



Islington Junior Middle School

May 2018



Monthly Newsletter May Edition



Integrity

INTEGRITY
IS DOING THE
RIGHT THING.
EVEN WHEN
NO ONE IS
WATCHING.

C.S. LEWIS

Principal's Message



As the school year winds down to the last few months, our school gets busier and busier! Before outlining all the exciting events for May, I want to reflect on the successes of April! On April 27, 2018, our Director of Education for the TDSB, Dr. John Malloy, visited our school to speak to staff and students about all the amazing things happening in the way of teaching and learning. He enjoyed the visit immensely, leaving his impressions in a one-minute video that you can find on YouTube and on our school website by accessing the following link:

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/islington>



May also promises to be a busy and exciting month at Islington JMS. On May 3, 2018, we invite you all to our annual STEAM night at the school. You will find more information on it in this newsletter. We are also celebrating the Character Education Trait of Integrity and we will recognize students who demonstrate integrity at our Student of the Month Assembly on Friday May 25 at 9:15am in the school gym. As many of you know, EQAO will begin for our Grade 3 and 6 students on May 22nd. This is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning NOT only in grade 3 and 6 but UP UNTIL those grades. We will ensure that students are provided with a quiet environment, snacks and opportunities to take breaks during the writing of the test. Please ensure that your children understand that this test DOES NOT determine their future NOR their level of intelligence. It provides the school and the system with relevant data to help us make decisions that support greater student learning. Please read this newsletter for helpful tips on how to prepare your children for a positive EQAO experience. I wish you all a wonderful and safe month of May!



EDUCATION QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

(EQAO) Gr. 3, 6, 9 10

May 22 – June 4, 2018

Why do students write EQAO?

- To identify trends in student learning
- To identify curriculum areas that need more attention
- To target resources where they are needed
- To give indication of how each child is learning
- To strengthen accountability

Remember...

- EQAO is ONE indicator, among many of achievement

How can I help my child during the writing period?

- Ensure your child is well nourished
- Ensure your child is well rested
- Talk to them about the test, letting them know that this is not a reflection of intelligence or ability

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.**

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY – TIPS FOR PARENTS



Let's partner together to teach children to:

Stop, look left, right and left again, and listen for traffic before stepping out into the street. Teach children to wait until the street is clear and to keep looking until they have crossed the street. They should also look the driver in the eye before crossing.

Recognize pedestrian crossing signals but not rely on them. Before crossing, children should also be sure the traffic has stopped. Remind them to continue across if the light changes to "Don't Walk" while they are in the crosswalk.

Be extra alert when crossing at a corner with no traffic lights.

Stop at driveways, alleys and areas without curbs and to never run out onto the street.

Know the dangers of crossing the street between parked cars or when not at a corner. Children should cross only at corners and pedestrian crosswalks

Respect the role of the crossing guard and to understand his/her signals.

In areas without sidewalks, walk as far away from the road as possible, facing approaching traffic

Follow the same rules that you want your child to follow. You may want to cut across the street in the middle of the block, but you want your child to learn to cross at the intersection. Be a good role model.

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Equity and Wellbeing

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS!!

This month, we will be focusing on promoting mental health and raising awareness about the importance of nurturing mental health in our ourselves and our students. We will be doing some specific activities during the week of May 7 – 11.

Mental health impacts us all. Just as we all have physical health, we all have mental health. Our mental well-being includes our emotions, our thoughts and feelings, our ability to solve problems and overcome difficulties, our social connections, and our understanding of the world around us. At school, feeling safe, engaged and included all contribute to having a positive sense of well-being. **Students need our collective support to be healthy individuals and, the relationship that students have with each other and adults is an important part of that.**

Our Student Parliament and Peer Ministry have organized activities for the entire week of May 7 - 11 for all students in the school! Please see below for each of the days:

Mindful Monday: After lunch, we will have some calming music played over the announcements and students will lead mindful exercises for all classes

Talk'O Tuesday: Taking some time to discuss important questions in class (facilitated by Peer Ministry members)

What makes you happy at school or home?
What are the major causes of stress for you?

