



PERTH PULSE

Principal's Report

February has proved to be a busy month with skating, skiing, swimming and dancing! Perth will do anything to beat the February chills! We do look forward to the warmer weather that March may bring.

In February we celebrated Lunar New Year with a vibrant Kindergarten Parade. Did you know, it is the year of the monkey? February also was Black History month with a variety of things going on throughout the school. We had a special performance from Ballet Creole and all students participated in a "Read Around" listening to stories about African Heritage from around the world.

Perth hosted WR07 Artsfest this year. Students and schools from Ryerson CS, HumberSide CI, Parkdale PS (to name a few) performed various pieces in music, dance and drama. The entire event was spread out over two days to showcase student talent. It was a truly amazing experience. Thanks to Mme. Carpenter, Ms Dueck, Mr. Dutton, Mme Gonzalez, SAC and all the students at Perth for all they did to make it such a successful event.

Congratulations Students! Congratulations to Kaydence in Room 109 and Sara in Room 204! Both students were the Book Mark Contest Winners at the Perth/Dupont Branch for their age groups. Honourable Mentions to Emaan 204, Maya 204, Greta 108, Sophie 204, Noah 204, Ava 210 and Sunny 211. Well done Perth!

Tutors in the Classroom: Perth has been selected to participate in the Tutors in Classroom program again this year. Please join me in welcoming Brittany who will tutor in Rooms 210 and 205, Lisa who will tutor in Rooms 211 and 204 and Santiago who will tutor in Rooms 107 and 111. Welcome to Perth tutors.

Yours in Partnership,

Andrea McPherson, Principal

Toronto Foundation for Student Success

As you may recall, Perth participated in the Toronto Foundation for Student Success annual Red Nose Campaign. I am pleased to report that we raised \$348.90 to help children across the system. The funds raised from this event will be used to provide winter coats, warm boots, hats and gloves to students across the TDSB. Thanks again to all the students, staff and parents who support our effort. We can't do it without you!

March 2016

Follow us on Twitter

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UPCOMING EVENTS

March 10 The Big Crunch
March 11—Grandparents' Afternoon for K's 2:00
March 14-18—March Break
March 22, Rooms 201/202 to Kortright
March 24—School Spirit Day—Twin Day
March 25—Good Friday
March 28—Easter Monday
March 31—Grades 3-6, Roseneath Theatre
April 25-28—Dental Screening

Celebrating African Heritage Month at Perth

On Friday, February 19th, Perth students enjoyed and celebrated African Heritage through dance and story telling. Ballet Creole performed in the morning. In the afternoon of February 26th, all students listened to various stories from the library from countries in the west, east and central parts of Africa in our school wide "Read Around." Thanks to Ms. Dueck who organized all the groups and found books for the students to enjoy.



February Recognition Assembly- Fairness

Congratulations to all the Award Winners for February who understand and show FAIRNESS in their everyday actions. Well done Panthers!

In March, the character recognition trait will be Honesty.



Room 107 Skating Fun at Campbell Park

On Friday, February 4th, student in Mme Gonzalez's Grade One French Immersion, enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of skating at Campbell Park. It was a perfect day!



Skiing Fun—Rooms 210 and 211 at Centennial Park

Students in Ms. Zuberi's Grade 4/5 and Mr. Barbeau's 5/6 classes enjoyed two days of skiing at Centennial Park on February 3 and 10. Even though the winter has been relatively mild thus far, students enjoyed two glorious days on the ski hills.



More articles from Room 210—Celebrating Martin Luther King and African Heritage Month

If We Lived In A World Without Dreams.

