



Islington Junior Middle School

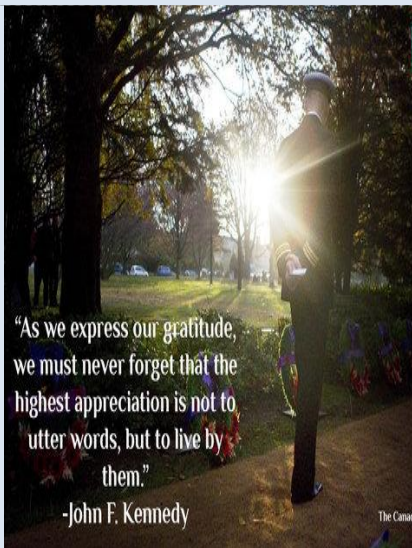
November 2017



Monthly Newsletter November Edition



Remembrance



Principal's Message



We have had a wonderful October at Islington JMS, filled with amazing learning opportunities, both in and outside the classroom. Take a moment to read this newsletter and learn about all the exciting programs and initiatives happening at the school. If you would like to contribute ideas and insights, please feel free to contact your child's teacher, the office or, to attend our parent council meetings. This past month, we celebrated Islamic Heritage Month at the TDSB. Our students participated actively in this important celebration. We look forward to learning more about November's Aboriginal/Indigenous month. This month provides an opportunity to centre Indigenous perspectives, histories and contemporary realities across the curricula.



In our classrooms, we focus on treaties, the legacy of residential schools, as well as the achievements and accomplishments of Indigenous peoples in Canada. Over the course of this month, students, staff and community members will be recognizing a number of important days to deepen knowledge and learn together about our shared history, building stronger relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. We also look forward to holding our annual Remembrance Day assembly on November 10 at 10:00am in our school gym. You are all invited to take part in this. We are continuing to shape our school goals in Equity, Achievement and Wellbeing and we are embarking on a number of initiatives, including professional learning for our teachers in order to obtain those goals. We want to ensure that ALL of our students are meeting with success, as it pertains to school climate, social/emotional/physical wellbeing and engagement in learning. We encourage you to ask your children about what they are learning, what questions they are asking and what mindset they are using. Wishing everyone a wonderful November!



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
3:10PM	End of Instructional Day (Grades 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.**

Connecting with Your Teen



2 hour interactive session for
parents & caregivers of teenagers
13 – 18 years old

Workshop covers the following topics:

- Normal growth and development that occur during teenage years
- Physical, emotional, behavioural, and social pressures teens may experience
- Facts and myths about drugs
- Ways to improve communication between parents/caregivers and teens
- What to do if you think your teen is under the influence of drugs

Partnering with our parents for the health and wellbeing of our students, is a big priority for us!

Our parent community has expressed an interest in participating in parent workshops held by Toronto Public Health on topics that support their children. The first of these workshops will be held on **November 30, 2017**, in the school music room at 9:15am. We look forward to seeing many of you there, right after you drop off your children for school!

EQUITY AND WELL BEING



In October, our school celebrated Islamic Heritage Month! We had daily announcements that educated everyone on the important contributions of Muslim Canadians to our local and global society. Our grade 8 students also put together a wonderful presentation for our end-of-month assembly on October 27th. We are proud of our students' hard work and commitment toward creating a school environment that is welcoming and respectful of all faiths, races, genders and other social identities. Our student parliament is working closely with Toronto Public Health (TPH) nurses to create programs and initiatives that prevent and respond to bullying of any kind, so that our school is a safe place for all.

PLAYGROUND ACTIVITY LEADERS IN SCHOOLS (PALS)

The PALS program is back! This program, facilitated by our teachers in partnership with TPH, trains junior students to run fun and safe activities for our younger (grade 1 – 3) students during recess times. The program intends to reduce conflict during recess and to provide an inclusive structure for all students to take part in collaborative play. It is also a wonderful leadership opportunity for our junior students who run the games. Look out for them in bright red pinnies in the school yard!



ACHIEVEMENT



As a school, we continue to place emphasis on the development of global competencies to ensure that our students have the transferrable skills they will require for a future that is difficult for us to predict. These competencies include: Critical thinking/problem solving, Citizenship, Communication, Collaboration, Creativity/Inquiry and Entrepreneurship. Our primary students are working with computer programming through coding applications. Our intermediate students are currently working on inquiry projects that tie together Mathematics and social awareness.



FRENCH

The Program Application and Registration System (PARS) for French Immersion and Extended French Programs opens in November.

