



- Indigenous Education Month

1 All Saints Day Eastern Orthodox & Roman Catholic
1 Samhain* Wicca/Pagan
 2 Crowning of Emperor Haile Selassie I Rastafari
 4 Gyana Panchami Jain
 6 Photo Retake/ Sibling Day!
 11 Remembrance Day Canada
 12 Birth of Baha'hu'llah* Baha'i
 13 Indigenous Performance
 14 Birthday of Guru Nanak Sikhism
 14 Lokashaha Jayanti Jain
 14 Prakash Sikhism
 14 World Diabetes Day WHO
 14 Progress Reports go home
 16 Louis Riel Day (Toronto) First Nations, Métis
 17 P A Day – No school
 20 Universal Children's Day UN
 20 International Transgender Day of Gwendolyn Ann Remembrance Smith, US Trans Advocate
 20 SAC Meeting 6-7pm
 20-26 Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week Government of Ontario
 21 Presentation of the Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Church
 24 Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sikhism
 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence UN Against Women
 26 Day of the Covenant* Baha'i
 26 National Holodomor Memorial Day Ukrainian Canadian Association
 27- Dec 24 Advent Christianity

Empathy is...

seeing with the eyes of another.
 listening with the ears of another.
 and feeling with the heart of another.



Dear Parents/Guardians:

As we look back to the month of October we want to congratulate all our students that participated so well with our conference finals in cross-country and soccer. We want to recognize these students for their tremendous efforts and stamina. This involves leadership both in their classes and school community through serving as positive role models for their peers. Despite any outcome, Presteign students demonstrated their personal best, and represented our school with great pride.

A critical issue that I'd like to draw your attention to is how we support and protect children with **Severe Nut Allergies**. To ensure students with such allergies are not at risk in any way, **all TDSB schools must ensure a Nut Free environment. We are requesting your support in this regard to ensure that no nut products are sent to the school.** We hope you appreciate the serious nature of this and thank you in advance for your support towards a safe learning environment for all children at Presteign Heights.

I would like to announce that we are working hard to develop the STEM Lab at Presteign. We welcome Mr. Joyette to the Grade 3/4 class and Ms. Satterthwaite that will be developing the lab with us. We have already started assembling the renewed space for learning. We will start scheduling classes into the lab in the next couple of weeks to ensure everyone has access to it if they wish. In the meantime, we will continue creating a makerspace with small tools, glue guns to support learning and creation of 3-dimensional projects.

Our Remembrance Day efforts this year focus on the Anniversary of the Battle of Passchendaele. One in three, was the proportion of able-bodied Canadian Indigenous men, and able to serve during the First World War. Many Indigenous soldiers lived in isolated areas of the Canada, where the guns of Europe were especially distant. Yet, approximately 4,000 Canadian Indigenous men left their homes and families to help fight an international war that raged in European battlefields.

The facilities at Presteign are being improved. We are working towards the grounds improvements with the two play areas that include both Kindergarten and Prim/Junior play structures. We are undergoing a series of landscape design meetings to bring us closer to the reality of a new play spaces for students. In addition, we are slated to receive new windows along the west side of the building. More information will be forthcoming.

Finally, we wanted to thank you parents for your continued support through the MonsterMash, pizza and pancake lunches, hot lunches, lunch and afterschool programs that are available to students, direct donations, etc. Every effort matters in order to achieve great things for students. Everyone enjoyed the Hallowe'en parade through Parkview Hills and was able to enjoy a great annual tradition with safety, health, and cultural inclusivity at the forefront. Thank you for your advocacy and support for all students.

As we head into the month of **November**, we will be further broaden our learning on **Aboriginal Education** which as an important mandate of TDSB. From newly purchased books on First Nations communities to storytellers, artists and performers, we will learn collectively as we move ahead with Truth and Reconciliation. We encourage you to access www.tdsb.on.ca for further information on Indigenous Education and various system initiatives.

It is an honour to serve the students, staff and parents of the Presteign Heights Elementary School.