Wellness Wednesday: Peer ministry will visit classes to discuss what wellbeing means to students and to facilitate activities around anti-bullying

Thoughtful Thursday: Activities in the gym for all students that include puppet poetry, stand-up poetry, slime stations, crafts, doodle books

Fit Friday: Various Fitness and Dance activities will be conducted in the classrooms after lunch such as Step and Lift, Cross Chops and other Chair exercises

We welcome you all to join us in providing support to all members of the Islington JMS community in the promotion of mental health and wellness!

ACHIEVEMENT

We are so excited to invite you all to our annual STEAM night on **Thursday May 3, 2018 at 5:45pm!** This evening celebrates our commitment to teaching and learning through the disciplines of **Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math**. All of our classes will be involved in showcasing and speaking about their projects, inquiries and learning journeys in the development of **Global Competencies**. We are committed to helping our students develop skills, habits and attitudes that will prepare them for the future! As a school, we are committed to the following principles connected to STEAM education:

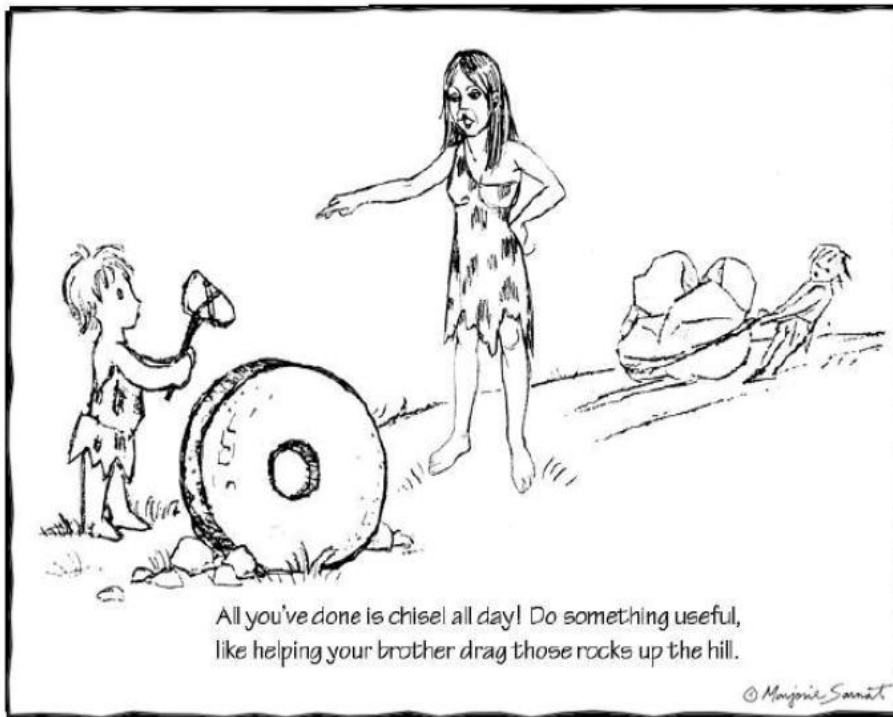
Global Citizenship – Students need/deserve opportunities to engage in local and global concepts and initiatives while demonstrating responsibility and ethical citizenship

Communications – Learning environments that foster opportunities for students to communicate effectively in oral and written form, to ask questions in order to deepen learning and to facilitate communication through a variety of medians.

Critical thinking and problem solving – Students require learning environments and experiences that enable critical thinking and problem solving.

Collaboration and Leadership – Students need opportunities to participate in learning teams and work collaboratively and experience a variety of perspectives.

Creativity, Inquiry and Entrepreneurship - Students require learning opportunities to solve meaningful, complex, problems, real-life problems and connect inquiry to discovery, new ideas and concepts.



May 2018



Our PARENT VOLUNTEERS AND NUTRITION PROGRAM!!

