



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

September/October
2015

Kennedy P.S.

20 Elmfield Crescent

Scarborough, ON

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Principal:

Rhonda Cohen-Pierobon

Vice Principal:

Lisa Teodosio

Office Administrator:

Patricia Lamanna

Data Secretary:

Sheila Ko

Superintendent:

Beth Veale

School Trustee:

Manna Wong

School Council:

Stephen Hu



We have successfully started the 2015-2016 school year! A great deal of hard work went into preparing our school for our students. Many thanks to Ms. Lamanna and Mrs. Ko for taking care of our new registrations, Mr. Aprile and our custodial staff for making our school sparkle, and the teachers and support staff who spent many hours preparing their classrooms.

Throughout the month of September, the Kennedy staff have been busy with 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, Borden Ball tournament and the annual Terry Fox Run.

As a school, we continue to focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Safe Schools. Character Development, Mental Health, & Daily Physical Activity, will also be integrated into our program. As well, this year we plan to introduce the 'Mind Up' curriculum to enhance social, emotional and self-regulatory strategies and skills.

Once again, we are proud to maintain a partnership with our local Universities. This year, we will continue to develop our Sister School Partnership with MinHang Experimental Primary School in China. We continue to host Teacher Candidates from the University of Toronto, Tyndale College and Niagara University and in addition, local high school Co-Op students continue to assist 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 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 be posted on our website at the end of each month. For your convenience, 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.

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 Join The Kennedy Council

Parents and guardians are invited to join the Kennedy School Council. Parents and school administration meet regularly to discuss, dialogue and develop initiatives that support the Kennedy students, parents and the community at large. Our upcoming November meeting will take place on **Wednesday November 25th between 6:00 - 7:00** Everyone is welcome.



INTRODUCING..... The 2015-2016 Kennedy Student Council

Justin Lin President

Anson Liang - Treasurer

Colby Ma
Vice President

Joyce Chen
Vice President

Jessica Zhang
Secretary

Sally Yan
President



Upcoming October/November Dates

October:

2nd: Gr. 5/6 Bordenball Tournament

5th: Gr. 7/8 Bordenball Tournament

7th: International Walk to School Day

8th: Cross Country Meet Thomson Park

12th: Thanksgiving Day - School Closed

14th: School Photo Day

18th: Federal Elections

20th: Cross Country Meet Dallington P.S.

21st: Transition to High school Parent Information Sessions 9:00 and 2:00 @ Sir Earnest McMillan

29: Police Safe School Presentation

November

1st: Daylight Savings Ends

4th: Mental Health and Mindfulness workshops for Parents 9:00 -11:00 Staff Room with Susan Shi

2nd - 10th: Dental Screening Week

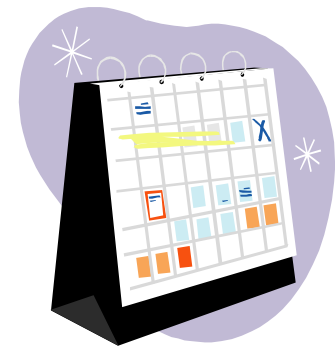
11th: Remembrance Day

12th: Parent - Teacher Interviews Evening

13th: Parent - Teacher Interviews School closed for students

18th: School Photo Retake Day

27th: Gr. 7 & 8 Immunization



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 for intermediate students are to help them:

- 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 Grade 6s and intermediate students to complete throughout the year on topics such as mindfulness, stress and anxiety, 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 present parent information sessions about secondary school in October/November. Please keep reading newsletter alerts to find out when these sessions will be held and when secondary school information will be sent home, as it is very important to keep informed about options and deadlines.

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 to book 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.

High School Information

Most of our Grade 8 students will be attending Dr. Norman Bethune next year, as this is their *home* school. However, there are other opportunities within TDSB that might be of interest to your child.

Many of the programs require students to take an entrance

Dr. Norman Bethune's evening will be held on Thursday, November 19th at 6:45.

The link below lists all TDSB high schools and the programs offered including dates/times of information nights, deadlines & the application processes.

Link for High School Information Nights <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/HighSchool/GoingtoHighSchool/OpenHousesandInformationNights.aspx>

Grade 8

Parent Information Sessions



Where: Sir Ernest MacMillan S.P.S.

**When: Wednesday, October 21st 9:00-10:00 a.m.
or 2:00-3:00 p.m.**

Guidance Counsellor Elysa Tarascio will provide an information session about high school diploma requirements, special programs, important dates, pathways and course selection.