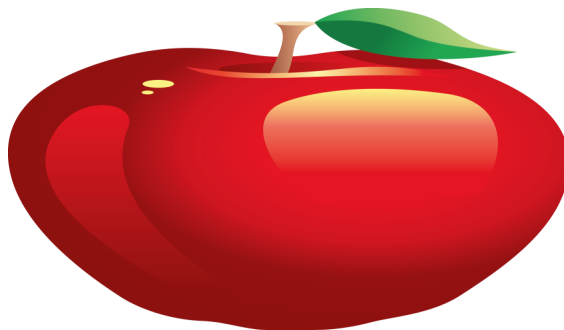
We need to live in a world with dreaming, inventing, making and learning. It all started with dreams and as DR. Martin King JR. said I HAVE A DREAM... If we lived in a world without dreams we would not have the rights that we have today. There would be black discrimination. Most African American and African Canadians would not be allowed to go to school, College or even University. African American people would have to drink from the black only fountains and whites from the white's only fountains. People of African heritage and others would not have equal rights. We would not have as much technology and inventions that we have today. Blerta. -Perth Avenue Public School Room 210

If we lived in a world without dreams we will not have any imagination because dreams create imagination. A world without dreams would make the world empty and boring because we would have no goals in life. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream that little black boys and little black girls would join hands with little white boys and little white girls. He dreamt that people would not be judge by their skin colour but by their character. A world without dreams would not be as exciting as it is now with dreams. If we had a world without dreams we would not have as many creative jobs, we would not have good education because our imagination are how we think to make jobs and schools and a beautiful life.

By Ava, Room 210

THE BIG CRUNCH AT PERTH—Thursday, March 10, 2016

The 2016 Great Big Crunch is coming up again this year. The Big Crunch is an opportunity to celebrate fresh local food during March which is also Nutrition Month. We are hoping to be part of 1,000,000 total crunchers this year. Stay tuned for tweets day of.



Lunar New Year's Parade, Monday, February 8, 2016

On Monday, February 8th, our Kindergarten students celebrated Lunar New Year. All students were encouraged to wear red. Students began the morning with a Lunar New Year story in their classrooms. Following that, all Kindergarten children led a fabulous parade around the school filled with dragons, monkeys and drums. It was quite a site. Thanks to Ms. Matutschovsky for organizing.



Celebrating African Heritage—Rooms 111, 108 and 107

African Heritage Month was kicked off at the beginning of February with a presentation by Erica and Chidi, parents of Kene in Mme. Carpenter & Mme. Caroline's class.

We learned that Africa is not a country, as some people mistakenly call it, but in fact it is a continent with **54 COUNTRIES!**

We saw a slide show that showed different cities, landscapes and people from the different countries of Africa.

The class was decorated with gorgeous fabrics, instruments, costumes and accessories from the country of Nigeria. Chidi went backstage to change into a beautiful traditional costume and told us the story of Prince Kene and the Lion.

Then we teachers, Mme. Gonzales, Ms. Young, Mrs. A., Mme. Caroline and Mme Carpenter got to play traditional instruments while the classes tried some dancing.

What a powerful and unforgettable way to learn about the continent of Africa! We are so grateful to Erica and Chidi for sharing this beautiful presentation. More photos and videos of the event are available from Kene's parents upon request.



Perth Ave JPS visits Costi's Welcome Centre

On Thursday, February 11th, students from Ms. Zuberi's grade 4/5 class and Ms. Dueck were at COSTI's Welcome Centre on Lippincott Street. As you recall, Perth Ave collected and donated items to make welcome boxes for Refugee children in December. The students had the opportunity to meet Syrian families staying at the centre. The students presented their Syrian counterparts with their care packages they'd made, full of toys and school supplies. This story was also picked up by Metro News Toronto and was featured on Page 5 of the newspaper. Once again, we are so proud of our efforts here at Perth Ave JPS!



ARTSFEST at Perth Ave JPS

Perth played host to almost 800 students from 15 neighbouring TDSB schools as they proudly presented choirs, dances, drumming, performance art, poetry, songs, bands, strings ensembles and dramatic scenes over two days. Students were excited to see what was going on at other schools. The festival is unique in that its performers span from Kindergarten to Grade 12. For Artistic Director Arwyn Carpenter bringing Artsfest to life was a way to contribute to Perth's advocacy for arts education and to add to Perth's reputation as a lively arts-based school. Go Perth!

