



Kennedy Clan News



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

February 2016

Kennedy P.S.
20 Elmfield Crescent
Scarborough, ON
M1V 2Y6
Telephone: 416-396-6410
Fax: 416-396-6412

Principal:
Rhonda Cohen-Pierobon

Vice Principal:
Lisa Teodosio

Office Administrator:
Patricia Lamanna

Data Secretary:
Sheila Ko

Superintendent:
Louie Papathanasakis

School Trustee:
Manna Wong

School Council:
Stephen Hu



Throughout the month of February, our students took part in a variety of special Heritage Month events. Starting with Groundhog Day activities at the Primary level, our students also celebrated “100” days of school; the Lunar New Year; Valentine’s Day; National Flag Day; and Black Heritage Month.

On the court, we continue to experience excitement in athletics with **Girls’ Junior and Senior Volleyball** where our **Kennedy** athletes took part in various system wide competitions all the while representing **our school as true ‘dolphin ambassadors’**. **A big thank you goes out to all our coaches** for the extra curricular activities, accompanying our athletes to the various games and for Ms. Lantz who hosted a successful volleyball tournaments here at Kennedy PS. with our girls placing first.

The Kennedy band continued to impress this month with their performances at the *Kiwanis* Festival winning Gold and Platinum certifications, and later at the Ontario Band Association Concert which was held on Wednesday, February 15th at *Le Parc* Banquet Hall. Add to this Student Leadership; Spirit Day; ECO focus; dental screening; and a multitude of excursions and you can see why February was a fun filled and exciting month at our school.

Following up on our Pathways to Success the Gr. 8 students are getting ready to plan their transitions to high school. Our staff has been working to assist our graduates with option sheets and program selection, and later in the year, the students will have the opportunity to visit local high schools and programs. School Improvement continues to center around **sessions that guide us through the ‘Collaborative Inquiry’ model**, with a focus on our collective school goals of reading, English Language Learners, and developing student voice.

It was a pleasure to see many families at the school during our **annual term one ‘Parent– Teacher’ interview days and to meet new families and students** during Kindergarten Registration.

We wish to remind you that school will be closed for the March break between Monday March 13th to Friday March 17th. Classes will resume on Monday March 20th.

Wishing everyone a Happy March Break!

Rhonda Cohen-Pierobon Principal

You can now [follow me on Twitter @RhondaCohen](#)

You can now [follow Kennedy P.S. on Twitter @TDSB_KennedyPS](#)



Wednesday February 15th marked the 52 anniversary of our National Flag Day !

On Wednesday, February 15th 2017, Kennedy staff and student leaders **attended the Flag Raising event at the L'amoreaux Community to celebrate Canada's 52nd anniversary of National Flag Day.**

Our delegation joined community members and local politicians: Councillor Jim Karygiannis; M.P.P. Soo Wong; and representing M. P. Arnold Chan, was his wife Gina Yip.

The Canadian National Flag, also known as the " Maple Leaf Flag", was **inaugurated on February 15, 1965. This year's event is also marked by the festivities leading up to Canada's 150th celebrations.**



Upcoming March Dates

2nd: Gr. 8 ESL Assessment at Sir Earnest McMillan

2nd: Jazz Band performance in Collingwood Ontario

5th: Jazz Band perform at Markham Flato Theatre

8th: International Women's Day

9th: Pizza Lunch

10th: Recognition Assembly 9:00 - 10 am

13th - 17th: March Break - school closed

20th: Classes begin

21st: Senior KGT and Grade 8 Graduation Photos

23rd: Parent Nutrition workshop part 1 with Susan Shi 9:00—11:00 am.

24th: Grades 7 & 8 Shakespeare workshops

24th: TDSB Earth Hour 2:00 pm.

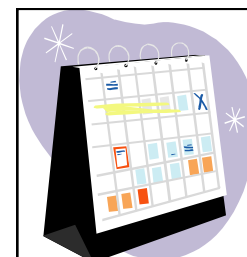
25th: Earth Hour 8:00 pm.

27th - 31st: Sight and Sound screening

28th: Jazz Band concert at Dr. Norman Bethune C.I.

30th: Parent Nutrition workshop part 2 with Susan Shi 9:00—11:00 am.

30th: Gr. 4 Chang & Gr. 4/5 Hui on a trip to the Chocolate Factory



SCHOOL HAPPENING!



TRAFFIC CONCERNS

Community members are extremely concerned that a student will be hit by a car on Canongate due to parents not respecting the **NO STOP** signs

from 8 to 9 AM and from 3 to 4 PM on Canongate near the walkway in front of the pumping station. Many of us have witnessed terrifying situations with students trying to cross Canongate in between cars illegally parked.