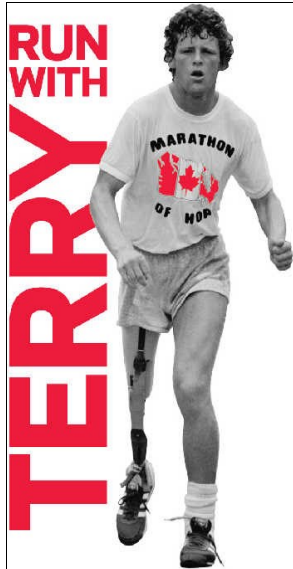
Character Development

September - Respect

October - Responsibility

November - Empathy

December - Kindness & Caring



Once again this year, our staff shared the story of Terry Fox with students to provide them with an example of courage, determination and hope. Although Terry ran his Marathon of Hope over 35 years ago, his story continues to inspire new generations.

We held the Run on Thursday, October 1st. Thank you to all those who donated a 'Toonie for Terry'.

Participation at Kennedy P.S.

Did you know that OCTOBER is International Walk to School Month?

Children and youth between the ages of 5-17 need at least 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous-intensity physical activity every day. Walking to & from school can help children reach these levels.

At Kennedy P.S. we have decided to take on a challenge to actively travel to and from school throughout the year! We plan to start this trend by celebrating International Walk to School Day on **October 7, 2015**. Walking to and from school can help students meet the recommended daily amount of physical activity, improve community safety, promote social interaction, reduce traffic congestion and protect the environment.

ECOSCHOOL UPDATE



ecoSCHOOLS.ca

Congratulations Kennedy P.S. on Becoming Gold Certified.



**Well Done Kennedy
Keep Moving Forward!**

- The TDSB ECO Team was impressed with:
- * The Kennedy KITE Club: Kennedy Improving The Environment
 - The strong involvement and dedication of Teachers & students
 - * Well displayed ECO Bulletin board and ECO focus signs
 - * An updated school Eco binder with Gr. 1 to 8 Ecological Literacy
 - * Well looked after school grounds and gardens
 - * The Kennedy Waste Audit conducted by the KITE club
 - * Pairing up garbage cans and recycling bins
 - * Excellent Earth Day school and park clean-up
 - * Monthly Eco Schools update in the **Kennedy Clan** newsletter
 - * Our very successful walk /bike to school initiative
 - * Launched the boomerang lunch campaign
 - * Composting with the 'Green Bin' in the staff room
 - * The waste reduction campaigns in classes
 - * School participation in the ER18 Shoreline clean-up

Participation at Kennedy P.S.



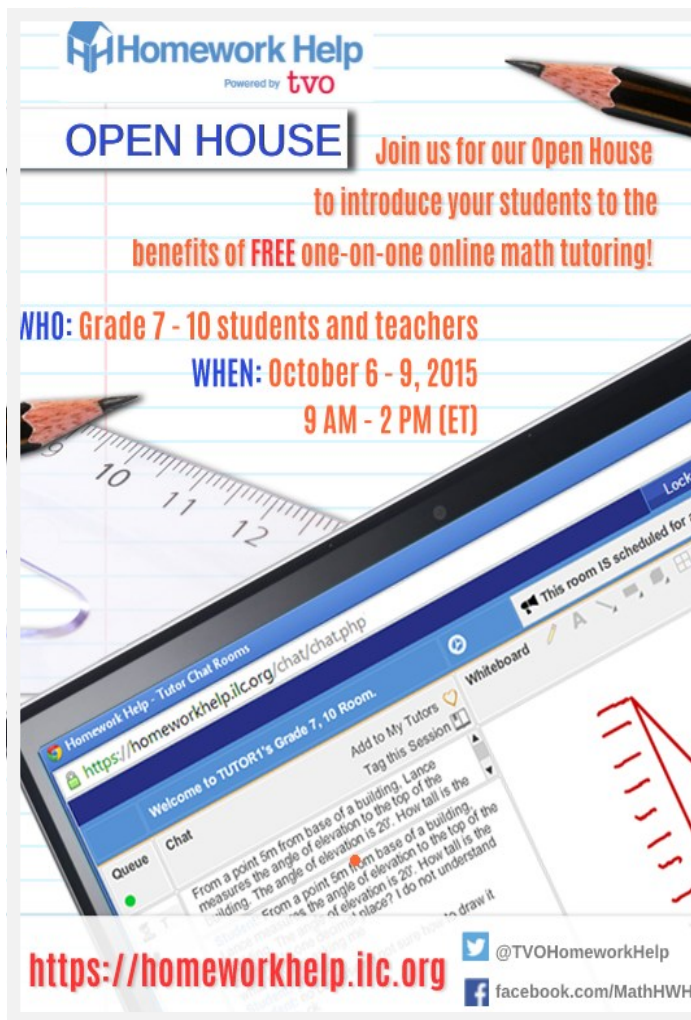
Kennedy P.S. Participates in the Annual Terry Fox Run