Sincerely,
 Peppi Kondilis-Minos
 Principal

Terry Fox's Hope comes alive at Presteign Heights

During the week of September 25th, a Terry Fox Ambassador visited our school and met with the students during an assembly. She brought with her a duplicate of the artificial leg that Terry Fox had used to do his Marathon of Hope. Students learned more about the challenges he faced because of cancer and how he chose to rise above what happened to him and become a huge inspiration to Canadians from coast to coast. As the week went on, students were asked to, where possible, donate to the Terry Fox Foundation. And inspired by all things Terry that week, Mrs. Preketes' Grade 5s held bake sale, making almost \$800 to donate to the Foundation. On top of this, the rest of the school matched that and more to allow Presteign to donate \$1700, a new school record! Our Terry Fox Run was a big success, with the primaries and then the juniors running or walking around the block, with each division cheering on the other as they went by. Thanks to everyone for caring!

Basketball City Finals

Our boys' basketball team just finished a very exciting season in which they progressed, game after game undefeated, to the City Semi-Finals. The boys captured the title of South Division Champion and faced the winner of the West, Tumpane Public School, for the right to advance to the City Finals against the winner of the East v. North. We were down 1-0 but rallied back, then were down 2-1 but rallied back again. 2 five-minute overtimes did not settle the match, so we went to a shootout. Tumpane came away with the shootout win, but the boys brought home another banner for our school as Conference Finalists. Congratulations to our team who represented our school so well: Stefan, Theo, Roussos, Carter, Alexander, Alexandros, Bobby, Michael, Ben, Dimitri, Axel, Myles, Agshchaiyan and Nabid! And special thanks to Roussos' dad, Mr. Nikolakis, for all his coaching assistance in helping our boys have a great season! G. Cuthbertson



Fall Food Drive

Presteign held its annual Fall Food Drive in October, and as usual, our school community did a fantastic job. We collected over 700 food items, which was collected by North York Harvest Food Bank on October 23rd. Thank you to everyone who chipped in, and thanks to Tori and Carolyn in Grade 5 for repeatedly colouring in our Food Drive Thermometer as our donations rose and rose!

Grade 3 Century Schoolhouse Trip!



Our Grade 3 students went to the Century Schoolhouse. Students are transported back in time to the Toronto District School Board's Century Schoolhouse, 502 Sammon Avenue. This structure was built as a bicentennial project to commemorate the Borough of East York. The Century Schoolhouse was modelled after the more substantial type of brick schoolhouse built in Ontario between 1860 and 1890. As a reproduction of a typical one room school, the classroom area provides an excellent stage on which to re-enact a school day as it would have been circa 1890 for the children who lived in this once rural community. Thanks to Ms. Alexiou for organizing the trip!! Presteign students loved the trip!!

BOYS' BASKETBALL

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G. Cuthbertson

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week

The TDSB recognizes Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week November 19 to 25, 2017.

During this week, students, staff and parents work together create school communities and learning environments that are caring, safe, peaceful, nurturing, positive, and respectful where all students are able to reach their full potential.

The TDSB takes bullying very seriously. As a system, we focus efforts on prevention efforts and creating a welcoming school community. Staff and students are educated on what bullying looks like and how to report. They are engaged through events, activities and prevention programming and encouraged to take on leadership roles to enhance the school community.

Be part of making our schools safer – report bullying

- If you are a student who is being bullied, reach out;
- If you are a parent/guardian and your child is being bullied, reach out;
- If you want to make our schools safer, report bullying.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Regular parent-teacher communication is an important part of student learning. Parent-teacher interviews are scheduled throughout the year after report cards are sent home, on Tuesday Nov. 14th, 2017. Teachers will be contacting you to arrange parent-teacher interviews.

These interviews are your opportunity to ask questions about your child's progress and to discuss any issues. In addition to regular scheduled parent-teacher interviews, you can request a meeting at any time during the school year by contacting the school or your child's teacher directly.

French Programs Application Deadline

For families interested in the Toronto District School Board's French Immersion or Extended French programs, we offer an online process for applying to:

- Early French Immersion (EFI) which begins in Senior Kindergarten;
- Junior Extended French (JEF) which begins in Grade 4

We guarantee an offer of placement in the program (not a specific school) to all on-time applicants. Transportation is provided as per the Board's Transportation policy.