TAKE CAUTION

We all recognize that the winter months are especially hazardous due to the presence of ice and snow, often causing slips, falls and injuries.

Despite our constant effort to clean and salt the walkways around and on our school property, there are times when the ground beneath the snow continues to be icy. **Please take caution** when walking your child to and from school.



♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

FEBRUARY IS KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION MONTH

Kindergarten registration is very important because it is often the first formal interaction of families with their home school and the Toronto District School Board. It was a pleasure to meet so many families and new students who will be joining us in September.



Thank you Mr. Pollard & Farewell!!

Mr. David Pollard will be retiring from Kennedy P.S. effective Tuesday, February 28th 2017. Mr. Pollard is one of the founding teachers at Kennedy P.S. having spent 41 years with the Board. Over the span of his career as a beloved teacher, he had been a mentor, friend and nurturer who earned the respect and love of students, parents, teacher candidates and colleagues. We wish Mr. Pollard all the very best and we thank him for his numerous contributions to our students and their families. His teachings will forever be treasured!





Character Development

January - Respect

February - Responsibility

March - Empathy

April - Kindness & Caring



Me To We Club promote Local and global social Justice Causes

The Kennedy ME to WE group has been very busy this school year. We believe we have raised meaningful awareness and needed funds by doing many interesting things. Our goal is to make a positive impact and help create a better world for everyone on a local, national and global level.

We hopefully brought more awareness to our students by educating and raising funds through organizing the following events school wide:

1. We felt a dire need to help out in Haiti after a devastating earthquake. We chose to sell SPC cards and educate students about helping others with profits going to the Red Cross Haiti Earthquake Relief fund.(Globally)
2. After learning more about our country's Indigenous history & Residential Schools at WE DAY, we had a "[We Bake for Change](#)" bake sale to raise awareness and funds for the [The Gord Downie Foundation](#). (Nationally)
3. Just before the holidays, we raised student awareness about so many who need our help right here in Toronto. We sold Red Noses at Christmas with funds going to the [Toronto Foundation for Student Success](#). (Locally)
4. In addition Kennedy leaders supervised by Mr. Borges and Mrs. Mohamed grade 7 class spend a morning sorting food at our local [Food Bank](#). It was an incredible chance for the students to actually learn about and see what happens to the food they have donated to the school food drive. By: Mrs. Mohamed



ECO SCHOOL UPDATE



Eco Audit

On Thursday, February 9 some of our committed Eco Club members conducted our first waste audit of the year. We collected the garbage from all of the classrooms and brought it to the gym to sort. We found some interesting things!

* **2 mittens (that didn't match)**

- * a whole peeled orange
- * many yogurt drink containers and drink boxes
- * LOTS of printer paper

We divided the garbage into four categories: recyclable containers, recyclable paper, food and paper towels, and real garbage. Guess which one was the heaviest? **FOOD AND PAPER TOWELS!** We will soon introduce the Green Bin Program at Kennedy PS to divert all of that waste and turn it into fresh soil.

Check out the graphs on the Eco Board to see more of our results. By: Ms. Mahoney

KENNEDY ATHLETES

DPA: Daily Physical Activity

Kennedy students participate in twenty minutes of daily physical activity three times weekly to improve health, physical fitness and academic achievement.



Congratulations Ms. Lantz and the girls' Junior Volleyball team who have placed 1st Place in the Round Robin tournament. The team is now moving on to the semi finals competitions!



On February 15th, 2017, the senior girls' volleyball team competed in a tournament at John McCrae Senior Public School. The girls played phenomenal volleyball, making tough serves and stellar hits to win every single point. They never gave up and persevered through difficult challenges throughout the day. Other coaches and referees were amazed by how well the girls played and the control they demonstrated during every single match. The team is now awaiting their next competitor and will be playing in the quarter finals the week of February 21st. Good luck girls! By: Mr. Hui



FROM THE CLASSROOM

Folklore has it that if the groundhog sees its shadow on Groundhog Day there would be six more weeks of winter.

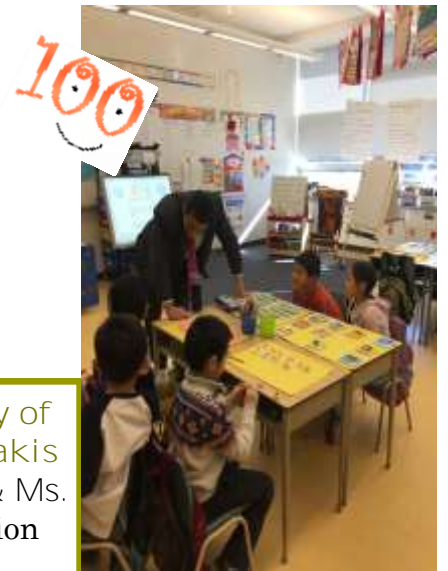


Ontario's much-beloved albino groundhog Wiarthon Willie woke up **Thursday morning** and **didn't see his shadow** which means Canadians are in for an early spring. The furry rodent briefly conferred with the town's mayor before making his prediction official in front of a boisterous crowd in the South Bruce Peninsula community. Fellow groundhog colleague Shubenacadie Sam made a similar prediction out east in