Our annual Terry Fox walk and run took part on Thursday, Oct 1st in the afternoon. The event began with a school wide presentation from the Terry Fox School representative Jessi, an inspiring ambassador from the Terry Fox Foundation who spoke to the students about Terry and his legacy. With the 'Toonies for Terry' Fundraising initiative our school community raised \$630.



Student Support at Kennedy P.S.



The poster features the Homework Help logo (Powered by tvo) at the top left. Below it, the text reads "OPEN HOUSE" in large blue letters, followed by "Join us for our Open House to introduce your students to the benefits of FREE one-on-one online math tutoring!". The target audience is "NHO: Grade 7 - 10 students and teachers" and the dates are "WHEN: October 6 - 9, 2015 9 AM - 2 PM (ET)". The background includes a pencil, a ruler, and a laptop displaying the Homework Help website interface. At the bottom, the website URL <https://homeworkhelp.ilc.org> is listed along with social media handles for Twitter (@TVOHomeworkHelp) and Facebook (facebook.com/MathHWH).

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, Sunday to Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Homework Help is funded by the Ontario Government and administered by TVOs Independent Learning Centre.

Safe School Week

Kennedy P.S. continues to work closely with Toronto Police to promote and maintain School Safety and Community Support. Once again this year, Community School Liaison Officer Bednarczyk From 42 Division will visit the classes at Kennedy Public School to talk about traffic safety, how to safely cross the road, the importance of having to watch out for vehicles on the road and the need to wear a helmet when riding their bike.

Ryan's Law, 2015

Ryan's Law, 2015 (Ensuring Asthma Friendly Schools) was recently passed by the Ontario Legislature. This legislation supports the safety and well-being of students with asthma and requires that:

With parent's or guardian's permission, students be allowed to carry their asthma medication.

Students 16 years or older, are not required to have parent's or guardian's permission to carry asthma medication.

Tips for Parents -

How to Improve Your Child's Attendance:

- Talk with your child about the importance of attending school regularly;
- Discuss with your child what happened at school each day;
- Make sure your child stays healthy by eating nutritious food and getting enough sleep and exercise;
- Help your child prepare for the next school day;
- Avoid family trips or doctor's appointments during school hours;
- Support school rules and consequences for being late or absent;
- Show your child why education is important. Give specific examples of how education helps people succeed; and
- Make sure your child stays home only when he/she is sick with a fever, vomiting or with a doctor's note.

Kennedy On Goings!!!



What a fantastic way to get kids interested in the democratic process and to ensure that when the time comes they will actually get out and vote. Junior and Intermediate students have been busy following the Federal Election culminating with the opportunity to not only get to vote but also have their votes sent in to be counted by **Student Vote**. As a follow up, the students can compare their votes and results to those of the real election.

East Conference Champions!

A huge congratulations goes out to the grades 7 & 8 girls' Bordenball team. They beat out 16 teams to be the last team standing and win the East Conference Championship! They demonstrated tremendous athleticism with their one handed catches, use of the field space and great defensive plays. They persevered against some of the toughest teams in Scarborough and won Great Job Girls! From Ms. Lantz



Conference Finalists!

After a couple weeks of early morning and lunch practices, the junior girls were finally off to **Macklin PS** to represent Kennedy at the Bordenball tournament. The girls played hard and worked together to win their first 3 games – placing them first in their pool. They advanced to the semis, then the finals, losing their last game to a strong team from St. Andrews. Ms. Johnson and Ms. McDougall are extremely proud of all of the girls, who showed dedication and true sportsmanship!



PicCOLLAGE

S6 Wong MPP

SCARBOROUGH - AGINCOURT

Reading Circle



Watch for special events celebrating the 10th Anniversary of Reading Circle!



**Every Saturday from
October 17, 2015 to May 7, 2016**

For More Information:

Phone: 416-297-6568

Email: swong.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org