FEBRUARY 2024

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LORD ROBERTS
JUNIOR
PUBLIC SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL NOTES

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Wednesday, January 31, 2024.



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to another newsletter! I'd like to thank everyone for coming out to our Winter Concert, December 21. It was a resounding success with the fantastic turnout we had – in fact it was standing-room only, which is something we have to think about for next year. Perhaps a separate primary and junior concert – in addition to the already separate one we have for kindergarten, is the way to go for next year. It's nice to have a great crowd but not particularly pleasant if you have to stand at the back of the gym for the duration! Nonetheless – every class in the school participated, which was wonderful! This was probably the best attended event I have witnessed since I am at the school, and this is my 7th year!

Our school was featured in Trustee Neethan Shan's newsletter the week of January 22nd. I hope all our families had the opportunity to read it. There is a lot going on at our school and there are lots of opportunities for the students to get involved in athletics, dance, drama, singing, games, gardening, music and the arts. Covid times put an end to a lot of social activities and events and fortunately, now, we are making up for lost time and missed opportunities. Now, there is something for everyone at Lord Roberts!

Student Council - new!

Thanks to Ms Foryda Akhtar, our new ESL/ Librarian, Lord Roberts now has a Student Council:



At Lord Roberts we launched a Student Council. It will facilitate our students to foster skills like leadership, communication, teamwork, organization and public speaking. The whole application process took one month to complete. Our fabulous candidates gave their speech at the Junior Assembly which was a part of their application. On December 6th we had an election. Out of 32 candidates, 12 students were elected to make

the Student Council Committee. Those students will hold leadership positions within our school and are responsible for organizing events, advocating for student needs, and leading service projects. (F. Akhtar)

Presidents: Rahaf A. & Matthew K. & Kavinaya P.

Treasurers: Thaksika M. & Suryananth P. Secretaries: Karima A. & Melody R. Public Relations Officers: Gianne B. & Shritan R.

Class Representatives: Azhar S. & Emir E. & Neelima O.

Valentine's Day Dance

The grade 6 students will be organizing a Valentine's Day Dance on Wednesday, February 14. All classes will be given a period during that day to go to the gym.

period during that day to go to the gym and enjoy themselves at the dance. A letter will be forthcoming closer to the date.

English Kindergarten Registration Begins in February - TDSB schools provide a rich learning environment for all children to learn and grow. Registration for English Kindergarten programs begins in February. To attend Junior Kindergarten in September, children must turn four-years-old by December 31. To register for Senior Kindergarten, children must be five-years-old by December 31. Visit the Kindergarten Registration page to learn more.

Online Tutoring for TDSB Students -

Online, on-demand tutoring is available 24/7 for students. **Elementary** students can access homework help and enrichment opportunities in all subject areas and grades through <u>Brainfuse</u>. View the <u>Brainfuse</u> Poster for more information or contact Brainfuse. **Secondary** students can access tutoring for all courses and grades through <u>Paper</u>. View the <u>Paper Poster</u> for more information or contact Paper.



Chinese Heritage Month

The TDSB proudly recognizes Chinese Heritage Month in February each year. During this month, several learning resources and educational opportunities will be provided to our students and staff to further enhance their knowledge of Chinese heritage.

The Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is one of the most significant holidays of Chinese heritage. The date is determined by the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar and the celebration lasts 16 days. This year, the first day begins on Saturday, February 22, 2024.



This year is the Year of the Dragon: Majesty, Brilliance, Confidence, Leadership.

African Heritage Month at the TDSB: Invitation to African HM Virtual Launch February 1, 2024 (Save the Date)

During the month of February, the Toronto District School Board proudly recognizes African Heritage (Black History) Month. It is an occasion to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of peoples of African descent to Canada and the world. The chosen theme for 2023-2024 is Our Black Is...

To kick off African Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board, we are excited to extend an invitation to all students, staff and the TDSB community to join us in marking this significant month with entertainment, and noteworthy speakers. The several educational opportunities that are being organized for our students and staff throughout the month of February and beyond will be shared at the African Heritage Month Virtual Launch.

We'll be thrilled to have you join us! Details are noted below.

Please save the date!

