



# Islington Junior Middle School

March 2018



## Monthly Newsletter March Edition



### HONESTY

THE MOST  
FREE  
PERSON IN  
THE WORLD  
IS THE ONE  
WHO HAS  
NOTHING  
TO HIDE.

## Principal's Message



February has been a great month and March promises to be even better with a number of exciting projects on the go! As many of you already know, our school is getting a new roof! Although this is very exciting, each phase of the roof renewal will require us to enter and exit through different parts of the building. Please be sure to read the notices coming home and on the website this month, that pertain to our renewal projects. The roof project will officially begin on Thursday March 1, 2018. Our gym is also



being renovated with a new divider door! The gym is currently out of use to students and will resume regular activity after March 8, 2018. We are very proud of the facility in which we work and learn, and we thank you in advance for your support in order to maintain it in a safe and esthetically pleasing condition.

We had a very successful Kindergarten Registration in mid-February, during which we met our future students and families and gathered relevant information that will help us plan for a successful start in September. If you have children or know of children who will start school in September of 2018 and have not yet been registered, please take an opportunity to visit our school office as soon as possible.

Our students are all very excited about the upcoming March break! This year, March Break spans from March 12 – March 16. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe break that includes fun, rest and relaxation. For great ideas on fun activities around the city, visit: <http://www.toronto4kids.com/Calendar/>



Islington JMS is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for all students. Sabrina's Law requires every school board to establish and maintain an anaphylactic policy that includes strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents in classrooms and common school areas.

We all must do our best to keep nuts out of the school and yard during the school day. There are children AND staff in the school who have life-threatening allergies to nut products. **For this reason, we will remain Food Sharing Free. We ask that parents do NOT send baked goods for parties.**

Whether you are living with an allergy yourself or are concerned about people in your community, more information about life threatening allergies is available on the Anaphylaxis Canada's website at <http://www.anaphylaxis.org/> or by calling 416-785-5666.



### SCHOOL HOURS AND SUPERVISION

8:35 AM	Supervision in main schoolyard provided
8:50 AM	Entry Bell
10:05 - 10:15 AM	Recess
11:35 AM	Lunch
12:35 PM	Entry Bell
2:00 - 2:10 PM	Recess
3:10 PM	End of Instructional Day (Grade 6-8)
3:15 PM	End of Instructional Day (Kindergarten)
3:20 PM	End of Instructional Day (Grades 1 - 5)

The main schoolyard is supervised from 8:35a.m. - 8:55 a.m., each recess, and over the lunch hour each school day. The schoolyard is not supervised after 3:35 p.m. **We recommend that children not be in the schoolyard beyond the supervised times unless with a parent/guardian.**

**TRUSTEE PAMELA GOUGH**



**WARD 3 COUNCIL MEETING AT ISLINGTON JMS ON MARCH 27, 2018 7:00PM – 8:30PM LIBRARY**

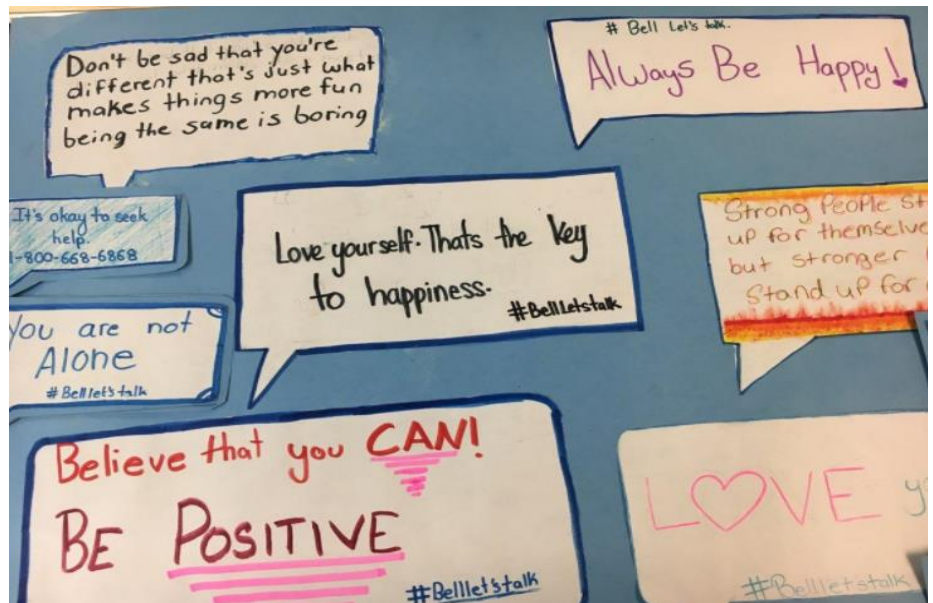
**Navigating the TDSB: SPECIAL EDUCATION**

