



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Sept. /Oct. 2013

Kennedy P.S.

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Superintendent:

Peter Chang

School Trustee:

Sam Sotiropoulos

School Council:

Terry Koo

Jiao Jiang



We have successfully started the 2013-2014 school year! A great deal of hard work went into preparing our school for our students. Many thanks to our secretaries for taking care of our new registrations, our custodial staff for making our school sparkle, and the teachers and support staff who spent many hours preparing their classrooms. As usual, there is a lot of positive energy at Kennedy Public School and we are looking forward to a productive and active year.

Throughout the month of September, the Kennedy staff have been busy with the many school opening initiatives ensuring a safe, welcoming and motivating learning environment for our students. We completed our Welcome Back and Expectations Assemblies, three Fire Drills, a Hold and Secure Drill, Cross Country training, Kilometer Club, a Book Fair, the Terry Fox Run, and a community Barbeque on Curriculum Night.

Our School Improvement Plan will focus on Literacy, Numeracy, and Safe Schools. In addition, Character Development and Daily Physical Activity (DPA) will be implemented into the program.

We are proud to maintain a partnership with our local Universities. This term, we are hosting Nursing students from Ryerson University who are here to work with our school community and promote a healthy lifestyle. Teacher Candidates from the University of Toronto's and Tyndale Faculties of Education will also be working in many of our classrooms.

At Kennedy, P.S. we believe that the education of your child can be enriched to the fullest extent when there is close and ongoing communication between the home and the school. Our newsletter, *The Kennedy Clan News*, will give us an opportunity to communicate with you and keep you informed. Look for our newsletter to come home at the end of each month. In addition to paper communication, this school year we continue to enhance and expand our means of electronic communication. We are proud to share with you that our school Website is updated regularly. In addition to a brand new look, the website offers information on our programs, Board initiatives and upcoming events. You may visit our website at; [schools.tdsb.on.ca/kennedy](http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/kennedy).

We are excited about this school year and are looking to celebrate many wonderful milestones with our entire Kennedy Community.

Rhonda Cohen-Pierobon

Principal



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Please Save the Date.....

*Please join us for:*

*Kennedy School Council Meeting*

*&*

*Transition to High school Presentation*

*Wednesday October 2nd, 2013*

*7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.*

*In the Staffroom & Library*

*Mandarin / Cantonese Interpreter*

*&*

*Child minding are available*

*Everyone welcome!*



**SAFETY WEEK AT KENNEDY P.S.**

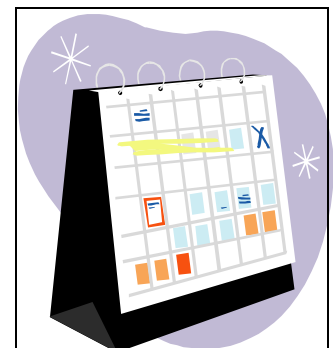
On Monday September 16th Officer Burns visited the Grade 1 classes at Kennedy Public School to talk about traffic safety. Students were reminded to play in a safe area and watch out for vehicles on the road. They pledged to always look both ways before crossing the street and to wear a helmet when riding their bike. The students really enjoyed the interactive presentation and had lots of questions about policing. It was a positive and informative experience for all!



**Upcoming October/November Dates**

- October:**
- 1st - Gr. 6 Kearney Parent Information Evening 6—7pm.**
  - 2nd - School Council Evening 7-8pm**
  - 11th: P.A. Day—No school for students**
  - 14th: Thanksgiving Day - school closed**
  - 15th—18th: Gr. 6 trip to Kearney**
  - 23rd: School Photo Day**
  - 31st: Halloween**

- November:**
- 3rd: Daylight saving ends**
  - 11th: Remembrance Day**
  - 11th: Progress Reports go home**
  - 9th: Expectations Assemblies**
  - 15th: Parent /Teacher interviews - no school**
  - 27th: Grade 8 trip to Jackson's Point**



## Canadian Citizenship Challenge

This year, our Grade 7 students will be putting their national knowledge to the test, by studying for and writing the Canadian Citizenship Challenge. The challenge issued by The Historica-Dominion Institute, provides an opportunity for our students to gain greater knowledge and appreciation of the history, heritage and stories of Canada. Students will receive a study guide to help them prepare. Chances to win a prize both at the student and class level are also available.

Mrs. Chan



### **It's back to school time... Welcome to Homework Help!**

Homework Help is a free online math resource for students in grades 7-10. Homework Help provides free, live, one-on-one tutoring from Ontario teachers from Sunday to Thursday from 5:30 pm— 9:30 pm ET.

Homework Help is funded by the Ontario government and administered by TVOs Independent Learning Centre.

For all these great math resources at your fingertips, register online.



## Welcome to Guidance

My name is Elysa Tarascio and I will be your child's Guidance Counsellor this year. I would like to give you a brief overview of the Guidance program and tell you a little about my role. The Guidance curriculum is divided into three sections: student development, interpersonal development, and career development. The goals of this program are to help students:

- acquire the skills they need for lifelong learning (goal setting, cognitive awareness, organizational skills, time management, understanding how they learn and monitoring their own progress)
- develop the skills they need to work cooperatively with others and care about others (demonstrating self-discipline, taking responsibility for their own behavior, problem-solving, and global citizenship)
- gain an understanding of the choices available to them in the world of work and help them make informed decisions based on their interests and abilities (transitions from elementary to secondary, career awareness, goal setting, and pathways)

**My Role:** I will be coming into classrooms in the fall to introduce myself and talk to your children about guidance and how they can access individual help. As part of the program I will be preparing activities for students to complete throughout the year on topics such as study skills, time management, goal setting, character education, bullying, and Essential Skills. I will work closely with the Grade 8s to help them choose secondary schools and courses. I will also run assemblies and present parent information sessions about secondary school. Please keep reading newsletter alerts to find out when these sessions will be held.

I will be posting articles regularly in the school newsletter on topics of interest to parents. If needed, I am also available to speak with parents individually. If you would like an appointment, please call the school as I am servicing five schools and may not always be on site. I look forward to working with your child this year and to meeting with you later in the year. Sincerely, Elysa Tarascio Guidance Counsellor





## Character Development

September - Respect

October - Responsibility

November - Empathy

December - Kindness & Caring



### Kennedy P.S. Student Daniel Velyvis has been selected as a Legislative Page!

Ontario Legislature welcomed a new group of pages including Daniel Gin Gin Velyvis, a Kennedy PS student! Daniel is doing a great job! [Soo Wong @SooWongMPP](#)

I am so happy and proud to represent Kennedy Public School in Scarborough-Agincourt. Being a page was a very exclusive opportunity and I am so glad that I've been selected because it's just so interesting being in the legislative assembly where all the ministers and members are. I remember on the first day when I was walking down the hallway, and I saw the speaker and I was speechless... it was such a momentous occasion. On Tuesday, all the pages were introduced by the speaker and when my name was called, I felt so proud, so joyous, and I was excited because I know that I've earned my spot here in the legislative assembly. When it was break time in the Chamber, I visited Soo Wong and I had a great time talking to her. Daniel Velyvis Gr. 8



### ECOSCHOOL UPDATE



#### Our Trip to FOREST VALLEY!

On September 17, 2013, the students in Ms. Gabrysz's and Miss. Ng's Grade One classes spent a sunny day outdoors at Forest Valley. In the morning, they went on an hour-long hike in the wilderness and used their 5 senses to discover nature. Then, in the afternoon, they created masterpieces using objects found in the forest! What a fantastic trip!