African Heritage Month Virtual Launch

Date: Thursday, February 1st, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 10:45 am Virtual Link: To be shared soon. Should further information be



2023-2024 Winter Well-Being Guide from Professional Support Services

The 2023-2024 Winter Well-Being Guide is filled with activities, games, wellness tips, identity affirming resources and community agencies to support wellness for all students, caregivers/guardians, families, and school communities over the winter months!

Created by Professional Support Services Staff who are part of the Mental Health and Well-Being Committee, the TDSB Mental Health Leads and the System Leader for

Mental Health and Professional Support Services, this Guide provides accessible resources and has been translated into the top 20 TDSB spoken languages. This Guide can be accessed here:

2023-2024 Winter Well-Being Guide

If you have any questions, please contact Shameen Sandhu, System
Leader, Mental Health, and Professional Support Services at mentalhealthandwellbeing@tdsb.on.ca

Virtual Learning

The TDSB will continue to offer students in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 the option for virtual learning in the 2024 - 2025 school year. Elementary Virtual Learning



classes will continue to be hosted at local schools. Secondary students will attend Virtual Secondary School. Regular programs and Intensive Support Programs (ISPs) depending on viable programming and where there is available space, will be offered in elementary and secondary Virtual Learning.

French Immersion, Extended French, LEAP, Alternative Schools, and Student Interest Programs continue to be available in-person only.

For more information, please refer to the <u>2024 - 25 Virtual Learning</u>, <u>Internal Q & A</u>. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Edwards, Centrally Assigned Principal, Virtual Learning & Re-Engagement.

17th Annual Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Conference - The 17th Annual PIAC Conference is on Saturday, February 3, 2024 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Earl Haig Secondary School. The PIAC Conference is a unique opportunity to deepen understanding of the educational landscape, connect with fellow parents/guardians/caregivers and staff, and contribute to the continued success of our community. More information: www.torontopiac.com/whats-happening/conferences and review our conferences flyer.

Parents, this was sent out to you via School Messenger on January 10, 2024 but in case you missed it, here it is again. You still have a couple of days before the deadline:

Middle French Immersion (Grade 4 Entry) Application

Deadline - For families interested in the system-wide

French Immersion Program, we offer an online process to apply for Middle French Immersion (begins in Grade 4).

To apply for September 2024, applications must be completed online between January 8 and February 2,

2024. Families with an older sibling currently in a Middle French Immersion program are still required to complete an online application for the new student. For more information, please visit: Middle French Immersion or the Application Process. Interested families can apply via the Application Link.

Weather Guidelines

Children need an opportunity to get exercise and free play time outdoors, however, weather conditions sometimes warrant that indoor recesses, lunch periods and pre-entry periods be considered necessary for student and staff safety.



Conditions warranting indoor recesses:

- 1. Rain, thunderstorms, lightning, hail, extreme winds and extreme cold.
- 2. Cold weather: When temperature and/or windchill factor indicates -28C or lower children will remain indoors due to risk of frostnip and frostbite.

When an extreme cold weather alert is issued or when temperatures and/or windchill factor indicates -20 to -28C, recesses may be shortened to 10 minutes and lunch recess be 20 minutes depending on local conditions. Children should be monitored closely for signs of frostnip, frostbite or difficulty breathing.

Other conditions:

Weather conditions change during the day. When necessary and if the weather is questionable, the school principal will consult the Environment Canada's www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca or Toronto Public Health Web sites for information.

Report Cards

Report cards will be sent home on February 12th, barring any technical difficulties in office printing.

Parent interviews are on Feb. 15, in the afternoon and early evening and during the morning of February 16th. There is a PA Day on Friday, February 16. Hence, there is no school on that day for our students.



Family Day is celebrated on Monday, February 19, which is also a holiday. Families, in all their shapes, forms and sizes, are at the heart of our communities. In Ontario, a day is set aside to reflect on the importance of families and to celebrate with loved ones. Family Day is a provincial holiday on the third Monday of February, extending the weekend for one extra day. So, February 16 to February 19 is an extra long weekend for you to enjoy with family!





That's all for now... Feel free to call the office anytime if you have questions or concerns at: 416-396-6420.

Sincerely,

T. Dillinger

Principal

Lord Roberts Jr. P.S.