The timelines for applying for these programs for September 2018 are:

- Applications for Early French Immersion (for a Junior Kindergarten aged child), must be completed online between October 30, 2017 and November 30, 2017.
- Applications for Junior Extended French must be completed online between January 8, 2018 and February 8, 2018.

Offers of placement within your chosen program will be made to all on-time applicants in the weeks following the close of the application window.

Please note: families with an older sibling currently in a French program are still required to complete an online application for the new student.

For further information about French as a Second Language programs, the application process and dates for Information Evenings, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/french.

TDSB Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) – new members welcome!

The TDSB'S Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) was formed by the TDSB in 2010 as part of the Go Green Climate Change Action Plan. The Committee was created to help inform the TDSB's environmental policies and programming. Since forming in 2010, impacts of the ESAC have included:

- Successfully advocating for the TDSB to adopt a strategic direction focused on the environment
- Providing direction on the TDSB Charter for Active, Safe, and Sustainable Transportation
- Advising on programming regarding professional development for ecological literacy

H & School Association

Presteign Heights Home and School Committee thanks all of those parents/guardians who have supported our Direct Donation Campaign this school year. Last year, we raised over \$3000 through our Direct Donation Campaign and some of the money raised will help us this school year in purchasing chrome books for the new Computer lab, the Mathletics math enrollment program for each student in the school, and new library books, all of which help enrich our children's education program. Please feel free to visit our website at www.presteignheights.com to view our spend and allocated budget for this year. It is great to see some teachers have already had a "Scientist in the Classroom" thanks to your Direct Donations.

This year, our Direct Donation campaign hasn't been as impressive. Recognizing this is our first year going cashless, we'd like to encourage parents to visit Munchalunch.com **to make a direct donation and help us reach our fundraising targets.** All the money raised goes directly to Presteign Heights Elementary School. And we welcome your suggestions on how you would like to see the money spent. Tax receipts are available for every donation over \$25.

Please visit <http://munchalunch.com/schools/presteignheights>. Once logged in, click "Fundraising" from the top banner and select your donation amount.

There is still time to participate in Pizza and Pancake Lunches.

The 1st Thursday of each month we provide two 7-inch pancakes plus a banana (cost of \$40) and the 3rd Thursday of each month we provide two slices of pizza (cost of \$45) to all those participating.

Please visit <http://munchalunch.com/schools/presteignheights>. Once logged in, click "Ordering Open" from the top banner. Don't miss out! Our next pizza lunch is Thursday, November 17th.

For parents interested in additional lunch ideas, check out Rose Reisman! The feedback from students and parents is deliciously amazing! To place your order, go to <http://www.kidslunch.ca> and enter code **"PH60"** after you sign in. Remember: the deadline to place your hot lunch with Rose Reisman is by SUNDAY MIDNIGHT prior to the TUESDAY. It is pay as you go; you are not committed to the entire year.

A big THANK YOU to all students, parents and community for attending this year's Monster Mash. It was a great success and lots of fun! All money raised will go directly towards our school's initiatives for this academic year. Thank you to Mrs. Minos who showed her support by attending Monster Mash. Everyone was so happy to see you! Thank you to all SAC members who also came out to support our school and students. Thank you to Mama Earth Organics for donating all the apples. The donation from Mama Earth resulted in each child going home with a healthy treat to refuel from all the dancing!

In addition, we have recently launched a Facebook Group for all parents and caregivers of Presteign students. This closed group provides valuable information such as updates on activities at the school, lunch program dates and reminders, news articles of interest, event listings/photos and much more. Join our group today and become a part of our community. You can find us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Presteign>

Upcoming events to look forward to:

Pizza lunch is **November 16th** (backwards clothing day)

SAC Meeting is **November 20th 6-8pm** (childcare will be provided)

Pancake lunch is **December 7th**

Turkey lunch is **December 13th**

Pizza lunch is **December 21st** (holiday pj day)

Our next Home & School meeting is **January 22, 2018**

We want to hear from you! You may email us at presteignhs@gmail.com and/or check out our website regularly for events and news updates at www.presteignheights.com

Thank you for your continued support, Presteign Heights Home and School