Nova Scotia when he didn't see his shadow. Pennsylvania Punxsutawney Phil on the other hand didn't see eye to eye with his Canadian counterparts after he jumped out of his burrow and saw his shadow. Ms. McKinlay's class learned a poem about Mr. Groundhog and created a hide and seek art work that shows the groundhog and his shadow.



100th Day Of School



Thursday, February 9th marked 100th Day of School. Superintendent Mr. Papathanasakis visited with the students in Mrs. Gabrysz & Ms. McKinlay's classes who brought in a collection of 100 items to celebrate the occasion.



Celebrating Reading !

The Reading Log

Congratulation to Terry Wang & Jojo Xue from Mr. Hui's class for completing their entire reading log. Terry won Pokémon Cards and



Jojo selected a Kennedy Dolphin necklace as prizes for reading so many books.

Supporting Our ESL Learners

The Newcomer Kids Program is mentoring program for newcomer students and peer volunteers from our school. It is a fun, interactive program that runs during the lunch hour and afterschool for 8 weeks. Newcomer students, known as mentees are paired with a student volunteer to be supported with their language skills. We have a chance to make new friends in this program and do all sorts of activities such as English conversation circles, teambuilding, recreational games, arts and craft and table tennis. The group had a fantastic time in the program.

"I learnt new words and practiced my English!"

"I didn't have many friends, but I made new friends through the program!"

"I learnt more about Canada, the First Nations and Canadian Culture!"

"I know more about Canadian Celebrations and I like the traditions and Canadian food!"

Thank You,

Sharleen Sinanan, Host Facilitator

Kennedy Reads



WORLD READ ALOUD DAY	Thursday February 16th, 2017 (Day 3)
For more information and downloadable material visit: litworld.org/	World Read Aloud Day motivates children, teens, and adults worldwide to celebrate the power of words and creates a community of readers taking action to show the world that the right to literary belongs to all people. World Read Aloud Day is celebrated by millions of people in more than 100 countries thanks to people like you who participate and spread the word across the globe. (Source: litworld.org)
	How are we participating @Kennedy PS? We are requesting all staff to read a special read aloud to their class during the day on Thursday February 16th. If possible, to get excited for World Read Aloud Day 2017, browse the World Read Aloud Day materials at: http://www.litworld.org/wrad/

ESL Self - Contained Class

Ms. Wong and Emily are working on English comprehension skills.



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

On Wednesday February 8th Mrs. Rego and Mrs. Assi's Kindergarten class went to Black Creek Pioneer Village with their reading buddies in Ms. Lee's class. They had a great time as they learned about the lifestyles and surroundings of the Pioneers who lived in Toronto during the 1800's.



They had the chance to play games that Pioneer children played and made their own quilts. It was a great way for the reading buddies to learn together outside of the classroom! By: Mrs. Rego

Dancing & Quilt Making at Pioneer Village



The Kennedy Concert Band with Mr. Siu
 Congratulations Mr. Siu and the Kennedy concert band who have attained Gold, Platinum and Silver Plus certifications at the Kiwanis Club and Ontario Band Association!



They are invited to perform at the Musicfest Nationals as well as the Provincial Finals for the Kiwanis Music.

Rachel So received the Student Leadership award from the Ontario Band Association. Congratulations Rachel!

By: Mr. Siu



Coding Club with Miss. Saleh and Mrs. Chang

Coding Club at Kennedy PS launched just after the Winter break. We are open to all students who are



interested in Computer Science in grades 3-5 using Scratch and Google's CS First. Some of the members will be eventually representing Kennedy at next year's Lego

Robotics competition. By: Ms. Chang



Kennedy Board Games Club

with Ms. Lee Mrs. Tsui, Mrs. Rego, Ms. Ho, Ms. Wong, Mr. Liang, and Mr. Chu
 It's lots of fun and the kids are enjoying it!

Games you'll be playing

Group 1 Sushi Go Party	Group 2 Machi Koro	Group 3 Exploding Kittens	Group 4 Blokus	Group 5 Ice Cool	Group 6 No Thanks

FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL!

Congratulations to Hayley Wong who has been selected as award recipient for Ontario on her Healing Forest submissions for Imagine a Canada art work. Hayley's work was based on the "Healing forest" quote and how she imagines a Canada through a lens of reconciliation.

