a workshop to parents on March 22nd. More information regarding the parent workshop is available on the attachment sent with the newsletter.

Another program that will be taking place at Earl Beatty is the BOOST, "*I'm a Great Kid!*" Prevention Program. The program is designed to help children develop and practice skills that lay the foundation for positive, healthy relationships. The goals and activities of the program support the Ministry of Education expectations for students. Activities will include a DVD movie (*I'm A Great Kid!*) and are designed to help build the self-esteem and confidence of children and assist them to make developmentally appropriate choices. The program will also support students in knowing how and where to get help for a problem or a worry. Each program has been designed specifically for students in the primary and junior grades and the language and approach has been tailored to meet their level of understanding and comprehension.



Choir, Choir!

Primary Choirs (Grades 2 and 3) continue to rehearse on Mondays at lunch. We are learning about what makes great singers and choirs: using good posture and breathing techniques along with a nice sound that matches others. We are working on some classical and contemporary repertoire.

Grade 1 Choir - forms will go home the week of April 17th.

Please read the attached "Music Notes" document for more information regarding Ms. Donovan's Music Program for JK to Grade 3 program.



Volley, Set, Spike!

Thank you to Mme. Lenehan, who has been leading the Senior Girls Volleyball Team, as they prepare for their league tournament. The girls (and coach) have been working hard and showing lots of growth during practices, with lots of smiles and high fives throughout the time together. We wish you the best in your games soon to come!



Parents as Partners Conference

The Parents as Partners Conference is on Saturday, April 1 and all parents are welcome! This free conference - planned by parents, for parents - includes a variety of workshops and resources that will help any parent support their child in their achievement and well-being at school and at home. Transportation, childcare, food and translators are all provided. Registration opens in mid-February. Learn more at www.parentsaspartners.ca.

Earl Beatty Now & Then *

Earl Beatty Revisited



10735 Danforth Ave. at Coxwell, looking east. Jan. 11/35.

City of Toronto Archives, Series 71, s0071_t110735

"When you live across the street from the school you attend, it's impossible to separate school from neighbourhood. And since Earl Beatty's school yard was larger than that of St. Brigid's, a block away, it was everybody's playground. It was where all of us - children of English and Irish immigrants alike - somehow resolved and dissolved inherited prejudices of one another with games of baseball, soccer, lacrosse and a game inspired by a sloping ledge along the wall of the school, which sent a hundred hard-rubber ball ricocheting high into the air or through a classroom window. It has been this last sport that caused the authorities to close the schoolyard gates at supertime and force all of us to scale the fence to continue out games into the long summer evenings.

Before I was old enough to become one of the first class in the new Kindergarten at the south end of the school, I used to watch the red-jacketed cadets drill in the school yard. The first World War was still fresh in the minds of our parents and the "Glory of the Empire" was no to be taken lightly.

....And the year was crowned in true British fashion late in June in the same schoolyard with the Garden Fete with its booths of candies and gifts, its class races and coconut shy, and its display of all the children's work inside the school. And it was at the gates of the schoolyard that Barker's Bread Company's horse drawn wagon would stop by occasionally and hand out small blueberry pies to the kids in what must have been a forerunner of today's commercials which get at the parents through their children.

While our memories of Earl Beatty originated in a time of the innocence and joy of childhood, they are nonetheless important and enduring. It was, in every way that I can remember, a good place to begin. I began to love music because of a teacher who was enthusiastic. I began to love art because of the patience of a teacher who even gave us the freedom to leave class and sketch by the Don River.

...a beginning is as much as a commemoration. May it be as happy beginning for the kids of my old neighbourhood as it was for us. And may the venerable building survive and surmount the inevitable changes..."

Source: Excerpts by Peter Meggs, History & Memories of Earl Beatty School 1925 to 1975.

Image below is at Glebemount Avenue and Danforth, looking east in 1935 at the time Peter Meggs would have been playing in the schoolyard of Earl Beatty. As we continue our efforts for our schoolyard, it is a comfort to consider the joy the land has offered to the children of the neighbourhood for generations.



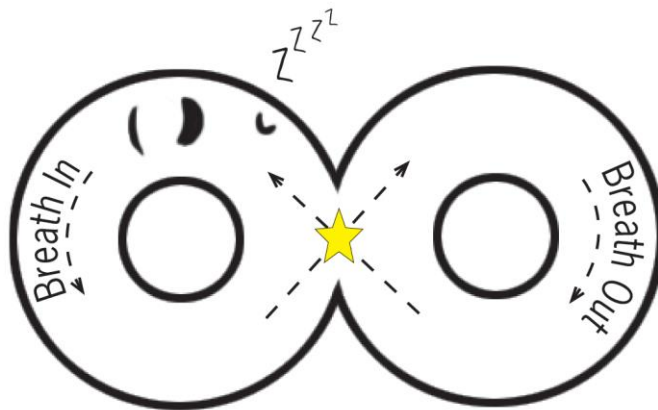
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*A big thank you to Lori Ann Comeau, for putting together our "Now and Then" feature each newsletter!

Mindfulness Moment

At our February Sharing Assembly, Mme. Campbell presented our "Mindfulness Moment", working on "Lazy 8 Breathing" with the students and staff in the audience. When you get the opportunity, talk with your child about the activity and use the diagram and instructions below to try it at home.

Lazy 8 Breathing



Trace the Lazy 8 with your finger starting at the star and taking a deep breath in.

As you cross over to the other side of the Lazy 8, slowly let your breath out.

Continue breathing around the Lazy 8 until you have a calm body and mind.

Important Dates

March 3: Swim-a-thon

March 6: School-wide lice check

March 13 - 17: March Break