Photo shows Perth Junior Dance Club rehearsing their Electric Lady dance for Artsfest.



GET TO KNOW PERTH STAFF—Meet Mrs. Tocher

Mrs. Tocher is an Educational Assistant and Special Needs Assistant here at Perth. She works with all students from Kindergarten to Grade 6. Mrs. Tocher helps out in classrooms and takes reading groups. Mrs. Tocher always has a smile on her face and loves working with students and staff each and every day. When she was asked to be interviewed this month, she politely said “I am not that interesting for an interview.” We knew that could not be true so we decided to contact Mrs. Tocher’s sister who is also a teacher in the TDSB to help us get to know Mrs. Tocher better. Here is what we found out:

Q—Is Mrs. Tocher the oldest or youngest in the family?

A—She is the oldest of four children.

Q—What was Mrs. Tocher like growing up as a teenager?

A— She liked to play basketball and would hang out with her friends in the neighbourhood. She always enjoyed helping people out.

Q—What is your favourite memory?

A— Our favourite memory is going up north for our summer vacations and going to the beach.

Q—What does she like doing in her spare time?

A—Mrs. Tocher likes to scrapbook. She is looking into adopting dogs on the Toronto Humane Society website. She likes to sew things like Halloween costumes.

Q—What is one thing we don’t know about Mrs. Tocher?

A—When Mrs. Tocher lost her first tooth , it ended up falling into a bottle of coke.

Q—What was the name of the stuffed monkey Mrs. Tocher had as a baby?

A—Mr. Bubbles



Room 110 Meets Author Sheila Mitchell at Perth-Dupont Library

On February 4th a Kindergarten class from Perth had the privilege of meeting an author and her publisher. We enjoyed hearing Sheila Mitchell, a Toronto author reading her recently published book. We got to ask some questions after she shared her storybook about a grandmother's special time spent with her grandson.

Valentina: How many grandchildren do you have?

Ms. Mitchell: I have one grandson named Tendani.

Santache: How old is your grandchild?

Ms. Mitchell: He is two years old.

Javil: Where were you born?

Ms. Mitchell: I was born in Barbados.

Jahzeel: Where do you live?

Ms. Mitchell: I live in Toronto.

Mia: How old were you when you became a grandparent?

Ms. Mitchell: I was sixty-three years old.

Anna: Why did you write this book?

Ms. Mitchell: I love writing and my grandson was my inspiration.

Rowan: How did you get to write this book?

Ms. Mitchell: Jessica Alex [story publisher] helped me.

Sahana: What is your favourite part of the book?

Ms. Mitchell: Reading. My grandson likes to hear every book in the house!

Ayana and Silko: What is your favourite part of being a grandparent?

Ms. Mitchell: I get to give my grandchild lots of hugs and kisses.

Mrs. Douglas and Carmen: Who illustrated the book?

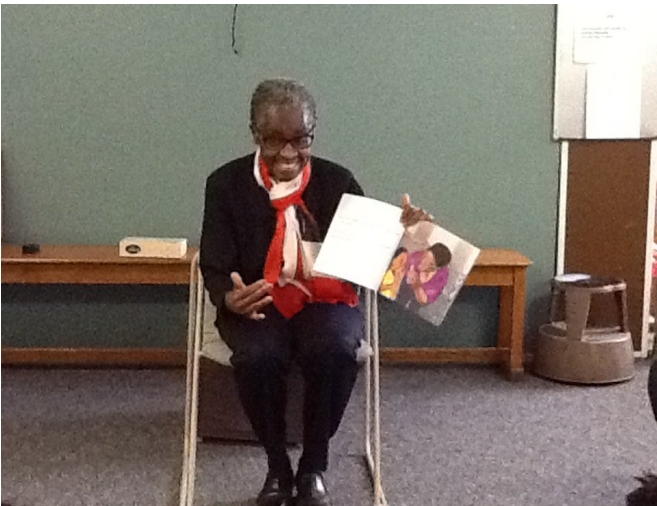
Ms. Mitchell: A talented artist named Leon Robinson.