Hayley's work will be sent forward to the national selection committee for further considerations.
WELL DONE!

What Does a Healing Forest Look Like?

**"To Indigenous Peoples,
trees are purifying, healing
and caring grandmothers.**

**Trees and vegetation
are a principal source of spiritual and
cultural connection and many trees and
plants provide powerful medicines.**

**Non-Indigenous people also understand
and value the meditative and restorative
powers of the forest, whether they are
walking through it, sitting in reflection or
gathering food and medicines.**

**In our vision of the Healing Forest,
we hope to spread the Healing Forest
from sea to sea to sea and with it
the healing will also spread and grow.**

From "Imagine A Canada" @ National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation
<http://net.ncc.ca/education/pages.php?imagine>



This is about my water colour painting called the healing forest. I thought it connected with our environment, First Nations people and being eco-friendly. Trees and nature are important to the First Nations people because they built canoes by using wood and they use the forest for many things. They use medicinal herbs to recover from sickness and

make them healthier. They believe that nature and the land do not belong to them so they must take care of nature. Besides the First Nations Peoples, trees are important to us and our environment. Trees give us oxygen and make the air fresher. Trees give life to the world's wildlife. They also provide us materials for tools and shelter.

I think we need to be friendlier to our environment and take care of the trees. If we take care of our forests, this is a way we can show respect for the culture of the First Nations people. We are trying to make right a lot of wrongs that happened in our history and begin the healing process. By: Hayley Wong

RUBIK'S CUBE CHAMPION



Introducing Hassan Qureshi, a grade 8 student at Kennedy P.S. who is a natural at solving the Rubik's Cube. Hassan holds the Kennedy record of 30 seconds which is quite impressive given that the world record is 4.73 seconds. The Rubik's Cube was created in 1944 and

was originally known as the Magic Cube. It was later renamed the Rubik's Cube after its creator, Ernő Rubik, a scientist from Budapest, Hungary.



Kennedy Students Support Local Social Justice Causes



Toronto Foundation for Student Success

January 23, 2017

Traci Mohamed
Kennedy P.S.
20 Elmfield Crescent
Toronto ON
M1V 2Y6

Dear Traci,

On behalf of the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (TFSS), I would like to thank you for heading up your school's participation in our annual Red Nose Campaign, especially at such a busy time in the school year. Your efforts have raised \$966.90 to help children across our system.

The funds raised from this event will be used to provide winter coats, warm boots, hats and gloves that their families simply can't afford. Students across the TDSB are lucky to have wonderful, caring educators who not only teach them but also care deeply about their health and well-being. We at TFSS are privileged to have your support.

Again, many, many thanks. We can't do any of it without you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'C. Parsonage', written in black ink.

Catherine Parsonage
Executive Director & CEO

Kennedy Students Support Local Social Justice Causes



A single dream. A world of hope.®

January 23, 2017

Ms. Traci Mohamed
Kennedy Public School
20 Elmfield Crescent
Scarborough, ON M1V 2Y6

Dear Traci,

"The answer is to try to help others."

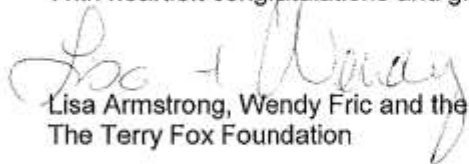
With these few simple words, Terry Fox set out to make the world a better place for us all. His humble persona was anchored by a deep well of determination and compassion, a fierce belief that someone had to do something to bring about an end to the terrible suffering cancer causes.

We cannot help but think that you also share the same philosophy as Terry. As an educator, you have devoted your life to helping your students learn, thrive, mature. But in your role as Terry Fox Run Organizer, you are also helping your students develop their potential for giving, understanding, compassion. You cannot provide them with all the answers for a happy and fulfilled life but in this case you have provided them with at least one important one: try to help others.

Empowered by your guidance and encouragement, Canadian students are making a remarkable contribution to the advancements we see in cancer research. With over 4,100 participating schools in Ontario, it is inspiring to see how Terry's story remains relevant and vibrant.

It is a privilege to have the support of the staff and students of Kennedy Public School and we thank you for your generous donation of \$826.65 for cancer research.

With heartfelt congratulations and gratitude,



Lisa Armstrong, Wendy Fric and the School Program Team
The Terry Fox Foundation

P.S. Congratulations on surpassing last year's fundraising total - we are inspired by your fantastic school spirit!

The Terry Fox Foundation®

Suite 900, 1200 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto, ON M3C 1H9 Tel: 416 924-8252 Fax: 416 924-6597
ontario@terryfoxrun.org web: www.terryfox.org