



Islington Junior Middle School

October 2017



Monthly Newsletter October Edition



Inside

Everything you need to know to support your children with a successful start to the school year!

"Education is not the learning of facts but the training of the mind to THINK."

- Albert Einstein

Principal's Message



We had a great start to our year, with many exciting initiatives under way! We would like to thank all of our parents and community members who came to our Curriculum Night BBQ. We enjoyed meeting you all and we look forward to a continued partnership in the education of your child. I would like to invite our parents/guardians to our first Parent Council meeting on October 16, 2017 at 6:00pm for our council elections. If you would like to be one of the fifteen voting members on council, be sure to fill out a candidate form, given to



your child on September 29 and to be returned to our school office by October 13 at 4:00pm. In the TDSB, October marks Islamic Heritage Month, an opportunity for students and staff to learn about the history, heritage and diversity of our Muslim fellow Canadians. We look forward to celebrating this throughout the month and at our Student of the Month assembly on October 27, 2017, to which you are invited.

We are also excited to offer our Grade 7 students the opportunity to visit Albion Hills from October 16 – 18, for a great adventure in outdoor education and team-building. Please continue to remind your children about the importance of coming to school prepared, ready to learn and ready to demonstrate respect for themselves, their peers, teachers and their environment. We look forward to a wonderful month of inquiring, exploring and learning!



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.**



PIZZA LUNCHES! Again this year!

Upon student and community request, Islington JMS will once again host weekly pizza lunches this year. All orders for the first term have been submitted.

The pizza lunch dates for the September - December term are:

October 4, 11, 18, 25

November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

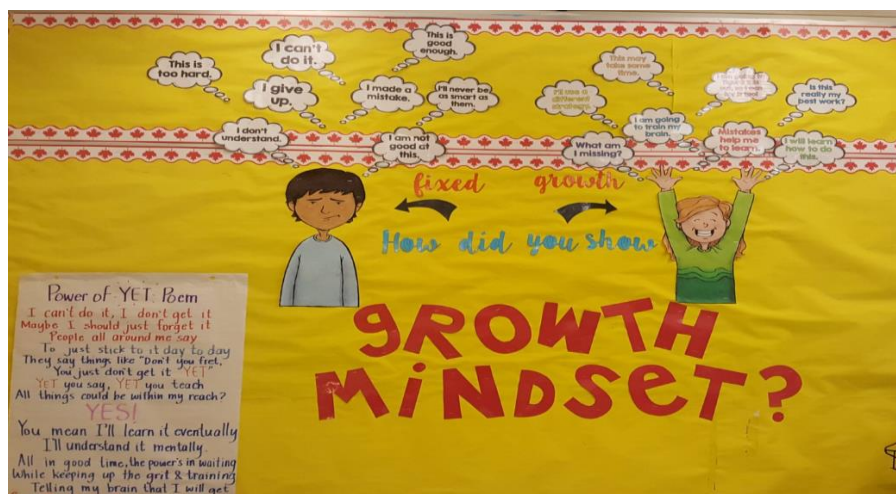
December 6, 13, 20



EQUITY AND WELL BEING

Our school is doing lots of work around student well being and equity. In September, we celebrated the character trait of respect and our students learned about how respect is connected to our identities – cultural, racial, class, gender etc. and that, everyone deserves to be in a school where our identities are respected and celebrated. Through Orange Shirt day, we talked about the experiences of Indigenous children in residential schooling and that, although this was a sad time in Canadian history, we can learn from it. What we can learn is that every child matters!

Also, the entire school has been working on fostering Growth Mindsets that allow us all to see ourselves as learners whose abilities are not fixed but rather on a continuous path toward improvement. If you have more questions about Growth Mindsets, feel free to ask your child's teacher or your child!



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. In all grades, students are engaging in inquiries that require them to ask questions, plan, explore, design solutions, test their solutions and reflect on this process. The emphasis is increasingly on the PROCESS of learning rather than just on the PRODUCT (or the final mark awarded by the teacher). Our Kindergarten to Grade 2 students are currently using computer applications to learn computer coding and robotics. Our junior and intermediate students are engaging in this learning through our maker space lab as well as in other subject areas such as the Arts, Social Studies, Math, Science, French, Health and many more!



October 2017



Attendance

Regular attendance is necessary to make progress at school. If your child is absent, the following actions need to be taken:

- 1 If a student is absent from school the whole day or part of a day, the parent should telephone the school prior to 8:30 in the morning or 12:30 in the afternoon, thus ensuring safe arrival. The telephone number is **416-394-7874**. A note from a parent communicating the child's absence is also acceptable.
- 2 If a student is to be excused during the school day, the parent or guardian should send a note to school with the student explaining the circumstance **and** the parent may telephone the school.

Students will not be excused from school without parental consent. Notes should include date(s) of absence and parent's or guardian's signature.

Kinder Korner



The Kindergarten classes will be visiting the local library on the afternoon of Monday, October 30th, for a tour and a puppet show. Brentwood Library is located at 36 Brentwood Road North, just north of Bloor, between Islington and Royal York.

The Toronto Public Library website has great online resources for children.

Check out KidsSpace:

<http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/kidsspace/>.

To hear a story in English or other languages: http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/kidsspace/genStoryArchive_All_1.html.

Children in French Immersion may hear stories in

French: http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/kidsspace/genStoryArchive_French_1.html

Please visit your local library often and ask about their free library programs!

-The Islington Kindergarten Team



ECO NEWS



Our Eco Kick Off assembly was a great success!

Our entire school was inspired to get involved in the exciting Eco initiatives coming up and to become a part of our Eco Committee in order to share additional, innovative ideas on how to make our school as eco friendly as possible! Students put together a wonderful presentation that informed us all on the importance and impact of responsible disposal of garbage and what we can do specifically, as a school community to ensure that our waste is "going in the right place". Additionally, students shared great ideas on how to increase our eco-literacy through projects, inquiries and design. We look forward to a fantastic ECO year!!!

CHOICES FOR NINE!!



Our *Choices for Nine* information evening will be on Tuesday October 24, 2017 in the Library at 6:00pm. Our school Guidance Counsellor, Leigh Doucet, will be facilitating the presentation and will address any questions regarding the high school transition for our Grade 8 students.

Below, please find the link to our High School Open House dates. Feel free to visit the high schools you and your child might be interested in during these times. If you have additional questions, do not hesitate to contact Leigh Doucet at: leigh.doucet@tdsb.on.ca

Link to high school nights:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ztH-RRNSABLE42AKq54e1o_kUy8hfoP_78umOZnL_UI/edit?usp=sharing

Cross Country

Our Grades 1 – 8 students will be participating at the annual Cross Country meet on October 5, 2017, at Centennial Park. The students will depart at 9:15 am sharp, by school bus for Centennial Park (256 Centennial Park Rd.) Parents are welcome to meet us at the park to watch, support and cheer on the runners. You will have to scan the crowd and look for our bright Islington pinnies/shirts to locate us! The weather forecast at the moment is predicting rain for that day. Students will still be running if it rains. If there are thunderstorms in the forecast, then the meet may be cancelled and rescheduled. We wish our teams all the best for a successful run!



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
PA Day (no school)	October 6, 2017
Thanksgiving Day (no school)	October 9, 2017
Parent Council	October 16, 2017 at 6:00pm
Albion Hills Grade 7s	October 16 – 18, 2017
Choices for Nine	October 24, 2017
Photo Day	October 25, 2017
Student of Month	October 27, 2017



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