



Kennedy Clan News



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

**February 2015
Kennedy P.S.**

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Manna Wong

School Council:

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In February, our students will benefit from a variety of special Heritage Month presentations. Starting with Groundhog Day activities at the Primary level, our students will also be celebrating "100" days of school,

Valentine's Day and Black Heritage Month, which will culminate with a visit by renown author Ita Sadu. In addition, plans are also underway to celebrate the 2015 Winter Play-Day and honour our Canadian French Heritage with the 'Bonhomme Carnaval'. We continue to experience excitement in athletics. On February 4th several classes will be attending the Marlies Hockey Game and on the 26th and 27th, our Junior and Intermediate students will enjoy the winter weather skiing and snowboarding at Uplands Golf and Country Club. Our Kennedy athletes continue to take part in various system wide competitions all the while representing our school as true dolphin ambassadors. Thank you to all our coaches for the extra curricular activities, accompanying our athletes to the various games and for hosting tournaments here at Kennedy PS.

The Kennedy band will be performing at the TDSB Showcase Concert which will be held on Wednesday, February 4th at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. Add to this Student Council, Spirit Day, ECO focus, Lunar New Year and Speech Arts; and you can see why February is sure to be a fun filled and exciting month at our school.

Following up on our Pathways to Success focus, the Gr. 8 students are getting ready to plan their transitions to high school. Our staff has been working to assist our graduates with options sheets and program selection, and later in the year, the students will have the opportunity to visit local high schools and programs.

Literacy and Numeracy initiatives remain a priority in the classrooms. On Literacy Day students got to visit several classes and rotate through a variety of activities which were planned by their teachers. The event culminated with a very successful book swap. In the meantime, teachers are working on developing Guided Reading in Literacy and common expectations in mathematics to improve best practice.

Finally, Term One Report Cards will be sent home on Monday February 9th, followed by some parent-teacher interviews throughout the week. Finally, we wish to remind you that Kindergarten Registration will take place on February 10th, 17th, & 24th, and that our school will be closed on Monday Feb. 16th, for Family Day.

Rhonda Cohen-Pierobon Principal

***You can now follow me on Twitter @
RhondaCohen***



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SISTER SCHOOL PROJECT:

A sister-school Skype meeting took place on Jan. 27th when our Kennedy team chatted with Principal Zhang (msyxx_zwh) and other MEPS teachers on the various approaches teachers use to nurture and train beginning teachers. Both schools discussed the Canadian and Chinese systems and protocol for professional development including approaches the school use for teacher appraisal. The teams spoke about our respective holidays including the upcoming Lunar New Year. MEP promised to send us pictures of the celebrations in China!



Please Save the Date.....

Please join us for:

***Kennedy
School Council Meeting
Tuesday March 10th, 2015
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
In the Staffroom***



Everyone welcome

姐妹校项目的视频会议于1月27日成功举行，我们肯尼迪学校的教师团队与闵行实验小学的张校长和教师就如何培养和培训新手教师的多种方法进行了深入的交流。两边的学校讨论了加拿大和中国的不同体系及教师的专业发展，包括学校所使用的评估教师的方法。双方的教师团队还讨论了各自的一些节日，包括即将到来的农历新年，闵行实验小学将会把中国庆祝新年的照片发给我们分享。

Upcoming February Dates

4th: Trip to the Marlies' Game

4th: Kennedy Band performing - TDSB showcase Concert 7:00 pm

5th: 100 Day of School

6th: African Heritage Month: Author visit with Itah Sadu

9th: Term 1 Report Cards go home

10th, 17th, 24th: Kindergarten Registration

12: Parent Teacher Interviews evening 4:00—8:00

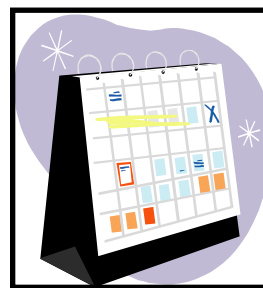
13th: Parent Teacher Interviews 9:00 –12:00 am

16th: Family Day School closed

18th: Lunar New Year Celebrations at School

20 - 23rd : Grade 6 outdoor trip to Kearny

25th: Winter Play day and Bonhomme Carnaval



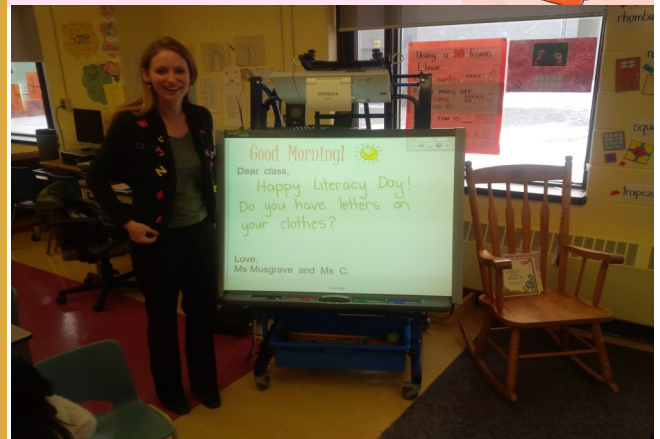
FROM THE CLASSROOM

LITERACY GUIDED READING SESSION

Our staff worked with the Family of Schools Literacy Committee on Guided Reading. The focus was to provide students with skills and strategies to help students become Literate. Thank you Mr. Borges for your leadership in co-planning and running the session.