On Friday April 27, 2018, with the help of our amazing parent volunteers, Islington JMS held a fundraiser for our Nutrition Program. We want to ensure that we can continue to provide a daily healthy snack to all students. Students were offered a hotdog or samosa lunch for \$2.00 and \$1.00 respectively. Almost all students participated in the fundraiser so THANK YOU for your support! If you missed it, not to worry! On Friday May 11, 2018, we will be holding another fundraiser with the same offerings (\$2.00 for a hotdog and \$1.00 for a veggie samosa). If your child is in kindergarten, we will be collecting pre-orders and money by Wednesday May 9th. If your child is in grades 1-8, they can bring their money on the day of the sale.

Kinder Korner

It's hard to believe it is already the month of May! As we celebrate all the wonderful accomplishments of our students, we are also excited to invite new and returning families to our **"Welcome to Kindergarten"** evening on **Wednesday, May 30th**, from **6-7pm**. We are looking forward to meeting everyone in the Library at 6pm. Here are a few ideas you may wish to engage in over the next few months, to help you orient your child as they embark on the adventure that awaits them in September.

You Can Help Me Get Ready For School

- Plan play dates for me or take me to a play group or a library story time. This will help me feel comfortable in a group with other children.
- Let me spend short periods of time away from you with another parent or babysitter. This will make leaving you easier when I start school.
- Set a bedtime and morning routine so I know what to expect.
- Read to me and talk about the stories. This helps me learn to listen.
- Let me practise opening a thermos, juice box and lunch containers so I will know what to do at snack time.
- Walk with me to the school or show me where the bus will go. Teach me the safety rules I need to know.
- Show me the school and the door where I will go in.
- Talk to me about school in a positive way.
- Encourage me to try new things. I may want you to try them with me until I feel comfortable. Make everyday activities opportunities to learn.
- Provide me with a selection of materials for play and crafts (scrap paper and materials, cardboard, sand, water, empty containers, glue, crayons, etc.)

Eco News

As we continue to maintain our Platinum status, the month of April was focused on cleaning up the environment. Although Earth Day is celebrated once a year, it is very important to continue to teach our children how to care for the environment. Students at Islington JMS have been learning about Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling. They learned how to:

- * Turn off lights when they are not in the room
- * Walk or bike to close destinations
- * Turn off electronic devices at night
- * Take short showers or baths with a minimum amount of water
- * Use less light at night



Due to the extreme weather change in April, our school clean-up has been postponed to Friday May 4, 2018 at 10:15am. The ECO Art Club continues to meet. The spring edition of the ECO Art Club spent the afternoon on Friday April 20th creating gorgeous Gerbera Daisies using recyclables.

Bike to School Week is a celebration of cycling, active transportation, and healthy living. Bike week this year will be celebrated from **May 28 – June 1st**. We look forward to a very active May.

ATHLETICS

The Grade 5 Badminton Team had a great season. Everyone worked hard, practised regularly and showed lots of enthusiasm towards the sport. Initially, they went to a tournament where they played against other schools in the same pool and division. The team played very well and advanced to the playoffs. They tried their best and put forth their best effort at the playoffs. The team did not win, but they demonstrated good sportsmanship and teamwork. Moreover, they have developed a passion for badminton.

A very big thank you goes out to a parent volunteer, Ms. T. Launt. She drove some of the students to and from both tournaments and prepared healthy snacks for the team. A big thank you also to Ms. Vuong for passionately coaching this team!



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

Event	Date
May 3, 2018	STEAM night 5:45pm – 7:30pm
May 4, 2018	School Clean Up at 10:15am
May 7 - 11	Mental Health Week
May 11, 2018	Fundraiser Lunch
May 21, 2018	Victoria Day – No School
May 25, 2018	SOTM Assembly
May 28 – June 1, 2018	Bike to School Week
May 22 – June 4, 2018	Grade 3 and 6 EQAO
May 30, 2018	Welcome to Kindergarten Night

Pizza Lunches for this term: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20



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

Main Office – 416-394-7870

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