

Message from Ms. Johnston

First of all, welcome back! This year I am excited to offer an enriched learning environment for our students. We have a fresh shipment of magazines, new levelled readers, more audiobooks and some fantastic books/resources on Indigenous Peoples. We also have a brand new library website that is full of resources for every level and subject area.

To highlight a few of the articles, I would like to introduce you to new material, welcome you to a library website workshop, inform you of our diagnostic reading test program, inform you of our hours and volunteers and finally highlight a book from our “professional library” that I use in a pinch, called 95 Strategies for Remodeling Instruction. It’s a book of teaching strategies that are proven to help engage students...and it’s so easy to flip through and use.

New Material

This year, the TDSB is accentuating the importance of recognizing that we are on Indigenous land. The Eastdale library has an age-appropriate selection of graphic novels, Orca Novels and beautiful picture books that highlight First Nations People. These books are ready for circulation and use in the classroom.

We have also received our first and second shipment of magazines this year. Come on in and check them out!

I also want to mention that we have a large professional collection of teaching resources from Classroom Management to DI. Feel free to come in and help yourself to whatever you need.

Last but not least, we have a growing collection of audiobooks on our library website. We have access to both fiction and non-fiction resources through BookFlix and Capstone Reading Library. Students are welcome to read (listen) to these books at any time, even from home.

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The More You Read
The More You Know
The More You Know
The Smarter You Grow
The Smarter You Grow
The Stronger Your Voice
To Speak Your Truth
And Make Your Choice.

Eastdale Library Workshop

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you and your class up to the Library/Learning Commons in room 402 for a library orientation during Block C on Friday, September 30th and/or Friday, October 14th. Let me know which date works for you.

I would like to make the focus of our first workshop to be on three key resources that have stood the test of time here at Eastdale: Our book collection (including new books and ebooks), The updated library website and providing teachers with more information about what I can offer as a teaching resource.

Please let me know if you and your class are able to make it! If you need to reschedule, please let me know by all means.

Toronto Public Library Workshop

I would also like to invite you and your class up to the Library/Learning Commons for a workshop run by Cathy Dueng, a Toronto Public Outreach Librarian on October 21st. Cathy will introduce our groups to the TPL Library Website and provide applications for new Library Cards. I will follow up with students would like a new library card and make sure they get one within the month.

I am also available on certain Fridays of the month to help escort you and your class to the Riverdale library to practice taking books and other materials out of the library and returning them on time. Let me know if this interests you.

Reading Diagnostics

I am also currently in the process of giving reading diagnostic tests to both K and Credit course students on Mondays using the Flynt-Cooter program called Reading Inventory for the Classroom. If you would like more information about a students' reading level, send them to me! I am available to run reading tests for your class period three on Mondays. We can come up with a schedule if you would like your whole class to be assessed.

The Eastdale Library is open to all classes on Fridays during period C.

Eastdale Library Orientation workshops will be held on September 30th and/or October 14th.

The first TPL workshop will be held on Friday, October 21st.

Sign up if you're interested in bringing your class.



The Library is open Monday- Thursday, at lunch every day of the week thanks to our teacher volunteers. Thanks Guys!!!

Book Review

A book that has helped me enormously over the years is from our professional library, called: 95 Strategies for Remodelling Instruction by Laura Pinto, Stephanie Spares and Laura Driscoll. I first heard about this book at teaching workshop and ever since I acquired a copy I've referenced it many times. Essentially, it provides 95 different teaching strategies that engage different types of learners in fun ways. Each strategy is concisely laid out on one page with examples from different subject areas. Examples of strategies include: Green, Yellow, Red (a diagnostic assessment) List/Sort/Label and the Placemat strategy. Come and check it out and feel free to borrow it if you need some fresh ideas.

Volunteers Needed!

We have a couple of amazing volunteers but I do need some extra help with several technical tasks:

- Filing Books away using the Dewey Decimal System
- Registering new books
- Making books ready for circulation
- General clean-up of the library

If you or a student you know has an interest or skill at this, please come and see me! Students can accrue volunteer hours and you can get some great karma out of it. ☺

I do have a kettle and I enjoy tea and conversation too: Especially about awesome books!