- What is an IEP & IPRC?
- What are the different kinds of IEP?
- When, how and why does the IEP/ IPRC meeting happen and who are involved?
- What are the best strategies for advocacy?
- How can I disagree with the school team yet maintain a good relationship?
- What impact does the TDSB's new Equity Framework have on Special Education?

Joining us as a guest speaker that night is Jennifer Newby (TDSB Special Education Coordinating Principal)

**To register your child for our childminding craft party during the meeting, please email [araz.hasserjian@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:araz.hasserjian@tdsb.on.ca). Available for children ages 4-10.**

**EQUITY AND WELL BEING**



February is African Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board and an opportunity to recognize the experiences, contributions and achievements of African Canadians. This year's theme is "From Africa to the World."

Throughout the month of February, we at Islington have highlighted the many contributions that the African community has made by offering several educational opportunities to our students, staff and the TDSB community. One of these included our Grade 8s visiting Etobicoke School of the Arts to watch a student-written and student-directed performance in celebration of African Heritage Month.

In February, we also celebrated the energetic culture and traditions of the Chinese community with students, staff and community members. The Chinese community is integral to the growth and success of the City of Toronto and Canada. Members of the Chinese community represent approximately 10 per cent of the total GTA population and form its second largest visible minority group. Canadians remember and appreciate the Chinese workers who helped build the Canadian Pacific Railway that united our country.

# ACHIEVEMENT

We continue to provide our students with relevant learning opportunities that centre around real-life problems that they can solve. In order to solve these problems they must be innovative, they must collaborate, communicate, be effective team members and they must think critically. This month, these are a few of the projects and opportunities that our students engaged in. We are extremely proud of the perseverance and positive attitude they demonstrated in all such learning experiences.

On January 29th eight Grade 7 students competed in the Cardboard Boat challenge at Swansea Junior and Senior School. They spent the morning building their boats out of only cardboard and duct tape, and in the afternoon they got a chance to test their boat's structure and speed in the pool!

Grade 6, 7 and 8 students from Ms. Porteous' class worked all term to design and build sustainable house models that can help humans live off the grid. They learned about green technologies such as green roofs, water recycling, thermal mass, and even installed working solar panels!



March 2018



## PARENT COUNCIL NEWS

**Treasurer: Noor Nafisa**

**Secretary: Courtney McCann**

**Co-Chair: Surer Osoble**

**Co-Chair: Alex Song**

**Community Liaison Rep: Melanie Amadasun**

We invite you all to attend our parents council meetings held in the school library at 6:30pm on the following dates:

**April 9, 2018**

**June 4, 2018**

**A big thank you to our parent council co-chairs for helping us get out into the community to “get the word out” about Kindergarten registration in February. We had a very successful two days of registration and we look forward to additional registrations. If you have questions about your child starting school in September, please call the school office.**

# Kinder Korner

## How to support your child's Mental Health

"Mental health touches all components of development. Mental health is much more than the absence of mental illness. Well-being is influenced not only by the absence of problems and risks but by the presence of factors, at the individual, family, and community level, that contribute to healthy growth and Development." (Kindergarten Program, p.62)