World Literacy Day



On Tuesday, January 27th 2015 Our school took part in a day long **Literacy Day Celebration!** Ms. Saleh organized an amazing day that included a spirit day to wear a T. shirt with words or letters on it, a gigantic book swap and prizes. In the afternoon teachers organized literacy rotations and activities for each grade.



Our Prize Winners



Character Development

January - Teamwork

February - Fairness

March - Honesty

April - Co-Operation



Character Education Winners!
Thank you Ms. Chang & Ms. Fang
for leading this event!

KUNG HE FA TSAI! THE LUNAR NEW YEAR THE YEAR OF THE SHEEP!

1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003, 2015, 2027

The sheep (goat, or ram) is among the animals that people like most because it is gentle and calm.

People born in the year of Sheep are tender, polite, clever, and kind-hearted. They have special sensitivity to art and beauty.

They are wise, gentle and compassionate but can be worriers who are shy, indecisive, over-sensitive, and puzzled about life.



GREEN BIN PROGRAM

GREEN BIN NEWSLETTER

Did you know that your used tissues and paper towels can be used as compost to fertilize our earth's soil? The ECO Club is happy to announce that Kennedy is going GREEN! Several classrooms will be receiving green bins this month to help Kennedy Improve the Environment (KITE). Students will be learning how to sort and organize garbage from recycling and compost. Items that go in the green bin can include; tissues, napkins, paper towels and all food waste! Please take the time to show your child(ren) your compost bin at home as well. Thank you! Mrs. Paschalidis



Last out, Lights out!

The Primary Eco Club has been busy this month with daily lights audits. Thank you Kennedy P.S. for being mindful of our energy use in the school. Just a reminder that the goal is:

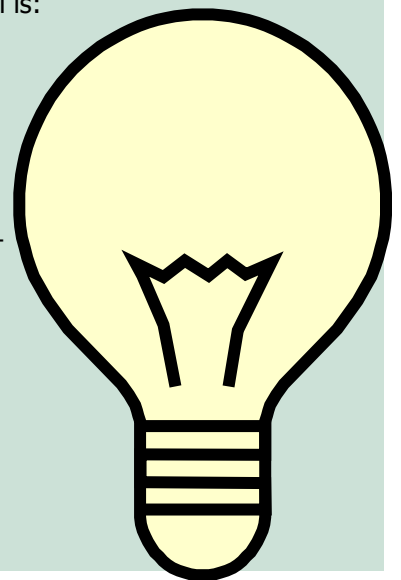
If nobody is in the room...lights off

If you feel like working in the dark, that's great too . We have many windows to provide natural sunlight, not to mention the vitamin D benefits! :)

Stay Green!

Sincerely,

The KITE Club



Participation at Kennedy P.S.



Congratulations to the boys basketball team for playing an outstanding game against Mason Road P. S. The boys played stellar defense and came on top with a score of 58-34. Good Job. Mr. Hui.

TDSB/TFSS Day with the Toronto Marlies.

It's that time of year again with our staff and students gearing up for **TDSB/TFSS Day with the Toronto Marlies**. On Wednesday, February 4th. Kennedy P.S. students will join thousands of others to cheer on the Toronto Marlies as they take on the Grand Griffins Rapids at Ricoh Coliseum on. This annual winter event showcases the game of Hockey as our national sport, helps to ensure our students have the opportunity to enjoy all the excitement of professional hockey and encourages them to get involved in physical activities while raising funds for TDSB students in need. The game is only part of the fun. Hundreds of prizes will be given away, Duke the Dog will entertain the audience and TDSB Superintendents will display their on ice marksmanship with the "Super's All-Star Shoot Out".



Pop Art with Instructional Leader Debbie Chen The grade 7/8 students of Ms. Khan and Mr. Lucas have been learning about the Pop Art movement of the early 1950s. Building on this concept, both classes worked with Instructional Leader of Visual Arts Ms. Cheng over 2 mornings to extend Pop Art into the Neo-Pop Art movement - both movements challenged the notion of traditional fine art by glorifying images from popular culture and the mass media. Specifically, the grade 7/8 students examined the works of Brazilian Neo-Pop artist, Romero Britto, whose colourful and bold art captured worldwide audiences. Students worked through parts of the Creative Process to create rough sketches based on their inspiration from popular culture. The 3 dimensional sculptures were constructed using newspaper, corrugated cardboard and masking tape – it's amazing what can be done with recyclable materials! Students shaped and molded the newspaper to create a pineapple, fish, whale, moustache, headphones and the Batman logo, to name a few. In the final stage, students painted their sculptures in bold patterns and vibrant colours using acrylic paints in the style of Britto.