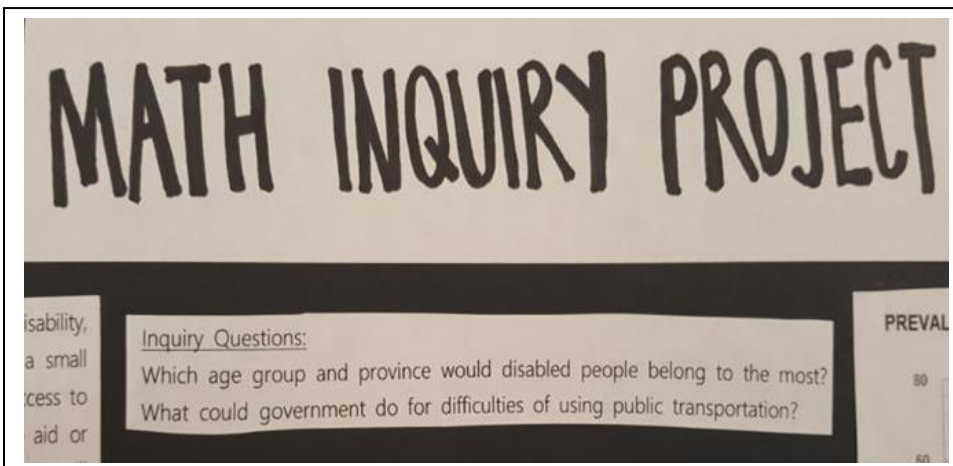
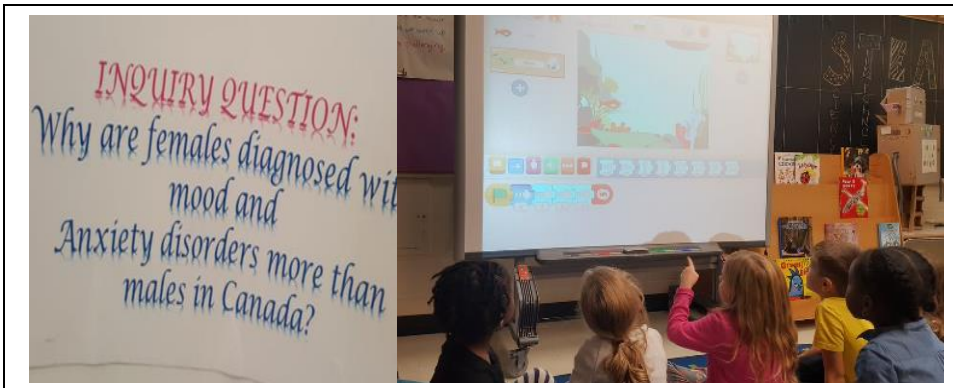
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French Immersion programs are designed for students who do not speak French at home. The Early Immersion Program begins in **Senior Kindergarten**. It offers 100% French instruction in the classroom until the end of grade 3, although some specialist subjects may be taught in English. English instruction is gradually introduced beginning in grade 4 until it becomes a half-day program from Grades 6-8.

2

The application process for admission to Early French Immersion programs begins in November. It is an online application process. It is not a first-come, first-served process. Learn more about the application process and the deadlines by visiting www.tdsb.on.ca/pars

All late applicants will be placed on a wait list.



Kinder Korner



Getting Ready for the Colder Weather...

LAYERS, LAYERS, LAYERS! As the colder weather arrives, we want to encourage our Kindergarten students to dress in layers for school. A T-shirt underneath a long-sleeved all-day comfort, as our classrooms vary widely in temperature. It is important for your child to wear a warm jacket that may be put on and zipped independently and appropriate accessories for the weather each day, as we spend at least 45 minutes outside per day.

LABELS! Please ensure all clothing items, including accessories (hat, neck warmer, mittens), are labeled with your child's first name and last initial.

CHOICES! Get your child involved in picking out new outerwear. Have your child try on a new jacket before buying it, to ensure that your child is able to zip it easily. Dressing independently gives young learners feelings of pride and responsibility. It also encourages them to take care and keep track of their personal belongings. **MITTENS vs GLOVES...** Mittens are much warmer than gloves and are far easier for young children to put on independently.

Thank you,
The Islington Kindergarten Team

ECO NEWS

The Eco Club is very proud to be continuing our work as a Platinum Award Eco School! Eco club began meeting at the end of September. In the club, we have one or more representatives from each class. Eco club has planned various events and actions to make our school more environmentally friendly. We have started a weekly yard cleanup where classes rotate each week to clean up our school yard.

We had a kick off assembly on September 20th, 2017. Ms. Porteous class did an amazing job. Our focus this year WASTE; knowing where to put each material. We are also going to be focusing on reducing the use of plastic water bottles and advertising reusable water bottles. We will be having an Art challenge each month regarding the theme of the month.

Our ECO Art challenge this month will be decorating each class's door with fall decorations using eco friendly materials. Eco club is looking forward to a great year!!



OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE



Our Grade 7 students participated in a three-day, two-night trip to the Etobicoke Outdoor Education Centre in Bolton, Ontario, on the Oak Ridges Moraine, within the Albion Hills Conservation Area. The EOEC believes that, "through direct contact with the natural environment students will begin to appreciate their role as environmentally responsible citizens who understand their fundamental connections to each other and to the world around them".

Our students had a fabulous and memorable time and we look forward to offering this opportunity to our Grade 7 students next year!

Athletics



It has been a busy month for sports! Our Hockey Academy is back with grade 5 students taking part in early morning hockey every Friday for 8 full weeks!

Our Junior and Senior Girls soccer teams did an outstanding job representing Islington JMS this past month.

Our Junior Boys soccer team came home undefeated and won the championship title for their division!!

We would like to congratulate all the athletes that demonstrated sportsmanship, perseverance and pride as they represented themselves and our school at each tournament.

Islington Junior Middle School

44 Cordova Avenue



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

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Event	Date
Gr. 8s at Etobicoke School of the Arts concert	November 7, 2017
Remembrance Day Assembly	November 10, 2017 at 10:00am
Progress Reports go Home	November 15, 2017
Parent Interviews	November 16 (evening), 17(morning), 2017
PA Day	November 17, 2017
Photo Retake Day	November 21, 2017
SOTM Assembly	November 24, 2017
Pizza Lunches	November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29



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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