Here are some ways to help you support mental health:

- Encourage play, exercise and sport
- Help your child to learn some simple coping skills such as relaxation
- Help your child to effectively problem solve
- Help your child manage stress by building in some rest time
- Keep an eye out for changes in behaviour
- Make sure you take time to listen to what your child has to say
- Be patient with your child

For more information, please access the following website: <http://believeperform.com>



### Eco News

For the past month, the ECO club has been doing various things around the school from the bag2school event to the Winter Walk. The earnings from the bag2school event were a total of \$100. We would like to thank everyone who donated to the bag2school event. We had a very successful Winter Walk. The students at Islington were on their best behavior. Every student participated and at the end of the walk, hot chocolate was enjoyed by all. Thank you, students and teachers, for working hard at making this event a success. In the upcoming month, the ECO club would like to focus on disposing garbage in the correct bins. We would like to accomplish this goal by the end of March. Also exciting, is the fact that our vertical garden has yielded amazing crop from kale to radish, lettuce and beans!



### **We are FAMOUS!**

On February 9, PBS came to film a documentary on our ESL/ELL/LEAP programs at the school. This was such an exciting opportunity for our newcomer students to speak about their schooling experiences. The article was recently published and the link is included below:

<https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2018/02/28/in-canadas-public-schools-immigrant-students-are.html>

A PBS NewsHour piece and a web video will also be featured soon!

### **RESOURCES**

Our primary ELLs enjoy Matt's songs on [www.dreamenglish.com](http://www.dreamenglish.com). He sings lively songs that teach vocabulary on many topics. Join in at home on this free site!

All students Grades 1-6 who speak an additional language would also enjoy the free site Unite for Literacy. Many interesting, short non-fiction books are narrated in English along with the English text, and students can also listen to the book in a choice of many languages.

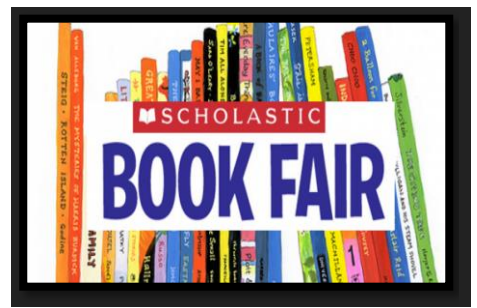
<http://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>

# Athletics



Islington JMS has a new website! It is our Physical Education and Athletics site. Come check out what is happening in the gym during as well as before and after school. If you forget which day you have gym, just check the site so you will know whether you need to bring your running shoes that day.

[www.sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/ijmspeandathletics/home](http://www.sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/ijmspeandathletics/home)



The Book Fair was a huge success this year! With everyone's support our school sold over \$3,600 in books, school tools, and posters. For our school it means \$1900 in rewards that will allow us to purchase books for the classrooms and school programs. A special thank you to all the parents and students who came out to support our Book Fair fundraiser.

# Islington Junior Middle School

44 Cordova Avenue



Principal: Rocco Coluccio  
 Vice Principal: Simona Emiliani  
 Superintendent: Tracy Hayhurst  
 Trustee: Pamela Gough  
 Co-Chair: Alex Song  
 Co-Chair: Surer Osoble

## UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Event	Date
March 1, 2018	Grade 8 Graduation Photos
March 12 – 16, 2018	March Break – No School
March 19, 2018	Pizza forms go home
March 26, 2018	Pizza forms returned to school
March 27, 2018	Ward 3 Council Meeting @7pm
March 29, 2018	Student of the Month Assembly
March 30, 2018	Good Friday - No School
April 2, 2018	Easter Monday – No School

**Pizza Lunches for this term: March 7**



Follow us on Twitter: [tdsb\\_islington](https://twitter.com/tdsb_islington)

Website: <http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/islington/Home.aspx>

Main Office – 416-394-7870

**Student Absent Line (24 hours) – 416-394-7874**