FROM THE CLASSROOM

Ghanaian Drum kits have arrived at Kennedy in time to honour February's Black Heritage Month

The TDSB Music Department's Global Music Ghanaian Drumming program has arrived at Kennedy P.S. Our students had the pleasure of working with Ghanaian Master Drummer Kwasi Dunyo.



GRADE 6 STUDENTS VISIT TO THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

Recently, the Grade 6 students went to the Royal Ontario Museum to further our studies on Biodiversity. It was a very interesting day looking at the wide range of plants and animals that live in a variety of different habitats. We began our day by taking a guided tour where we learned that to protect rare and threatened species, we need to protect their unique habitats. When some animals are not protected, they may be in danger of becoming extinct. For example, in China, there are large nature reserves that protect the Giant Pandas. These are the largest and most important remaining habitats for the Panda. Unfortunately, the Panda is on the endangered list because of population growth, which is reducing the Panda's habitat. In the past, Pandas were also hunted



but in the 1990s, laws were introduced to control gun use and human access to the reserves to protect the Pandas. One solution to protect these precious animals, would be for local people to train as guides for the area or as conservationists, instead of working in the logging and farming industries. To help us remember the causes of extinction, we learned "HIPPOC": a decrease in **H**abitat, **I**nvasion of other species, increasing **P**opulation, **P**ollution, **O**veruse, and **C**limate. After lunch, we had an opportunity to explore the fascinating dinosaur and Egyptian exhibits; we even got to see a real Mummy!! After that, we then had to return to school. It was a fun day because there is so much to learn at the ROM!

TDSB's CONCERT SHOWCASE

We are excited to announce that the Kennedy Public School Jazz Band lead by music teach Mr. Jacky Siu will join over 250 elementary & secondary students from across the city and participate in the twelfth annual TDSB Showcase Concert performance scheduled for Wednesday, February 4th, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Toronto Centre for the Arts in the George Weston Recital Hall.



Carpentry Training Centre Trip

Kennedy's Grade 6 classes have been learning about Essential Skills that employers look for when hiring an employee. They have researched different jobs that are related to the task of building a house such as architect, contractor, plumber, carpenter, and interior designer. In groups, they have learned about the daily tasks, education and training needed, yearly salary, and how each job uses the Essential Skills such as reading, writing, and numeracy. They presented their research to the class and as a follow up, the students got to visit the Carpentry Training Centre. They will learn more about the trades and have an opportunity to see a sample house being built. We are looking forward to this amazing opportunity. By: Amy & Jessie

THANK YOU KENNEDY P.S.

Thank you to all classes for participating in the December Food Drive. As always Kennedy Stepped up to help out those in need, Special Congrats go out to the following classes for bringing in the highest average. The numbers are in and tabulated (listed are the average numbers of items brought in per student in each class):

Kindies - Ms Lee and Ms Assi - avg of 2.17/student

Primary - Mrs. Iadiapolo - avg of 4.4/student

Juniors - Mrs. Csombok - avg of 1.57/student

Intermediates - Mrs. Mohamed avg of 1.48/student



The staff, women and children of: **Yellow Brick House**, sincerely thank Kennedy P.S. for generously supporting the centre over the holiday season with our annual donation drive.



The Agincourt Community Services Association shared that the generous gift of food for the ACSA food bank was greatly appreciated. They were especially impressed with the concern of Kennedy P.S. towards those who are poor and disadvantaged.

From the Guidance Department

Body image is the way in which we see ourselves, the way we believe others see us, and the way we feel about how we look. It is closely connected to self-esteem, particularly the need to be accepted and to fit in with others. The media often creates unrealistic images by making people think they have to look like a certain celebrity. This, along with other negative influences, can often make our children feel inadequate. This can lead to feelings of stress or anxiety. In some cases, it can even lead to eating disorders.

It is important for parents to build up their child's self-esteem in other ways to make them resilient and to help them understand that it is important to celebrate differences and to be happy with their bodies. Parents need to encourage a healthy lifestyle that includes being active and eating nutritious foods. Parents also need to be aware of negative messages we send our children – not just in speaking about them, but in speaking about ourselves and others.

The following sites offer some great ideas on how to build self-esteem and encourage a healthy lifestyle.

<http://www.parents.com/kids/eating-disorders/prevent-body-image-issues/?sssdmh=dm17.777900&esrc=nwpdbk011215>

<http://www.todayparent.com/blogs/on-our-minds/kids-struggle-with-body-image-earlier-than-you-think/> <http://www.eatrightontario.ca/en/Articles/Adolescents-teenagers/How-to-Raise-Kids-with-a-Healthy-Body-Image.aspx#.VMehK2ijOm4> <http://www.canadianliving.com/moms/>