Miss Susie: Do you have another book published?

Ms. Mitchell: One is in the making about God made the animals.

We would like to thank Carmen from Perth-Dupont Library for inviting us to meet a local author. We were very excited when we saw a picture of a green train zooming by in the background.

We recognized it as the Go Train that runs through our neighbourhood!



FROM THE DESK OF MS. DUECK

Library News for the Month of March 2016

We are very pleased to report that the Welcome Boxes that the Perth students helped put together have been hand delivered to refugee families at Costi Settlement House. Room 210, the grade 4/5s, took the TTC some carrying two boxes all the way there in the chilly weather. The boxes were well received by the families with smiles all around.

For Black History Month, we had a Read Around where students enjoyed stories from different countries of Africa. Students were put into multi aged groups and given their ticket to visit three countries in Africa and listened to stories from those countries. Students were made aware that it was Freedom to Read Week, that there are places in the world where reading is discouraged!

The scholastic book fair is coming March 4-10!!! Yes it's here again! These sales are a great way to buy books for the library... ones that the students choose themselves. Please see the schedule posted. There will be some after-school times for parents to visit as well.

Real Food for Real Kids Update

Are you interested in a lunch program where students are provided with healthy hot lunches a few days a week? "Real Food for Real Kids" offers delicious, healthy, litterless lunches made fresh from scratch using mainly locally-grown food, for about **\$5 per lunch**.

We would like to know how many parents are interested in this program. Please tell us what you think by completing this short survey: <https://goo.gl/qliBeN>

Some Random and Fun Pictures Taken during School Spirit Day—Hat Day, February 26, 2016



Inquiry-Based Learning Environmental Summer Program

Join us at Brock PS

Engage in:

- Hands-on workshops in the Brock Rooftop Garden
- Hands-on workshops with FoodShare
- Inquiry-based learning
- Cooking & Tasting
- Gardening
- Field trips
- Visual arts activities
- Use of technology
- Grades 1–8
- It's Free!

Return registration forms by April 29, 2016

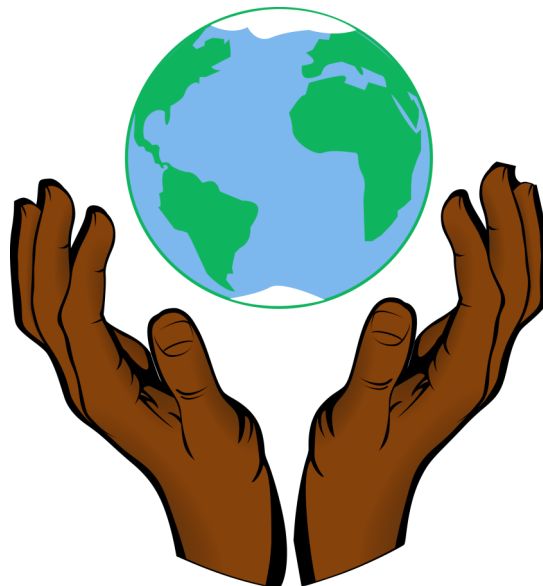
Come explore the environment and our local community!

July 5–July 29, 2016

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

CONTACT US NOW

Brock PS, 93 Margueretta Street.
Please call us at 416-393-9245





2016



FUN FAIR

PERTH AVE. JR. PUBLIC SCHOOL

Thursday, June 2
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Activities:

Food, Games and Prizes, Bouncy Castles, Silent Auction, Raffle, Entertainment



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

If you have ½ hr. to volunteer on event day or have an item you'd like to contribute to the silent auction/raffle, email us at perthschoolcouncil@gmail.com or call 647-880-9769 and let us know!



FUNDS RAISED GO TOWARDS:

- In-class guests such as authors, *Scientists In School*
- Class trips to cultural and/or significant landmarks
- Nutritional and environmental education workshops
- In classroom technology
- Purchasing items from teachers' wish lists
- Fees for performing arts presentations

